

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, 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: Krystina Skurk
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: June 11, 2025 Return: June 17, 2025
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Newark, NJ Destination: Tel Aviv Return City: D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Foundation for Defense of Democracies
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Experts in Israeli security and foreign affairs briefed us.
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: Not the original activities, but the altered ones, as listed on updated/revised disclosure.

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

Signature of Traveler: Krystina Skurk Date: July 2, 2025

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: Mark E Green Date: July 2, 2025

Signature of Supervising Member: 

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

June 5, 2025

Ms. Krystina Skurk
Office of the Honorable Mark E. Green
2446 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Skurk:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel,¹ scheduled for June 11 to 20, 2025, sponsored by Foundation for Defense of Democracies and DL Revocable Trust.

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.

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

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

Sincerely,



Michael Guest
Chairman



Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:kjf

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 in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.


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

- Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), DL Revocable Trust
Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram
- Travel Destination(s): Israel, Jordan, Greece
- Date of Departure: June 11, 2025 Date of Return: June 17, 2025
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Krystina Skurk
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 **See addendum	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,116.32	\$2,321.65	\$634.12	\$196.18
Accompanying Family Member				

- 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: 6/26/2025

Name: Clifford D. May

Title: Founder and President

Organization: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies

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

Address: 1800 M St NW, Suite 800S, Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 202-368-0539

Email: swalsh@fdd.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

Addendum:

The trip participants arrived in Israel on the afternoon of June 12, 2025. Between June 13, 2025 and June 17, 2025, Iran launched approximately 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, killing civilians and demolishing buildings.

While on the ground, the group encountered nine missile sirens, most of which occurred in the middle of the night. The group endured at least one siren each night—when the sirens would sound, the group was required to go down the stairs from high levels of the hotel to floor -3, where they waited for the “all clear” to exit the shelter (which frequently took over an hour).

These bombings cancelled trip plans and required an emergency evacuation from Israel to Jordan and then to Greece, before returning to the United States. In Jordan, the security team at FDD, alongside the security teams on the ground during the trip, recommended that the group charter a flight from Jordan to Greece to ensure a swift and safe evacuation. The group experienced two sirens while in Jordan, and hotels in Amman were beginning to fill up for the week due to additional evacuations.

Due to the cancellations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Question 5

Transportation: Transportation costs consist of the following:

- Train transportation from Washington Union Station to Newark International Airport: \$93.00
- Airfare from Newark International Airport to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV): \$1,236.00
- Bus inside of Israel: \$147.73
- Airport escort upon arrival in Israel: \$85.23
- Evacuation and transportation fee on June 16 in Jordan. The total [\$639.82] for these costs includes bus transfer from the border to the hotel, related security fees at the border crossing and at the hotel, and the cost of the evacuation service provider. The emergency evacuation service provider has stated that they are unable to break out the costs of each of these components.
- Transport to Jordan Airport from hotel: \$105.14
- Charter evacuation flight from Amman, Jordan to Athens, Greece: \$6131.59
- Airfare from Athens International Airport to Dulles International Airport: \$1,677.81

FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel

June 11-June 17, 2025

The trip participants arrived in Israel on the afternoon of June 12, 2025. Between June 13, 2025 and June 17, 2025, Iran launched approximately 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, killing civilians and demolishing buildings.

While on the ground, the group encountered nine missile sirens, most of which occurred in the middle of the night. The group endured at least one siren each night—when the sirens would sound, the group was required to go down the stairs from high levels of the hotel to floor -3, where they waited for the “all clear” to exit the shelter (which frequently took over an hour).

These bombings cancelled trip plans and required an emergency evacuation from Israel to Jordan and then to Greece, before returning to the United States. In Jordan, the security team at FDD, alongside the security teams on the ground during the trip, recommended that the group charter a flight from Jordan to Greece to ensure a swift and safe evacuation. The group experienced two sirens while in Jordan, and hotels in Amman were beginning to fill up for the week due to additional evacuations.

Due to the cancelations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Wednesday, June 11

Time	Activity
13:55	Group meets at Washington Union Station (WAS)
14:55-17:59	Group train on Amtrak 148 from Washington Union Station (WAS) to Newark International Airport (EWR)
21:42	Group flight on El Al 26 from Newark International Airport (EWR) to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)

Thursday, June 12

Time	Activity
14:34	Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)
14:34-16:30	Travel by bus to the Dan Panorama Hotel in Jerusalem
16:30-17:00	Check-in to the hotel
17:00-19:30	Prep for dinner
19:30-20:00	Travel by bus to dinner
20:00-22:00	Welcome dinner with Dr. Jonathan Schanzer and David Milstein and discussion on the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Israel's strategic posture in the Middle East Dr. Jonathan Schanzer is the executive director at FDD, where he oversees the work of the organization's experts and scholars. Jonathan previously

	<p>worked as a terrorism finance analyst at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he followed and froze the funding of Hamas and al-Qaeda. Jonathan has held previous think tank research positions at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Middle East Forum. He has written hundreds of articles on the Middle East and U.S. national security. His most recent book is <i>Gaza Conflict 2021: Hamas, Israel and Eleven Days of War</i> (FDD Press 2021). His other books are <i>State of Failure: Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas, and the Unmaking of the Palestinian State</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), <i>Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2008), and <i>Al-Qaeda's Armies: Middle East Affiliate Groups and the Next Generation of Terror</i> (Washington Institute for Near East Policy 2004). Jonathan testifies often before Congress and appears on television channels such as CNN, Fox News, BBC, and MSNBC.</p> <p>David Milstein is senior advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee. David worked in the executive and legislative branches for seven and a half years. As a political appointee in the Trump Administration, David served as Special Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, at the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. David provided research, expertise, and analysis on policy initiatives that supported and facilitated a stronger than ever U.S.-Israel relationship and historic peace agreements in the Middle East. David previously served as a Legislative Aide for Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) working in the U.S. Senate for five and a half years. As part of Cruz's national security team, David focused on economic and trade policy, and policy initiatives regarding the U.S. and Israel relationship, its linkage throughout the Middle East, and international institutions such as the United Nations and International Criminal Court. David made contributions to a number of provisions especially as it relates to strengthening U.S.-Israel defense cooperation that became law through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) each year. David received the Endowment for Middle East Truth Young Defender of the Truth Award at its 2016 annual dinner that also honored Members of Congress and other major leaders dedicated to a strong U.S.-Israel alliance.</p>
22:00-22:30	Walk back to the hotel
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

****The first nationwide missile siren occurred at approximately 3am on June 13

Friday, June 13

Time	Activity
06:30-10:00	Breakfast at the hotel
10:00-11:00	Situational update with FDD Staff and Tour Guide Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel

	<p>The group received a briefing on protocol in case of an Iranian retaliation following Israel's overnight attack on critical Iranian nuclear sites. Per the orders of Israel's Homefront Command, the group was required to remain at the hotel from this point forward.</p>
11:15-12:15	<p>Briefing on the aftermath of initial Israeli strikes with Seth Frantzman via Zoom at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Seth J. Frantzman is an adjunct fellow at FDD. He is the author of three books — <i>The October 7 War: Israel's Battle for Security in Gaza</i> (2024), <i>Drone Wars: Pioneers, Killing Machines, Artificial Intelligence, and the Battle for the Future</i> (2021), and <i>After ISIS: America, Iran and the Struggle for the Middle East</i> (2019). He is the acting news editor and senior Middle East correspondent and analyst at <i>The Jerusalem Post</i>. Seth has researched and covered conflict and developments in the Middle East since 2005 with a focus on the war on ISIS, Iranian proxies, and Israel defense policy. He covers Israeli defense industry developments for <i>Breaking Defense</i> and previously was <i>Defense News'</i> correspondent in Israel.</p>
12:15-13:00	<p>Group lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p>
13:00-14:30	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Gil Hoffman on coverage of Israel in the international media</p> <p>Gil Hoffman is the executive director of <i>HonestReporting.com</i>. Previously, he served as chief political correspondent and analyst for <i>The Jerusalem Post</i> for nearly 25 years. Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, he has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets. He was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Journalism, and wrote for the <i>Miami Herald</i> and <i>Arizona Republic</i> before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in the IDF Spokesperson's Unit, he has lectured in every major English-speaking country in the world, more than half the Canadian provinces, and recently made history in Hawaii by becoming the first speaker to have lectured about Israel in all 50 US states. He lives with his family in Jerusalem.</p>
14:30-17:00	<p>Refresh time and prep for next session</p>
17:00-18:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Yisrael Klitsner on the U.S.-Israel relationship and service in the IDF</p> <p>Yisrael Klitsner held the role of Diaspora Affairs Advisor to then Prime Minister of Israel, Naftali Bennett. Prior to his government role, Yisrael spent six years contributing to AIPAC-AIEF, where he served as the Director of Strategic Engagement. Yisrael, on full scholarship, was studying public policy at Carnegie Mellon University when October 7 hit and he decided to move back to Israel and then spent many months in reserve duty. Yisrael hold a BA from Queens College. He is married and has four children.</p>

18:00-19:00	<p>Briefing on the Iranian regime and Iran's weapons arsenal via Zoom with Behnam Ben Taleblu at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Behnam Ben Taleblu is senior director of FDD's Iran Program, where he oversees the breadth and depth of FDD's work on Iran in addition to serving as a senior fellow specializing in Iranian security and political issues. For well over a decade, Behnam has supported FDD's Iran program as a senior fellow, research fellow, and senior Iran analyst. Prior to his time at FDD, Behnam worked on non-proliferation issues at an arms control think tank in Washington. Leveraging his subject-matter expertise and native Persian-language skills, Behnam closely tracks a wide range of Iran-related functional and regional topics including nuclear non-proliferation, ballistic missiles and drones, sanctions, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and its proxies, the foreign and security policy of the Islamic Republic, and internal Iranian politics. Frequently called upon to brief journalists, congressional staff, diplomatic, military, academic, and policy audiences in Washington, across the United States, and around the world, Behnam has testified before various committees in the U.S. Congress, the Canadian Parliament, and the UK House of Commons.</p>
19:00-21:00	<p>Shabbat dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p><i>Note: our dinner was interrupted by sirens twice, where participants had to leave their seats and go down to the shelter for prolonged periods of time.</i></p>
Overnight	<p>Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695</p>

Saturday, June 14

Time	Activity
06:30-09:00	Breakfast at the hotel
09:10-10:30	<p>Briefing with Khaled Abu Toameh at the Dan Panorama Hotel on the Arab-Israeli community after October 7 and reporting on Palestinian Affairs</p> <p>Khaled Abu Toameh is an awarding-winning journalist and TV producer who covers Palestinian affairs for The Jerusalem Post. He previously worked as a senior producer for NBC in the Middle East and has reported on events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for several media outlets.</p>
10:30-10:45	Short break
10:45-11:45	Discussion via Zoom with IDF reservist deployed to the border with Gaza on the Israel-Hamas war and life as a reservist
11:45-12:30	Discussion on the significance of the Old City of Jerusalem with Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel Rooftop

	<p>The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount, sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East. The professionally guided survey will walk through these sites and others, educating trip participants about their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.</p>
12:30-13:00	Refresh and prep for next session
13:00-14:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Ohad Hemo on the attacks of October 7 and current developments in Gaza</p> <p>Ohad Hemo is the Palestinian affairs correspondent for the Israeli Television News Company. He has worked in the three Israeli main channels, where he has been covering the Palestinian field for the past 15 years. He is the author of the 2020 book <i>Different Territories—The Palestinians: An Inside Look</i>. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Tel Aviv University, and a master's degree in Orientalism from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.</p>
14:00-14:30	Lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel
14:30-16:30	<p>Strategic Depth Overview of Jerusalem via bus with Noam Savion at Jerusalem Overlook</p> <p>Jerusalem is of immense strategic importance for the State of Israel's national security posture. After receiving permission to briefly leave the hotel from our security team for the first time since the sirens began, participants took a bus tour around Jerusalem with stops at a few lookout points to discuss Israel's topography, border threats, and security imperatives with respect to the greater Jerusalem envelope.</p>
16:30-17:30	Refresh and prep for next session
17:30-19:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama with Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus on the ongoing Israeli operation in Iran and strategic communications throughout the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>Jonathan Conricus is a senior fellow at FDD focused on the Middle East. He served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) for 24 years as a combat commander in Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. He also served as a military diplomat, foreign relations expert, and international spokesperson. He recently retired as lieutenant colonel. Jonathan was the first Israeli officer to be seconded to the United Nations (UN), during which he provided military and strategic analysis for UN peacekeeping forces. He has directed social media and public diplomacy efforts and has extensive on- and off-camera experience from his years as a spokesperson.</p>

19:00-20:00	Dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel and group debrief We used this opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to throughout the trip. We have found giving our participants the opportunity to reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them as a group helps in their ability to understand Israel's complex realities.
Overnight	.Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Sunday, June 15

Time	Activity
06:00-09:30	Breakfast at the hotel
09:30-11:00	Briefing at the hotel with Dr. Tal Becker on International Law and Israel's war with Iran and its proxies Dr. Tal Becker is a vice president and senior faculty member of the Kogod Research Center at Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he leads educational initiatives on Israel and the Jewish world. He served, until recently, as the Legal Adviser of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team in successive rounds of peace negotiations. He earned his doctorate from Columbia University and, among numerous scholarly awards, is the winner of the Rabin Peace Prize and the 2007 Guggenheim Prize for best international law book for his book <i>Terrorism and the State</i> .
11:00-12:30	Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with BG Nitzan Nuriel on U.S.-Israel military cooperation and Israel's ongoing strikes on Iranian nuclear assets Brig. General (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel is currently a fellow at the International Institute for Counterterrorism at Reichman University. From 2007-2012, he was the director of the Counterterrorism Bureau at the Prime Minister's Office, where he implemented cyber, cargo, aviation, border protection, and public security technologies. During the Second Lebanon War, Nuriel served as a deputy division commander of the 91st division. Across his military career, he has held roles as a military attaché at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C., J-3 of Northern Command, deputy director of the Gaza Strip division, and commander of a territorial brigade in the West Bank. He holds a bachelor's degree and master's degree in political science and national security from the University of Tel Aviv and the University of Haifa, respectively.
12:30-13:00	Short break and prep for lunch
13:00-13:15	Travel by bus to lunch at Feel Beit
13:15-15:00	Group lunch at Feel Beit

	Over lunch the group met with Karen Brunwasser and Rimán Barakat, co CEOs of Feel Beit, an Israeli–Palestinian cultural house and incubator located on the "seam line" between East and West Jerusalem, founded in 2020. Karen and Rimán discussed the evolving demography of Jerusalem and the importance of dialogue in conflict. The CEOs also explored some of the economic and security challenges Jerusalemites face in Israel's capital.
15:00-15:15	Travel by bus to the hotel
15:15-17:00	Refresh and prep for evening session
17:00-18:30	Briefing on Israeli agriculture during times of war with Noam Savion and Penina Kustanowitz on the hotel rooftop Penina Kustanowitz is an Israel expert and a veteran of Israel's non-profit sector. In 2019 Penina made a dramatic career pivot to become an expert in one of Israel's oldest agricultural exploits: cultivating grapes. Today Penina uses her agricultural expertise to discuss Israel's past, present, and future and present cutting edge Israeli agricultural innovation.
18:30-20:00	Group dinner
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Monday, June 16

Time	Activity
06:30-07:00	Breakfast and check out of the hotel
07:00-08:00	Travel by bus to Allenby Border Crossing
08:00-12:00	Travel through Israeli and Jordanian border control at Allenby Crossing
12:00-13:30	Travel by bus to Intercontinental Hotel in Amman, Jordan
13:30-14:30	Group lunch at the hotel
14:30-19:00	Refresh and prep for dinner
19:00-20:30	Group dinner at the hotel and debrief
20:30-	Refresh and prep for charter on group evacuation flight #1 to Athens <i>Please note: the first charter group, which Krystina was part of, was initially scheduled to depart the hotel for the airport at 21:30. Due to delays in the flight, the group ultimately departed for the airport at +01:45. The group had rooms at the Intercontinental which were ultimately extended through the following day due to delays. There were two charter flights for the group due to space limitations.</i>
Overnight	Intercontinental Amman Islamic College Street, Amman, Jordan, 11180 +962 6 464 1361

Tuesday, June 17

Time	Activity
01:45-02:30	Travel to Amman Civil Airport
02:30-05:20	Travel through Jordanian Customs and wait to board evacuation flight <i>Please note: the plane was delayed further upon arriving at the airport. It was scheduled to depart at 04:00 but ultimately departed at 05:20.</i>
05:20-07:45	Flight on evacuation charter from Amman Civil Airport to Athens International Airport
07:45-08:15	Travel through Greek customs and take shuttle to Sofitel Athens Airport <i>Please note: since the group was initially supposed to arrive around 03:30, we secured hotel rooms for them across from the airport for the night and were unable to cancel. Thus, the hotel rooms were available for participants to freshen up in before their departure flight from Athens to the U.S.</i>
08:15-09:00	Breakfast and refresh at Sofitel Athens Airport
09:00-09:15	Walk over to the Athens International Airport
11:45	Group flight on UA 983 from Athens International Airport (AIA) to Dulles International Airport (IAD)
15:30	Arrival at Dulles International Airport (IAD)

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Krystina Skvrk
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Foundation for the Defense of Democracy
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Israel
4. a. Date of Departure: June 11 Date of Return: June 20
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, invitation, 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.**
Communication director for a member on the foreign affairs Committee, which deals w/ the geo politics of the Middle East-which we'll learn about on this trip.
9. Yes No **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in 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: _____

May 9, 2025

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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:

**See additional page Q12

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: Jeep ride in the North)
- b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking 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): _____
 - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____

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

Hotel Name:	<u>Dan Panorama Hotel</u>	City:	<u>Jerusalem</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$330</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>Close proximity to site visits and meetings</u>				
Hotel Name:	<u>Gomeh Hotel/Dan Tel Aviv Hotel</u>	City:	<u>Migdal/Tel Aviv</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$310/\$320</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>Close proximity to site visits and meetings</u>				
Hotel Name:	<u>Kedma Hotel</u>	City:	<u>Sde Boker</u>	Cost Per Night:	<u>\$375</u>
Reason(s) for Selecting:	<u>Close proximity to site visits and meetings</u>				

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.*

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	\$2,626.05 **See addendum Q18	\$2,315.00	\$1,092.00
For each Accompanying Family Member			

Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$169.00 Entrance fees, activities, insurance, beverages, bus snacks **See addendum Q18
For each Accompanying Family Member	

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: X

Name: Clifford D. May

Organization: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD)

Address: 1800 M St NW, Suite 800S, Washington, DC 20036

Email: swalsh@fdd.org

Date: X 4/30/25

Title: Founder and President

Telephone: 202-368-0539

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Q 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):

FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel to Israel is a seven-day trip that offers a fact-based, nuanced understanding of a country that faces unique strategic communications and public diplomacy challenges related to national security. Throughout the week, trip participants will travel around Israel to participate in off-the-record high-level meetings with Israel's top national security brass; current and former Israeli, Palestinian, and American national security decision makers; journalists; military officials; and leaders in the private sector. These in-depth conversations will be supplemented by experiential exercises, including visits to elite military installations. FDD believes that Israel serves as a useful laboratory for teaching the next generation of U.S. national security media and communications professionals best practices in national security, public diplomacy, and counterterrorism. Participants will do a deep dive into the complex issues that a democracy confronts in the face of ongoing national security threats to the homeland. It is part of FDD's strategic mission to provide educational opportunities for the next generation of U.S. national security leaders and communicators. The below invitees would benefit from the trip experience and visiting the region. As Communications staffers, the invited participants below are responsible for communicating complex national security and foreign policy issues to their Representatives' constituents. Additionally, they are regularly engaged with issues directly involving the US-Israel relationship, including U.S. foreign policy, homeland security, and national defense. These issues along with others will be explored on FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel, which is focused on providing a deeper understanding of the intersection between media, strategic communications, public diplomacy, misinformation, disinformation, and national security.

1. Emily Cassil, Senior Advisor and Communications Director, Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)
 - a. The following is an example of a recent statement on the Israel-Hamas Hostage Deal from House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Emeritus, Rep. Michael McCaul: <https://mccaul.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/mccaul-statement-israel-hamas-hostage-deal>
 - i. Given Rep. McCaul's role as Chairman Emeritus of both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Homeland Security, a firsthand understanding of the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and broader regional security concerns could help Emily to better advise the Congressman as he speaks on these issues. Rep. McCaul also serves as co-chair of the Congressional High Tech Caucus. During the trip, Emily will have a chance to learn about defense technology cooperation between the United States and Israel.
2. Allison Childress, Communications Director, Rep. Greg Stanton (D-AZ)
 - a. Unfortunately, Allison is no longer able to attend.

3. Krystina Skurk, Communications Director, Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)
 - a. The following is an example of a press release on a recent bill that Rep. Green reintroduced on combating threats from the Iran-backed Houthis:
[https://markgreen.house.gov/press-releases?
ContentRecord_id=83FB1D3E-41F1-4271-9C84-81BB63B66D96](https://markgreen.house.gov/press-releases?ContentRecord_id=83FB1D3E-41F1-4271-9C84-81BB63B66D96)
 - i. Rep. Green serves as Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, and as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. As Rep. Green continues to work closely on issues relating to the ongoing war between Israel and Iran-backed proxies in the Middle East, a firsthand understanding could help Krystina to better advise the Congressman on these issues.

4. Pieter van Wingerden, Research Assistant, House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party
 - a. The following is an example of a letter Chairman John Moolenaar (R-MI) and all additional republican members of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) about support for Iranian terror proxies from U.S.-backed Chinese companies: <https://selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/media/letters/letter-treasury-investigate-six-chinese-companies-funded-us-investment-supporting>
 - i. In his role as research assistant, Pieter supports the committee's legislative and communications staff. As Iran increasingly works with malign actors China and Russia as part of an "Axis of Aggressors," a first-hand understanding of the threat landscape Israel faces could help Pieter to better support the research initiatives of the China Select Committee.

Q 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:

David A. Barish (of the DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram) is on FDD's Board of Advisors. FDD believes that Israel serves as a useful laboratory for teaching the next generation of U.S. national security media and communications professionals best practices in national security and counterterrorism. David provided ideas for speakers and activities, which were then incorporated into the trip. The DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram have previously contributed to organizations that sponsor a range of educational activities designed to educate Americans about the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, including congressional trips to Israel. These organizations include the American Israel Education Foundation, American Jewish Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Shirley Barish Educators Institute, and teen trips to Israel for Congregation Emanu El. The trust has also previously sponsored other FDD trips to Israel that have included congressional staff.

FDD recruited, selected, and confirmed the trip participants. We worked together with our additional sponsor on organizing the itinerary, trip speakers, site visits, and content.

Q 18: Total Expenses for Each Participant

Transportation

Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)

Activities and Entrance fees (Yad Vashem, Kalia, Jaffa)	\$55
Insurance	\$90
Beverages and Snacks on the bus	\$24
Total	\$169.00

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 in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.


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

- Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), DL Revocable Trust
Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram
- Travel Destination(s): Israel, Jordan, Greece
- Date of Departure: June 11, 2025 Date of Return: June 17, 2025
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Krystina Skurk
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 **See addendum	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,116.32	\$2,321.65	\$634.12	\$196.18
Accompanying Family Member				

- 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: 6/26/2025
 Name: Clifford D. May Title: Founder and President

Organization: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies

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

Address: 1800 M St NW, Suite 800S, Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 202-368-0539 Email: swalsh@fdd.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

Addendum:

The trip participants arrived in Israel on the afternoon of June 12, 2025. Between June 13, 2025 and June 17, 2025, Iran launched approximately 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, killing civilians and demolishing buildings.

While on the ground, the group encountered nine missile sirens, most of which occurred in the middle of the night. The group endured at least one siren each night—when the sirens would sound, the group was required to go down the stairs from high levels of the hotel to floor -3, where they waited for the “all clear” to exit the shelter (which frequently took over an hour).

These bombings cancelled trip plans and required an emergency evacuation from Israel to Jordan and then to Greece, before returning to the United States. In Jordan, the security team at FDD, alongside the security teams on the ground during the trip, recommended that the group charter a flight from Jordan to Greece to ensure a swift and safe evacuation. The group experienced two sirens while in Jordan, and hotels in Amman were beginning to fill up for the week due to additional evacuations.

Due to the cancellations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Question 5

Transportation: Transportation costs consist of the following:

- Train transportation from Washington Union Station to Newark International Airport: \$93.00
- Airfare from Newark International Airport to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV): \$1,236.00
- Bus inside of Israel: \$147.73
- Airport escort upon arrival in Israel: \$85.23
- Evacuation and transportation fee on June 16 in Jordan. The total [\$639.82] for these costs includes bus transfer from the border to the hotel, related security fees at the border crossing and at the hotel, and the cost of the evacuation service provider. The emergency evacuation service provider has stated that they are unable to break out the costs of each of these components.
- Transport to Jordan Airport from hotel: \$105.14
- Charter evacuation flight from Amman, Jordan to Athens, Greece: \$6131.59
- Airfare from Athens International Airport to Dulles International Airport: \$1,677.81

FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel
June 11-June 17, 2025

The trip participants arrived in Israel on the afternoon of June 12, 2025. Between June 13, 2025 and June 17, 2025, Iran launched approximately 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, killing civilians and demolishing buildings.

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Due to the cancelations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Wednesday, June 11

Time	Activity
13:55	Group meets at Washington Union Station (WAS)
14:55-17:59	Group train on Amtrak 148 from Washington Union Station (WAS) to Newark International Airport (EWR)
21:42	Group flight on El Al 26 from Newark International Airport (EWR) to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)

Thursday, June 12

Time	Activity
14:34	Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)
14:34-16:30	Travel by bus to the Dan Panorama Hotel in Jerusalem
16:30-17:00	Check-in to the hotel
17:00-19:30	Prep for dinner
19:30-20:00	Travel by bus to dinner
20:00-22:00	<p>Welcome dinner with Dr. Jonathan Schanzer and David Milstein and discussion on the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Israel’s strategic posture in the Middle East</p> <p>Dr. Jonathan Schanzer is the executive director at FDD, where he oversees the work of the organization’s experts and scholars. Jonathan previously</p>

	<p>worked as a terrorism finance analyst at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he followed and froze the funding of Hamas and al-Qaeda. Jonathan has held previous think tank research positions at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Middle East Forum. He has written hundreds of articles on the Middle East and U.S. national security. His most recent book is <i>Gaza Conflict 2021: Hamas, Israel and Eleven Days of War</i> (FDD Press 2021). His other books are <i>State of Failure: Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas, and the Unmaking of the Palestinian State</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), <i>Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2008), and <i>Al-Qaeda's Armies: Middle East Affiliate Groups and the Next Generation of Terror</i> (Washington Institute for Near East Policy 2004). Jonathan testifies often before Congress and appears on television channels such as CNN, Fox News, BBC, and MSNBC.</p> <p>David Milstein is senior advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee. David worked in the executive and legislative branches for seven and a half years. As a political appointee in the Trump Administration, David served as Special Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, at the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. David provided research, expertise, and analysis on policy initiatives that supported and facilitated a stronger than ever U.S.-Israel relationship and historic peace agreements in the Middle East. David previously served as a Legislative Aide for Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) working in the U.S. Senate for five and a half years. As part of Cruz's national security team, David focused on economic and trade policy, and policy initiatives regarding the U.S. and Israel relationship, its linkage throughout the Middle East, and international institutions such as the United Nations and International Criminal Court. David made contributions to a number of provisions especially as it relates to strengthening U.S.-Israel defense cooperation that became law through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) each year. David received the Endowment for Middle East Truth Young Defender of the Truth Award at its 2016 annual dinner that also honored Members of Congress and other major leaders dedicated to a strong U.S.-Israel alliance.</p>
22:00-22:30	Walk back to the hotel
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

****The first nationwide missile siren occurred at approximately 3am on June 13

Friday, June 13

Time	Activity
06:30-10:00	Breakfast at the hotel
10:00-11:00	Situational update with FDD Staff and Tour Guide Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel

	<p>The group received a briefing on protocol in case of an Iranian retaliation following Israel's overnight attack on critical Iranian nuclear sites. Per the orders of Israel's Homefront Command, the group was required to remain at the hotel from this point forward.</p>
11:15-12:15	<p>Briefing on the aftermath of initial Israeli strikes with Seth Frantzman via Zoom at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Seth J. Frantzman is an adjunct fellow at FDD. He is the author of three books — <i>The October 7 War: Israel's Battle for Security in Gaza</i> (2024), <i>Drone Wars: Pioneers, Killing Machines, Artificial-Intelligence, and the Battle for the Future</i> (2021), and <i>After ISIS: America, Iran and the Struggle for the Middle East</i> (2019). He is the acting news editor and senior Middle East correspondent and analyst at <i>The Jerusalem Post</i>. Seth has researched and covered conflict and developments in the Middle East since 2005 with a focus on the war on ISIS, Iranian proxies, and Israel defense policy. He covers Israeli defense industry developments for <i>Breaking Defense</i> and previously was <i>Defense News'</i> correspondent in Israel.</p>
12:15-13:00	<p>Group lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p>
13:00-14:30	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Gil Hoffman on coverage of Israel in the international media</p> <p>Gil Hoffman is the executive director of HonestReporting.com. Previously, he served as chief political correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post for nearly 25 years. Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, he has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets. He was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Journalism, and wrote for the Miami Herald and Arizona Republic before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in the IDF Spokesperson's Unit, he has lectured in every major English-speaking country in the world, more than half the Canadian provinces, and recently made history in Hawaii by becoming the first speaker to have lectured about Israel in all 50 US states. He lives with his family in Jerusalem.</p>
14:30-17:00	<p>Refresh time and prep for next session</p>
17:00-18:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Yisrael Klitsner on the U.S.-Israel relationship and service in the IDF</p> <p>Yisrael Klitsner held the role of Diaspora Affairs Advisor to then Prime Minister of Israel, Naftali Bennett. Prior to his government role, Yisrael spent six years contributing to AIPAC-AIEF, where he served as the Director of Strategic Engagement. Yisrael, on full scholarship, was studying public policy at Carnegie Mellon University when October 7 hit and he decided to move back to Israel and then spent many months in reserve duty. Yisrael hold a BA from Queens College. He is married and has four children.</p>

18:00-19:00	<p>Briefing on the Iranian regime and Iran's weapons arsenal via Zoom with Behnam Ben Taleblu at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Behnam Ben Taleblu is senior director of FDD's Iran Program, where he oversees the breadth and depth of FDD's work on Iran in addition to serving as a senior fellow specializing in Iranian security and political issues. For well over a decade, Behnam has supported FDD's Iran program as a senior fellow, research fellow, and senior Iran analyst. Prior to his time at FDD, Behnam worked on non-proliferation issues at an arms control think tank in Washington. Leveraging his subject-matter expertise and native Persian-language skills, Behnam closely tracks a wide range of Iran-related functional and regional topics including nuclear non-proliferation, ballistic missiles and drones, sanctions, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and its proxies, the foreign and security policy of the Islamic Republic, and internal Iranian politics. Frequently called upon to brief journalists, congressional staff, diplomatic, military, academic, and policy audiences in Washington, across the United States, and around the world, Behnam has testified before various committees in the U.S. Congress, the Canadian Parliament, and the UK House of Commons.</p>
19:00-21:00	<p>Shabbat dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p><i>Note: our dinner was interrupted by sirens twice, where participants had to leave their seats and go down to the shelter for prolonged periods of time.</i></p>
Overnight	<p>Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695</p>

Saturday, June 14

Time	Activity
06:30-09:00	Breakfast at the hotel
09:10-10:30	<p>Briefing with Khaled Abu Toameh at the Dan Panorama Hotel on the Arab-Israeli community after October 7 and reporting on Palestinian Affairs</p> <p>Khaled Abu Toameh is an awarding-winning journalist and TV producer who covers Palestinian affairs for The Jerusalem Post. He previously worked as a senior producer for NBC in the Middle East and has reported on events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for several media outlets.</p>
10:30-10:45	Short break
10:45-11:45	Discussion via Zoom with IDF reservist deployed to the border with Gaza on the Israel-Hamas war and life as a reservist
11:45-12:30	Discussion on the significance of the Old City of Jerusalem with Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel Rooftop

	<p>The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount, sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East. The professionally guided survey will walk through these sites and others, educating trip participants about their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.</p>
12:30-13:00	Refresh and prep for next session
13:00-14:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Ohad Hemo on the attacks of October 7 and current developments in Gaza</p> <p>Ohad Hemo is the Palestinian affairs correspondent for the Israeli Television News Company. He has worked in the three Israeli main channels, where he has been covering the Palestinian field for the past 15 years. He is the author of the 2020 book <i>Different Territories—The Palestinians: An Inside Look</i>. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Tel Aviv University, and a master's degree in Orientalism from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.</p>
14:00-14:30	Lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel
14:30-16:30	<p>Strategic Depth Overview of Jerusalem via bus with Noam Savion at Jerusalem Overlook</p> <p>Jerusalem is of immense strategic importance for the State of Israel's national security posture. After receiving permission to briefly leave the hotel from our security team for the first time since the sirens began, participants took a bus tour around Jerusalem with stops at a few lookout points to discuss Israel's topography, border threats, and security imperatives with respect to the greater Jerusalem envelope.</p>
16:30-17:30	Refresh and prep for next session
17:30-19:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama with Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus on the ongoing Israeli operation in Iran and strategic communications throughout the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>Jonathan Conricus is a senior fellow at FDD focused on the Middle East. He served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) for 24 years as a combat commander in Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. He also served as a military diplomat, foreign relations expert, and international spokesperson. He recently retired as lieutenant colonel. Jonathan was the first Israeli officer to be seconded to the United Nations (UN), during which he provided military and strategic analysis for UN peacekeeping forces. He has directed social media and public diplomacy efforts and has extensive on- and off-camera experience from his years as a spokesperson.</p>

19:00-20:00	Dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel and group debrief We used this opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to throughout the trip. We have found giving our participants the opportunity to reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them as a group helps in their ability to understand Israel's complex realities.
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Sunday, June 15

Time	Activity
06:00-09:30	Breakfast at the hotel
09:30-11:00	Briefing at the hotel with Dr. Tal Becker on International Law and Israel's war with Iran and its proxies Dr. Tal Becker is a vice president and senior faculty member of the Kogod Research Center at Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he leads educational initiatives on Israel and the Jewish world. He served, until recently, as the Legal Adviser of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team in successive rounds of peace negotiations. He earned his doctorate from Columbia University and, among numerous scholarly awards, is the winner of the Rabin Peace Prize and the 2007 Guggenheim Prize for best international law book for his book <i>Terrorism and the State</i> .
11:00-12:30	Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with BG Nitzan Nuriel on U.S.-Israel military cooperation and Israel's ongoing strikes on Iranian nuclear assets Brig. General (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel is currently a fellow at the International Institute for Counterterrorism at Reichman University. From 2007-2012, he was the director of the Counterterrorism Bureau at the Prime Minister's Office, where he implemented cyber, cargo, aviation, border protection, and public security technologies. During the Second Lebanon War, Nuriel served as a deputy division commander of the 91st division. Across his military career, he has held roles as a military attaché at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C., J-3 of Northern Command, deputy director of the Gaza Strip division, and commander of a territorial brigade in the West Bank. He holds a bachelor's degree and master's degree in political science and national security from the University of Tel Aviv and the University of Haifa, respectively.
12:30-13:00	Short break and prep for lunch
13:00-13:15	Travel by bus to lunch at Feel Beit
13:15-15:00	Group lunch at Feel Beit

	Over lunch the group met with Karen Brunwasser and Riman Barakat, co CEOs of Feel Beit, an Israeli–Palestinian cultural house and incubator located on the "seam line" between East and West Jerusalem, founded in 2020. Karen and Riman discussed the evolving demography of Jerusalem and the importance of dialogue in conflict. The CEOs also explored some of the economic and security challenges Jerusalemites face in Israel's capital.
15:00-15:15	Travel by bus to the hotel
15:15-17:00	Refresh and prep for evening session
17:00-18:30	Briefing on Israeli agriculture during times of war with Noam Savion and Penina Kustanowitz on the hotel rooftop Penina Kustanowitz is an Israel expert and a veteran of Israel's non-profit sector. In 2019 Penina made a dramatic career pivot to become an expert in one of Israel's oldest agricultural exploits: cultivating grapes. Today Penina uses her agricultural expertise to discuss Israel's past, present, and future and present cutting edge Israeli agricultural innovation.
18:30-20:00	Group dinner
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Monday, June 16

Time	Activity
06:30-07:00	Breakfast and check out of the hotel
07:00-08:00	Travel by bus to Allenby Border Crossing
08:00-12:00	Travel through Israeli and Jordanian border control at Allenby Crossing
12:00-13:30	Travel by bus to Intercontinental Hotel in Amman, Jordan
13:30-14:30	Group lunch at the hotel
14:30-19:00	Refresh and prep for dinner
19:00-20:30	Group dinner at the hotel and debrief
20:30-	Refresh and prep for charter on group evacuation flight #1 to Athens <i>Please note: the first charter group, which Krystina was part of, was initially scheduled to depart the hotel for the airport at 21:30. Due to delays in the flight, the group ultimately departed for the airport at +01:45. The group had rooms at the Intercontinental which were ultimately extended through the following day due to delays. There were two charter flights for the group due to space limitations.</i>
Overnight	Intercontinental Amman Islamic College Street, Amman, Jordan, 11180 +962 6 464 1361

Tuesday, June 17

Time	Activity
01:45-02:30	Travel to Amman Civil Airport
02:30-05:20	Travel through Jordanian Customs and wait to board evacuation flight <i>Please note: the plane was delayed further upon arriving at the airport. It was scheduled to depart at 04:00 but ultimately departed at 05:20.</i>
05:20-07:45	Flight on evacuation charter from Amman Civil Airport to Athens International Airport
07:45-08:15	Travel through Greek customs and take shuttle to Sofitel Athens Airport <i>Please note: since the group was initially supposed to arrive around 03:30, we secured hotel rooms for them across from the airport for the night and were unable to cancel. Thus, the hotel rooms were available for participants to freshen up in before their departure flight from Athens to the U.S.</i>
08:15-09:00	Breakfast and refresh at Sofitel Athens Airport
09:00-09:15	Walk over to the Athens International Airport
11:45	Group flight on UA 983 from Athens International Airport (AIA) to Dulles International Airport (IAD)
15:30	Arrival at Dulles International Airport (IAD)

Foundation for Defense of Democracies Media fellowship attendees.

https://www.fdd.org/in_the_news/2025/03/19/fdd-announces-2025-media-fellows-program-class/

- **Isabel Aldunate**, Matchpoint Strategies
- **Kayla Bartsch**, *National Review*
- **Campbell Bright**, Steer PR
- **Emily Cassil**, U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)
- **Allison Childress**, U.S. Rep. Greg Stanton (D-AZ)
- **Jessica Costescu**, Washington Free Beacon
- **David DiMolfetta**, GovExec
- **Jonas Du**, *The Free Press*
- **Matthew Foldi**, Washington Reporter
- **Daniel Foster**, CounterPoint Strategies
- **Gary Freedman**, NewsNation
- **Samuel Hayes**, United Artists, Amazon MGM
- **Arden Hooper**, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)
- **Sean Langille**, Fox News
- **Madeline Leesman**, Townhall.com
- **Aubrey López**, AIPAC
- **Patrick McCann**, U.S. Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)
- **Todd Prince**, Radio Free Europe
- **Briana Reilly**, CQ Roll Call
- **Krystina Skurk**, U.S. Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)
- **Pieter van Wingerden**, Hudson Institute
- **Juan Villasmil**, *The Spectator*

- **Sarah Zaaimi**, The Atlantic Council

To contact FDD media relations, please email press@fdd.org.

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip: _____

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, services, or in-kind assistance 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): _____

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: _____

7. a. City of departure: _____

b. Destination(s): _____

c. City of return: _____

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. _____
-

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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:

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

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

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking 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): _____

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: _____

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

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

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.*

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	\$2,626.05 **See addendum Q18	\$2,315.00	\$1,092.00
For each Accompanying Family Member			


	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$169.00	Entrance fees, activities, insurance, beverages, bus snacks **See addendum Q18
For each Accompanying Family Member		

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: X  Date: X 4/30/25
 Name: Clifford D. May Title: Founder and President
 Organization: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD)
 Address: 1800 M St NW, Suite 800S, Washington, DC 20036
 Email: swalsh@fdd.org Telephone: 202-368-0539

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

Q 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):

FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel to Israel is a seven-day trip that offers a fact-based, nuanced understanding of a country that faces unique strategic communications and public diplomacy challenges related to national security. Throughout the week, trip participants will travel around Israel to participate in off-the-record high-level meetings with Israel's top national security brass; current and former Israeli, Palestinian, and American national security decision makers; journalists; military officials; and leaders in the private sector. These in-depth conversations will be supplemented by experiential exercises, including visits to elite military installations. FDD believes that Israel serves as a useful laboratory for teaching the next generation of U.S. national security media and communications professionals best practices in national security, public diplomacy, and counterterrorism. Participants will do a deep dive into the complex issues that a democracy confronts in the face of ongoing national security threats to the homeland. It is part of FDD's strategic mission to provide educational opportunities for the next generation of U.S. national security leaders and communicators. The below invitees would benefit from the trip experience and visiting the region. As Communications staffers, the invited participants below are responsible for communicating complex national security and foreign policy issues to their Representatives' constituents. Additionally, they are regularly engaged with issues directly involving the US-Israel relationship, including U.S. foreign policy, homeland security, and national defense. These issues along with others will be explored on FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel, which is focused on providing a deeper understanding of the intersection between media, strategic communications, public diplomacy, misinformation, disinformation, and national security.

1. Emily Cassil, Senior Advisor and Communications Director, Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)
 - a. The following is an example of a recent statement on the Israel-Hamas Hostage Deal from House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Emeritus, Rep. Michael McCaul: <https://mccaul.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/mccaul-statement-israel-hamas-hostage-deal>
 - i. Given Rep. McCaul's role as Chairman Emeritus of both the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Homeland Security, a firsthand understanding of the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and broader regional security concerns could help Emily to better advise the Congressman as he speaks on these issues. Rep. McCaul also serves as co-chair of the Congressional High Tech Caucus. During the trip, Emily will have a chance to learn about defense technology cooperation between the United States and Israel.
2. Allison Childress, Communications Director, Rep. Greg Stanton (D-AZ)
 - a. Unfortunately, Allison is no longer able to attend.

3. Krystina Skurk, Communications Director, Rep. Mark Green (R-TN)
 - a. The following is an example of a press release on a recent bill that Rep. Green reintroduced on combating threats from the Iran-backed Houthis:
[https://markgreen.house.gov/press-releases?
ContentRecord_id=83FB1D3E-41F1-4271-9C84-81BB63B66D96](https://markgreen.house.gov/press-releases?ContentRecord_id=83FB1D3E-41F1-4271-9C84-81BB63B66D96)
 - i. Rep. Green serves as Chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security, and as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. As Rep. Green continues to work closely on issues relating to the ongoing war between Israel and Iran-backed proxies in the Middle East, a firsthand understanding could help Krystina to better advise the Congressman on these issues.

4. Pieter van Wingerden, Research Assistant, House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party
 - a. The following is an example of a letter Chairman John Moolenaar (R-MI) and all additional republican members of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) about support for Iranian terror proxies from U.S.-backed Chinese companies: <https://selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/media/letters/letter-treasury-investigate-six-chinese-companies-funded-us-investment-supporting>
 - i. In his role as research assistant, Pieter supports the committee's legislative and communications staff. As Iran increasingly works with malign actors China and Russia as part of an "Axis of Aggressors," a first-hand understanding of the threat landscape Israel faces could help Pieter to better support the research initiatives of the China Select Committee.

Q 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:

David A. Barish (of the DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram) is on FDD's Board of Advisors. FDD believes that Israel serves as a useful laboratory for teaching the next generation of U.S. national security media and communications professionals best practices in national security and counterterrorism. David provided ideas for speakers and activities, which were then incorporated into the trip. The DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram have previously contributed to organizations that sponsor a range of educational activities designed to educate Americans about the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, including congressional trips to Israel. These organizations include the American Israel Education Foundation, American Jewish Committee, Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, Shirley Barish Educators Institute, and teen trips to Israel for Congregation Emanu El. The trust has also previously sponsored other FDD trips to Israel that have included congressional staff.

FDD recruited, selected, and confirmed the trip participants. We worked together with our additional sponsor on organizing the itinerary, trip speakers, site visits, and content.

Q 18: Total Expenses for Each Participant

Transportation

Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)

Activities and Entrance fees (Yad Vashem, Kalia, Jaffa)	\$55
Insurance	\$90
Beverages and Snacks on the bus	\$24
Total	\$169.00



**FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel
June 11-June 20, 2025**

Note: This is our optimal itinerary and is flexible according to federal travel restrictions and speaker availability.

Please do not circulate

Guides: Noam Savion, Dr. Jonathan Schanzer, Enia Krivine, Shannon Walsh

Wednesday, June 11

Time	Activity
16:00	Group meets at Washington Union Station (WAS)
17:00-20:05	Group train on Amtrak 136 from Washington Union Station (WAS) to Newark International Airport (EWR)
22:50	Group flight on United Flight 0090 from Newark International Airport (EWR) to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)

Thursday, June 12

Time	Activity
16:40	Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)
16:40-18:00	Travel by bus to the Dan Panorama Hotel in Jerusalem
18:00-18:15	Check-in to the hotel
18:15-19:30	Prep for dinner
19:30-20:00	Travel by bus to dinner
20:00-22:00	<p>Welcome dinner with Yaakov Katz, author and former editor-in-chief of <i>The Jerusalem Post</i>, and discussion on the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Israel's strategic posture in the Middle East</p> <p>Yaakov Katz is an Israeli-American author and journalist. Between 2016 and 2023, Yaakov was editor-in-chief of <i>The Jerusalem Post</i> where he continues to write a popular weekly column. He is the author of three books: <i>Shadow Strike – Inside Israel's Secret Mission to Eliminate Syrian Nuclear Power</i>, <i>Weapon Wizards - How Israel Became a High-Tech Military Superpower</i> and</p>

	<i>Israel vs. Iran: The Shadow War</i> . Yaakov served for close to a decade as the paper's military reporter and defense analyst and was a lecturer at Harvard University where he taught an advanced course in journalism. He also served as Israel correspondent for Jane's Defense Weekly.
22:00-22:30	Walk back to the hotel
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Friday, June 13

Time	Activity
07:00-08:30	Breakfast at the hotel
08:30-09:00	Travel by bus to Channel 12 Studios
09:00-10:00	Briefing at Channel 12 Studios with Ohad Hemo on the attacks of October 7 and current developments in Gaza Ohad Hemo is the Palestinian affairs correspondent for the Israeli Television News Company. He has worked in the three Israeli main channels, where he has been covering the Palestinian field for the past 15 years. He is the author of the 2020 book <i>Different Territories—The Palestinians: An Inside Look</i> . He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Tel Aviv University, and a master's degree in Orientalism from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
10:00-10:30	Tour of Channel 12 Studios with Ohad Hemo to explore the media coverage of the Israel-Hamas war and regional geopolitical developments Channel 12 is a free-to-air media entity owned by Keshet Media Group and headquartered in Tel Aviv. It is widely considered one of the main Israeli television channels.
10:30-11:45	Travel by bus to Sderot and 75-minute briefing with Dr. Jonathan Schanzer on the status of the Israel-Hamas war Dr. Jonathan Schanzer is the executive director at FDD, where he oversees the work of the organization's experts and scholars. Jonathan previously worked as a terrorism finance analyst at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he followed and froze the funding of Hamas and al-Qaeda. Jonathan has held previous think tank research positions at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Middle East Forum. He has written hundreds of articles on the Middle East and U.S. national security. His most recent book is <i>Gaza Conflict 2021: Hamas, Israel and Eleven Days of War</i> (FDD Press 2021). His other books are <i>State of Failure: Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas, and the Unmaking of the Palestinian State</i> (Palgrave

	Macmillan 2013), <i>Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2008), and <i>Al-Qaeda's Armies: Middle East Affiliate Groups and the Next Generation of Terror</i> (Washington Institute for Near East Policy 2004). Jonathan testifies often before Congress and appears on television channels such as CNN, Fox News, BBC, and MSNBC.
11:45-12:45	Lunch on own in Sderot
12:45-13:20	Travel by bus to Nova Music Festival Memorial in Reim
13:20-14:30	<p>Battleground walkthrough of the Nova Music Festival Memorial in Reim with Amir Goren</p> <p>Lt. Col. (Ret.) Amir Goren, veteran and security expert, offers 42 years of military insights. CEO of GSA Security Group and founder of the International Institute for Migration and Security Research, Goren's lectures blend personal stories with practical lessons, equipping audiences to face modern challenges. Goren's years in the military were spent on the IDF's High Level Negotiation Team, where he specialized in combat roles and counterterrorism. He has instructed at the IDF School of Counterterrorism.</p>
14:30-16:30	Travel by bus to Jerusalem
16:30-18:30	Prep for dinner
18:30-19:00	Travel by bus to dinner
19:00-21:30	<p>Traditional Shabbat dinner with Yisrael Klistner and discussion on his experience serving in the IDF in Gaza</p> <p>Yisrael Klitsner is a fellow at the Jewish People Policy Institute. He served as Diaspora Affairs Advisor to Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. Prior to his time in federal government, Yisrael worked for AIPAC as Director of Strategic Engagement. Yisrael, on full scholarship, was studying public policy at Carnegie Mellon University when October 7 hit and he decided to move back to Israel and then spent many months in reserve duty. Yisrael holds a BA from Queens College. He is married and has four children.</p>
21:30-22:00	Travel by bus to the hotel
Overnight	<p>Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695</p>

Saturday, June 14

Time	Activity
07:00-08:00	Breakfast at the hotel
08:00-08:15	Travel by bus to Haas Promenade

08:15-09:00	<p>Strategic Depth Overview of Jerusalem with Noam Savion at Jerusalem Overlook</p> <p>Jerusalem is of immense strategic importance for the State of Israel's national security posture. At this briefing, participants will receive an overview of Israel's topography, border threats, and security imperatives with respect to the greater Jerusalem envelope.</p>
09:00-09:15	Photo at Jerusalem Overlook
09:15-09:30	Travel by bus to the Old City of Jerusalem
09:30-11:45	<p>Explore the diversity and security installations of the Old City of Jerusalem with Noam Savion</p> <p>The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount, sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East. The professionally guided survey will walk through these sites and others, educating trip participants about their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.</p>
11:45-12:30	Lunch on own in the Old City of Jerusalem
12:30-13:30	Travel by bus to Qaser El-Yehud , traditional site of Jesus' Baptism.
13:30-14:00	<p>Explore Israeli-Jordanian military cooperation at Qaser El Yahud, traditional site of Jesus' Baptism</p> <p>According to Christian tradition, Qaser El-Yahud is the site where John the Baptist baptized Jesus in the Jordan. It is one of the holiest sites in the Christian world. The site includes monasteries, churches, and lands belonging to eight different Christian denominations. The site sits along the Jordan river, which serves as the border between Israel and Jordan. The border is so narrow, that while standing on the Israeli side of the site, one can speak with Jordanian soldiers on the Jordanian side. Participants will learn about Israeli-Jordanian military cooperation and border security while visiting this site.</p>
14:00-14:30	Travel by bus to Kalia Beach
14:30-16:00	Explore water and border security dynamics along the Jordan Valley at Kalia Beach , at the Dead Sea

	<p>For decades, Israel has been developing the agricultural potential of the desert. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has “made the desert bloom.” The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Participants will receive a briefing on these issues, which has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians, and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.</p>
16:00-17:00	Travel by bus to the hotel
17:00-18:00	Prep for dinner
18:00-18:30	Travel by bus to dinner at the American Colony Hotel
18:30-19:00	<p>Briefing on the PLA, PLO, and Hamas by Dr. Jonathan Schanzer at the American Colony Hotel</p> <p>Dr. Schanzer will discuss the various differences between the Palestinian entities with respect to their histories, policies, and current political standing. This will help provide helpful background to participants before the evening discussions. Dr. Schanzer is the author of <i>Gaza Conflict 2021: Hamas, Israel and Eleven Days of War</i> (FDD Press 2021). His other books are <i>State of Failure: Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas, and the Unmaking of the Palestinian State</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), <i>Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2008), and <i>Al-Qaeda’s Armies: Middle East Affiliate Groups and the Next Generation of Terror</i> (Washington Institute for Near East Policy 2004).</p>
19:00-20:00	<p>Dinner briefing on Palestinian statehood with Daoud Abulibdeh, Palestinian security consultant at the American Colony Hotel</p> <p>Daoud Abu Libdeh is a seasoned security professional with a keen focus on risk assessment and mitigation strategies. With a strong background in developing and supporting security initiatives, he excels in crisis management and driving continuous improvements across diverse teams. His career spans roles as a security consultant for political figures and non-profits, a procurement manager at Search for Common Ground, and a Palestinian Affairs advisor. He holds a masters in Counterterrorism and Homeland Security Studies from Reichman University and is fluent in Arabic, English, and Hebrew.</p>
20:00-20:15	Short break
20:15-21:00	Dessert briefing on the Israeli Arab community with Khaled Abu Toameh , journalist and Middle East expert at the American Colony Hotel

	<p>Khaled Abu Toameh is an awarding-winning journalist and TV producer who covers Palestinian affairs for The Jerusalem Post. He previously worked as a senior producer for NBC in the Middle East and has reported on events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for several media outlets. Khaled will brief participants on Israel's Arab population, reporting and the media in Israel, and other topics of interest.</p>
21:00-21:30	Travel by bus to hotel
Overnight	<p>Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695</p>

Sunday, June 15

Time	Activity
07:00-08:30	Breakfast at the hotel
08:30-09:00	Check out of the Hotel
09:00-10:00	<p>Briefing at the hotel with Dr. Tal Becker on International Law and Israel's war with Iranian-backed proxies</p> <p>Dr. Tal Becker is a vice president and senior faculty member of the Kogod Research Center at Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he leads educational initiatives on Israel and the Jewish world. He served, until recently, as the Legal Adviser of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team in successive rounds of peace negotiations. He earned his doctorate from Columbia University and, among numerous scholarly awards, is the winner of the Rabin Peace Prize and the 2007 Guggenheim Prize for best international law book for his book <i>Terrorism and the State</i>.</p>
10:00-10:45	Travel by bus to Yad Vashem
10:45-12:15	<p>VIP tour at Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum</p> <p>To understand how Israelis view national security, one must understand the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to Israel's destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s when the German Reich's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. By visiting the museum, participants will better understand how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iran's commitment to Israel's destruction. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. A visit to Yad Vashem provides historical context for the Jewish</p>

	state. A professional docent from the museum will guide the participants through the museum's main exhibit and the children's memorial.
12:15-12:45	Travel by bus to Beit Hakerem
12:45-13:45	Lunch on own at Beit Hakerem
13:45-14:15	Travel by bus to the Knesset
14:15-14:30	Security check at the Knesset
14:30-15:30	<p>Briefing with Member of Knesset Prina Tamanu Shata on Israel's legislature and current national security concerns</p> <p>Prina Tamano-Shata, a lawyer and journalist, is the first woman of sub-Saharan African ancestry elected to the Knesset or Israeli National Parliament, having served in Knesset from 2012-2015 and again since 2018. She is currently the chair of the Committee on the Status of Women and Gender Equality and chair of the National Unity Party.</p>
15:15-18:00	<p>Travel by bus to Israel's north and 90-minute briefing on Israel's narrow waistline with Enia Krivine</p> <p>In this 90-minute briefing, participants will learn about Israeli security considerations with respect to the West Bank, the Israeli settlement policy, and the calculations behind the location of the security barrier whilst driving alongside it.</p>
18:00-19:30	Check into hotel and prep for dinner
19:30-21:00	<p>Group dinner and debrief on key takeaways from the trip thus far</p> <p>We will use this opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to throughout the trip. We have found giving our participants the opportunity to reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them as a group helps in their ability to understand Israel's complex realities.</p>
Overnight	<p>Gomeh Hotel 1 Derech Hamelonot, Migdal Beach, 149500 04-6798882/3</p>

Monday, June 16

Time	Activity
07:00-08:15	Breakfast at the hotel
08:15-08:30	Check out of hotel
08:30-09:30	Travel by bus to Kibbutz Merom Golan
09:30-11:30	Briefing at the Syrian border with Ilan Shulman on the strategic security importance of the Golan Heights and confronting threats from Syria

	<p>Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geopolitical briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's Paratroopers Brigade, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a B.A. in Israel and Middle East Studies.</p>
11:30-12:30	Travel by bus to Jish
12:30-14:00	<p>Lunch briefing with Shadi Khalloul and Neveen Elias on Christian military service in Israel and the Aramean Christian community</p> <p>Shadi Khalloul is an Israeli Aramaic Maronite from the village of Birem. He is Chairman of the Israeli Aramaic Christian Association and acts as a spokesperson for the Christian officers forum for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Shadi served in the paratrooper corps in the IDF. Shadi was recognized by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his success in encouraging Christians in Israel to join the IDF and integrate more smoothly into the Israeli Jewish society. He is the founder of a pre-military educational leadership program for Christian and Jewish youths. Shadi participates in several international conferences and college campus tours, discussing the Jewish – Christian Aramaic relations inside and outside of Israel. He holds a BA in international business and finance from UNLV.</p> <p>Neveen Elias is an advocacy fellow with the Philos Project and Deputy Director of the Israeli Christian Aramaic Association (ICAA) in Gush Halav. A native Aramean and devout Maronite Christian, Neveen invests all of her passion in the life of her community and its relationship with her Jewish neighbors in Israel.</p>
14:00-14:45	Travel by bus to Mount Adir
14:45-15:45	<p>Briefing at Mount Adir with Brig. Gen. (Res) Nitzan Nuriel on Israel's northern border and confronting the Hezbollah threat</p> <p>Brig. General (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel is currently a fellow at the International Institute for Counterterrorism at Reichman University. From 2007-2012, he was the director of the Counterterrorism Bureau at the Prime Minister's Office, where he implemented cyber, cargo, aviation, border protection, and public security technologies. During the Second Lebanon War, Nuriel served as a deputy division commander of the 91st division. Across his military career, he has held roles as a military attaché at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C., J-3 of Northern Command, deputy director of the Gaza Strip division, and commander of a territorial brigade in the West Bank. He</p>

	holds a bachelor's degree and master's degree in political science and national security from the University of Tel Aviv and the University of Haifa, respectively.
15:45-18:45	<p>Travel by bus to Dan Tel Aviv Hotel and en route 90-minute briefing by Enia Krivine discussing ongoing attacks from the Houthis and the impact on Israel's civilian population and U.S. military assets in the region</p> <p>The Houthis are an Iran-backed, Shiite Islamist movement that seized control of Yemen's capital in 2014 and instigated civil war. Driven by an explicitly antisemitic and anti-American ethos, the Houthis are part of Iran's "Axis of Resistance" that includes Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Following Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack on Israel, the Houthis have escalated attacks against international shipping in the Red Sea. Despite a significant record of terror and human rights abuses, the Biden administration de-listed the group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) in 2021 only to partially restore sanctions in 2024. The Trump Administration relisted the Houthis as a FTO in March 2025.</p> <p><i>Retrieved from https://www.fdd.org/analysis/2024/01/26/10-things-to-know-about-the-houthis/</i></p>
18:45	Check into hotel, dinner on own and free night in Tel Aviv
Overnight	<p>Dan Tel Aviv</p> <p>99 HaYarkon St., Tel Aviv</p> <p>+972-3-5202525</p>

Tuesday, June 17

Time	Activity
07:30-09:00	Breakfast at the hotel
09:00-10:00	<p>Briefing at the hotel with Laura Cornfield, Head of MediaCentral, on media integrity and reporting standards throughout the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>Laura Cornfield is a 30-year veteran of television news journalism-including positions of producer, editor and news anchor. She most recently worked at Kan Television as the liaison for the European Broadcasting Union - responsible for supplying all the video news coming out of Israel. Her background includes training with CNN, producing, newsroom management, and on-camera reporting.</p>
10:00-10:30	Travel by bus to the Israeli Ministry of Defense

10:30-11:00	Security Check at the Israeli Ministry of Defense
11:00-12:00	<p>Briefing with IDF representative from the Ministry of Defense on organizational structure and operational standards throughout the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>Israel's Ministry of Defense is responsible for protecting and securing Israel and its civilians through political, military and social means. It provides solutions to tackle Israel's security challenges by strengthening the IDF, promoting the research and development of advanced technology, encouraging Israel's defense exports, supporting local industries and promoting social involvement. The mission of the Ministry of Defense is to shape and actualize the national security objectives under its responsibility, to support the IDF's force build-up and operations, and to contribute to areas of society, technology, industry and foreign defense relations.</p> <p><i>Retrieved from:</i> https://english.mod.gov.il/About/Pages/Ministry_of_defense.aspx</p>
12:00-12:15	Walk over to the Azrieli Mall
12:15-13:15	Lunch on own at the Azrieli Mall
13:15-14:00	<p>Azrieli rooftop briefing with Benjamin Anthony, co-founder and CEO of the Miryam Institute, on West Bank topography and security concerns</p> <p>Benjamin Anthony is the CEO and Co-Founder of The MirYam Institute, an organization that specializes in substantive, policy-focused briefings on matters relating to Israel, the United States of America and the relationship between the two countries, with a particular focus on the alliance between the militaries of both nations. Benjamin is a combat veteran of service in The Israel Defense Forces and participated in Operation Swords Of Iron (2023-), Operation Protective Edge (2014), Operation Pillar Of Defense (2012) and The Second Lebanon War (2006). His military service continues to inform his policy outlook. He is a regular commentator in the international media on matters relating to Israel's security. Benjamin played an advisory role to the U.S. Administration on the subject of the Israel-Palestinian conflict and potential pathways to its resolution. He is a graduate of the University of Manchester in England where he earned his bachelor's degree with Honors. Benjamin earned his master's degree in international relations at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.</p>
14:00-14:30	Travel by bus to Mahane Aviv
14:30-15:30	Briefing with Lt. Col. Avichay Adraee , Head of the Arab Media Division of the IDF Spokesperson's Unit, on strategic communications during the Israel-Hamas war and connecting with Arab audiences.

	<p>Lt. Col. Avichay Adraee has served as the Head of the Arab Media Division of the IDF Spokesperson since 2006. He has done over 800 interviews with Arabic media since October 7, 2023. He is widely considered the face of Israeli media in the Arab world.</p>
15:30-16:15	<p>Optional viewing of October 7 footage presented by IDF</p> <p>Participants may elect to view the Israel Defense Forces' footage of the October 7th Hamas massacre obtained from Hamas bodycam footage. The footage documents the inhumane cruelty of the attacks perpetrated on Israeli civilians on October 7 and provides a rebuttal to deniers of the atrocities on social media. Participants who do not wish to view the footage can return to the hotel early.</p>
16:15-17:00	Travel by bus to Dan Tel Aviv Hotel
17:00-18:00	Prep for dinner
18:00-19:00	<p>Briefing on Israeli security posture and the "Nagel Committee" with Brigadier General (Res.) Professor Jacob Nagel</p> <p>Brigadier General (Res.) Professor Jacob Nagel is a senior fellow at FDD and a visiting professor at the Technion Aerospace Engineering Faculty. He was a career Israeli civil servant official serving in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), Defense Ministry and Prime Minister's office for more than 40 years. From January 2016 to May 2017, Jacob served as the head of Israel's National Security Council (NSC) and as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's National Security Advisor (acting). He led the negotiations and signed the agreement for 38-billion-dollar military aid to Israel from 2018 to 2027. From May 2011 to December 2015, Jacob headed the Strategic and Defense Policy Directorate at Israel's NSC, where he led the Israeli experts team working with the countries that negotiated the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), commonly known as the Iran nuclear deal. From April 1996 to April 2011, Jacob held various positions at Israel's Ministry of Defense, Directorate of Defense Research and Development, including the head of military R&D (acting), and Directorate's Scientific Deputy, he headed the so-called "Nagel Committee," which was responsible for Israel's decision to develop Iron Dome as the nation's short-range defense system. In January 2025, he released a final report from a second "Nagel Committee," which developed recommendations for Israel's security strategy and budget for the next decade.</p>
19:00-19:30	Travel by bus to dinner
19:30-21:00	<p>Dinner briefing with National Security start-ups on Israel's defense tech landscape</p> <p>Israel is known as the "startup nation" due to their strong embrace of entrepreneurship across multiple sectors. As national security challenges</p>

	evolve and the war against Hamas continues, this approach poignantly applies to Israel's defense sector and has resulted in more firms developing new strategies and technologies to better protect the nation. With hundreds of businesses now in this field, this dinner briefing will feature representatives from multiple firms within Israel's defense startup ecosystem, from traditional aerospace to cyber, robotics, and AI.
21:00-21:30	Travel by bus back to Dan Tel Aviv Hotel
Overnight	Dan Tel Aviv 99 HaYarkon St., Tel Aviv +972-3-5202525

Wednesday, June 18

Time	Activity
07:30-08:30	Breakfast at the hotel
08:30-09:00	Check out of Dan Tel Aviv Hotel
09:00-10:00	<p>Briefing with Matti Friedman, Canadian-Israeli journalist and author, on the current war in Israel and an overview of regional security dynamics</p> <p>Matti Friedman is a Canadian-Israeli journalist and author of four works of nonfiction. He is a columnist for <i>The Free Press</i>. He was previously an op-ed contributor for the <i>New York Times</i> and a columnist for <i>Tablet Magazine</i>. Between 2006 and the end of 2011, Friedman was a reporter and editor in the Jerusalem bureau of the Associated Press. During his journalistic career, he also worked as a reporter in Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Moscow, and Washington, D.C. One of Friedman's most popular works was a 2014 essay on anti-Israel bias in the media, including sharp criticism of his former employer AP (Associated Press) News.</p>
10:00-11:45	<p>Travel by bus to Erez Border Crossing and 90-minute en-route briefing with Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus on strategic communications during the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>During this briefing, former IDF international spokesman Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus will share about his experience as IDF international spokesperson during the Israel-Hamas war and the importance of effective and accurate communication during times of conflict. He will also discuss the intersection between media coverage and national security.</p>
11:45-12:45	Briefing at the Erez Border Crossing with Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus on border security and humanitarian aid during the Israel-Hamas war

	<p>The Erez Border crossing is a security and humanitarian aid checkpoint between Gaza and Israel, located at the northern end of the Gaza strip. It was targeted and destroyed during Hamas' attacks into Israel on Oct. 7, 2023 and reopened in April 2024.</p>
12:45-13:15	Travel by bus to lunch
13:15-14:15	Group lunch at Hummus shel Hathina
14:15-14:45	Travel by bus to Kibbutz Nahal Oz
14:45-16:15	<p>Briefing at Kibbutz Nahal Oz with Amir Tibon on Israeli resiliency and life near the border with Gaza</p> <p>Amir Tibon is diplomatic correspondent for the Israeli newspaper <i>Haaretz</i>. He covers Israel's foreign policy, with an emphasis on the U.S.-Israel relationship and Middle East diplomacy. From 2017-2020 he was the Washington, D.C., correspondent for <i>Haaretz</i>, covering the Trump administration, Congress and the U.S. Jewish community. During the years 2013-2016, Amir was the diplomatic correspondent for <i>Walla News</i>, a leading Israeli news website. Prior to that, he was a producer for Uvda, the leading investigative news program on Israeli television. Amir is the co-author of <i>The Last Palestinian</i>, a biography of Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas, published in July 2017. In 2015, he was nominated for a National Magazine Award (in the reporting category) for an article on the latest round of Israeli-Palestinian peace talks. Amir lives in Kibbutz Nahal Oz, the closest place in Israel to Gaza, with his wife and two daughters. He is regularly invited to speak on Israeli politics and the U.S.-Israel relationship, as well as on the subject of life on the Gaza border, in front of various audiences in the U.S.</p>
16:15-17:15	Travel by bus to the hotel
17:15-20:30	Arrive at the hotel and prep for dinner
20:30-21:30	Group dinner at hotel
21:30-23:30	<p>Group debrief on key takeaways from the trip</p> <p>We will use this opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to throughout the trip. We have found giving our participants the opportunity to reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them as a group helps in their ability to understand Israel's complex realities.</p>
Overnight	<p>Kedma Hotel Kibbutz Sde Boker, 8499300, Israel +972 08-623-8100</p>

Thursday, June 19

Time	Activity
07:30-09:45	Breakfast at the hotel
09:45-10:00	Check out of Kedma Hotel
10:00-11:00	<p>Travel by bus to Tzeelim Base and briefing with Dr. Jonathan Schanzer on Iran's overarching proxy strategy.</p> <p>In this 60-minute briefing, Dr. Jonathan Schanzer will discuss how the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Operation Iron Wall in the West Bank are influenced by Iran's broader proxy strategy. Other proxies covered will include Houthis in Yemen and militias in Iraq, Syria, and Jordan.</p>
11:00-12:45	<p>Briefing on urban warfare at Tzeelim Training Base</p> <p>The Urban Warfare Training Center is a mock city located in Israel's Tze'elim military base in the Negev desert. It was built by the United States Army Corps of Engineers and supported by U.S. military aid. Participants will receive a briefing from the IDF regarding the logistical considerations and difficulties with respect to urban warfare and how this facility equips soldiers to navigate in an urban environment.</p>
12:45-13:30	Travel by bus to lunch
13:30-14:30	Group lunch at Alma food truck
14:30-15:10	Travel by bus to Ziquim
15:15-16:45	<p>Briefing at the IDF's 8105 Battalion Headquarters within the Nahal Oz Base on recent operations in Gaza</p> <p>The Nahal Oz Base is an IDF military compound located 850 meters from the Gaza border. During Hamas' October 7 attack, Nahal Oz was systematically targeted by terrorist cells, resulting in the deaths of 53 IDF soldiers and the abduction of ten into Gaza. In March 2025, the IDF published its report on the "systemic failure" of understaffing the base so close to Hamas, along with more details of the attack.</p>
16:45-18:15	Travel by bus to dinner
18:15-20:30	<p>Closing dinner and briefing on the U.S.-Israel relationship with Ambassador Michael Oren, former Israeli Ambassador to the U.S.</p> <p>Ambassador Michael Oren is an American-born Israeli historian and author and was Israel's ambassador to the United States from 2009 to 2013. As a member of Knesset and deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office, he interacted with foreign leaders and defended Israel in the media. He also spearheaded efforts to strengthen Israel-diaspora relations, develop the Golan Heights, and fight BDS. He will brief participants on the future of the U.S.-Israel strategic relationship and other topics of interest.</p>

20:30-21:00	Travel by bus to Ben Gurion Airport
23:25	Depart Israel on United Flight UA0091

Friday, June 20

Time	Activity
04:10	Arrive to Newark Liberty International Airport on United Flight UA0091
8:31-11:39	Group train on Amtrak 141 from Newark International Airport (EWR) to Washington Union Station (WAS)

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

ADDITIONAL TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by an organization that provides funds, services, or in-kind assistance to another entity to underwrite, in whole or in part, a trip or an event, meal, or activity that will occur during a trip, or a necessary expense that will be incurred during a trip, with express or implicit knowledge or understanding that one or more House Members or employees may participate in or attend that trip or event, or otherwise may be beneficiaries of the gift or donation. **Provide a copy of your completed form to the primary sponsor of the trip.**

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

1. Name of Primary Trip Sponsor for this trip: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD)
2. Name of your organization: DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram
3. Yes No Is your organization designated a § 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service?
4. Yes No Does your organization receive funding from any foreign government or multinational organization?
5. **Check one.** I certify that my organization:
 - a. Has provided a grant, gift, or donation to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor and conducts an audit or review of its grant, gift, or donation to ensure that the funds are spent in accordance with the terms of its grant, gift, or donation. **OR**
 - b. Has had a direct role in the organizing, planning, or conducting of a trip to
Destination: Israel on Date: June 11-20, 2025
that is being organized or arranged by the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor. **OR**
 - c. Has provided in-kind support to the above-named Primary Trip Sponsor (e.g., meeting planning assistance, meeting space and set-up, and paying for expenses related to this trip directly to the service provider).
6. **Check only one:**
 - a. My organization does not employ or retain a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent **OR**
 - b. My organization employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but their involvement in planning, organizing, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the travel regulations.
7. **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;
 - c. I am an officer of this organization and am duly authorized to sign this form; and
 - d. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:  Date: 4/22/25

Name: David A. Barish Title: Trustee

Organization: DL Revocable Trust Dated February 21, 2018, co-trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemtob Jayaram

Address: 50 SUNSET PARK LN., SUBAR LAND, TX 77479

Telephone: 713-501-7111 Email: DBARISH@CHANKING.COM

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.

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 in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

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

- Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), DL Revocable Trust
Dated February 21, 2018, co-Trustees David Alan Barish and Linda Shemto Jayaram
- Travel Destination(s): Israel, Jordan, Greece
- Date of Departure: June 11, 2025 Date of Return: June 17, 2025
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Krystina Skurk
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 **See addendum	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$10,116.32	\$2,321.65	\$634.12	\$196.18
Accompanying Family Member				

- 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: 6/ 26/ 2025
Name: Clifford D. May Title: Founder and President

Organization: The Foundation for Defense of Democracies

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

Address: 1800 M St NW, Suite 800S, Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 202-368-0539 Email: swalsh@fdd.org

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

Addendum:

The trip participants arrived in Israel on the afternoon of June 12, 2025. Between June 13, 2025 and June 17, 2025, Iran launched approximately 370 ballistic missiles at Israel, killing civilians and demolishing buildings.

While on the ground, the group encountered nine missile sirens, most of which occurred in the middle of the night. The group endured at least one siren each night—when the sirens would sound, the group was required to go down the stairs from high levels of the hotel to floor -3, where they waited for the “all clear” to exit the shelter (which frequently took over an hour).

These bombings cancelled trip plans and required an emergency evacuation from Israel to Jordan and then to Greece, before returning to the United States. In Jordan, the security team at FDD, alongside the security teams on the ground during the trip, recommended that the group charter a flight from Jordan to Greece to ensure a swift and safe evacuation. The group experienced two sirens while in Jordan, and hotels in Amman were beginning to fill up for the week due to additional evacuations.

Due to the cancellations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Question 5

Transportation: Transportation costs consist of the following:

- Train transportation from Washington Union Station to Newark International Airport: \$93.00
- Airfare from Newark International Airport to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV): \$1,236.00
- Bus inside of Israel: \$147.73
- Airport escort upon arrival in Israel: \$85.23
- Evacuation and transportation fee on June 16 in Jordan. The total [\$639.82] for these costs includes bus transfer from the border to the hotel, related security fees at the border crossing and at the hotel, and the cost of the evacuation service provider. The emergency evacuation service provider has stated that they are unable to break out the costs of each of these components.
- Transport to Jordan Airport from hotel: \$105.14
- Charter evacuation flight from Amman, Jordan to Athens, Greece: \$6131.59
- Airfare from Athens International Airport to Dulles International Airport: \$1,677.81

**FDD's Barish Center for Media Integrity Trip to Israel
June 11-June 17, 2025**

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Due to the cancelations and evacuations, the trip sponsor arranged limited alternative programming as reflected in the attached agenda. Times listed are approximate.

Wednesday, June 11

Time	Activity
13:55	Group meets at Washington Union Station (WAS)
14:55-17:59	Group train on Amtrak 148 from Washington Union Station (WAS) to Newark International Airport (EWR)
21:42	Group flight on El Al 26 from Newark International Airport (EWR) to Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)

Thursday, June 12

Time	Activity
14:34	Arrive at Ben Gurion International Airport (TLV)
14:34-16:30	Travel by bus to the Dan Panorama Hotel in Jerusalem
16:30-17:00	Check-in to the hotel
17:00-19:30	Prep for dinner
19:30-20:00	Travel by bus to dinner
20:00-22:00	Welcome dinner with Dr. Jonathan Schanzer and David Milstein and discussion on the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Israel’s strategic posture in the Middle East Dr. Jonathan Schanzer is the executive director at FDD, where he oversees the work of the organization’s experts and scholars. Jonathan previously

	<p>worked as a terrorism finance analyst at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he followed and froze the funding of Hamas and al-Qaeda. Jonathan has held previous think tank research positions at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and the Middle East Forum. He has written hundreds of articles on the Middle East and U.S. national security. His most recent book is <i>Gaza Conflict 2021: Hamas, Israel and Eleven Days of War</i> (FDD Press 2021). His other books are <i>State of Failure: Yasser Arafat, Mahmoud Abbas, and the Unmaking of the Palestinian State</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), <i>Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine</i> (Palgrave Macmillan 2008), and <i>Al-Qaeda's Armies: Middle East Affiliate Groups and the Next Generation of Terror</i> (Washington Institute for Near East Policy 2004). Jonathan testifies often before Congress and appears on television channels such as CNN, Fox News, BBC, and MSNBC.</p> <p>David Milstein is senior advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee. David worked in the executive and legislative branches for seven and a half years. As a political appointee in the Trump Administration, David served as Special Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, at the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem. David provided research, expertise, and analysis on policy initiatives that supported and facilitated a stronger than ever U.S.-Israel relationship and historic peace agreements in the Middle East. David previously served as a Legislative Aide for Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) working in the U.S. Senate for five and a half years. As part of Cruz's national security team, David focused on economic and trade policy, and policy initiatives regarding the U.S. and Israel relationship, its linkage throughout the Middle East, and international institutions such as the United Nations and International Criminal Court. David made contributions to a number of provisions especially as it relates to strengthening U.S.-Israel defense cooperation that became law through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) each year. David received the Endowment for Middle East Truth Young Defender of the Truth Award at its 2016 annual dinner that also honored Members of Congress and other major leaders dedicated to a strong U.S.-Israel alliance.</p>
22:00-22:30	Walk back to the hotel
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

****The first nationwide missile siren occurred at approximately 3am on June 13

Friday, June 13

Time	Activity
06:30-10:00	Breakfast at the hotel
10:00-11:00	Situational update with FDD Staff and Tour Guide Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel

	<p>The group received a briefing on protocol in case of an Iranian retaliation following Israel’s overnight attack on critical Iranian nuclear sites. Per the orders of Israel’s Homefront Command, the group was required to remain at the hotel from this point forward.</p>
11:15-12:15	<p>Briefing on the aftermath of initial Israeli strikes with Seth Frantzman via Zoom at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Seth J. Frantzman is an adjunct fellow at FDD. He is the author of three books — <i>The October 7 War: Israel’s Battle for Security in Gaza</i> (2024), <i>Drone Wars: Pioneers, Killing Machines, Artificial Intelligence, and the Battle for the Future</i> (2021), and <i>After ISIS: America, Iran and the Struggle for the Middle East</i> (2019). He is the acting news editor and senior Middle East correspondent and analyst at <i>The Jerusalem Post</i>. Seth has researched and covered conflict and developments in the Middle East since 2005 with a focus on the war on ISIS, Iranian proxies, and Israel defense policy. He covers Israeli defense industry developments for <i>Breaking Defense</i> and previously was <i>Defense News’</i> correspondent in Israel.</p>
12:15-13:00	<p>Group lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p>
13:00-14:30	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Gil Hoffman on coverage of Israel in the international media</p> <p>Gil Hoffman is the executive director of HonestReporting.com. Previously, he served as chief political correspondent and analyst for The Jerusalem Post for nearly 25 years. Well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian leaders, he has interviewed every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, has been interviewed by top media on six continents and is a regular analyst on CNN, Al-Jazeera and other news outlets. He was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University’s School of Journalism, and wrote for the Miami Herald and Arizona Republic before moving to Israel. A reserve soldier in the IDF Spokesperson’s Unit, he has lectured in every major English-speaking country in the world, more than half the Canadian provinces, and recently made history in Hawaii by becoming the first speaker to have lectured about Israel in all 50 US states. He lives with his family in Jerusalem.</p>
14:30-17:00	<p>Refresh time and prep for next session</p>
17:00-18:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Yisrael Klitsner on the U.S.-Israel relationship and service in the IDF</p> <p>Yisrael Klitsner held the role of Diaspora Affairs Advisor to then Prime Minister of Israel, Naftali Bennett. Prior to his government role, Yisrael spent six years contributing to AIPAC-AIEF, where he served as the Director of Strategic Engagement. Yisrael, on full scholarship, was studying public policy at Carnegie Mellon University when October 7 hit and he decided to move back to Israel and then spent many months in reserve duty. Yisrael hold a BA from Queens College. He is married and has four children.</p>

18:00-19:00	<p>Briefing on the Iranian regime and Iran's weapons arsenal via Zoom with Behnam Ben Taleblu at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p>Behnam Ben Taleblu is senior director of FDD's Iran Program, where he oversees the breadth and depth of FDD's work on Iran in addition to serving as a senior fellow specializing in Iranian security and political issues. For well over a decade, Behnam has supported FDD's Iran program as a senior fellow, research fellow, and senior Iran analyst. Prior to his time at FDD, Behnam worked on non-proliferation issues at an arms control think tank in Washington. Leveraging his subject-matter expertise and native Persian-language skills, Behnam closely tracks a wide range of Iran-related functional and regional topics including nuclear non-proliferation, ballistic missiles and drones, sanctions, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and its proxies, the foreign and security policy of the Islamic Republic, and internal Iranian politics. Frequently called upon to brief journalists, congressional staff, diplomatic, military, academic, and policy audiences in Washington, across the United States, and around the world, Behnam has testified before various committees in the U.S. Congress, the Canadian Parliament, and the UK House of Commons.</p>
19:00-21:00	<p>Shabbat dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel</p> <p><i>Note: our dinner was interrupted by sirens twice, where participants had to leave their seats and go down to the shelter for prolonged periods of time.</i></p>
Overnight	<p>Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695</p>

Saturday, June 14

Time	Activity
06:30-09:00	Breakfast at the hotel
09:10-10:30	<p>Briefing with Khaled Abu Toameh at the Dan Panorama Hotel on the Arab-Israeli community after October 7 and reporting on Palestinian Affairs</p> <p>Khaled Abu Toameh is an award-winning journalist and TV producer who covers Palestinian affairs for The Jerusalem Post. He previously worked as a senior producer for NBC in the Middle East and has reported on events in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for several media outlets.</p>
10:30-10:45	Short break
10:45-11:45	Discussion via Zoom with IDF reservist deployed to the border with Gaza on the Israel-Hamas war and life as a reservist
11:45-12:30	Discussion on the significance of the Old City of Jerusalem with Noam Savion at the Dan Panorama Hotel Rooftop

	<p>The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, believed to be the departure point for Jesus’ final entry into Jerusalem and the cemetery where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism’s holiest site, and the Temple Mount, sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East. The professionally guided survey will walk through these sites and others, educating trip participants about their historical impact and their role in today’s political discussions.</p>
12:30-13:00	Refresh and prep for next session
13:00-14:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with Ohad Hemo on the attacks of October 7 and current developments in Gaza</p> <p>Ohad Hemo is the Palestinian affairs correspondent for the Israeli Television News Company. He has worked in the three Israeli main channels, where he has been covering the Palestinian field for the past 15 years. He is the author of the 2020 book <i>Different Territories—The Palestinians: An Inside Look</i>. He holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Tel Aviv University, and a master’s degree in Orientalism from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.</p>
14:00-14:30	Lunch at the Dan Panorama Hotel
14:30-16:30	<p>Strategic Depth Overview of Jerusalem via bus with Noam Savion at Jerusalem Overlook</p> <p>Jerusalem is of immense strategic importance for the State of Israel’s national security posture. After receiving permission to briefly leave the hotel from our security team for the first time since the sirens began, participants took a bus tour around Jerusalem with stops at a few lookout points to discuss Israel’s topography, border threats, and security imperatives with respect to the greater Jerusalem envelope.</p>
16:30-17:30	Refresh and prep for next session
17:30-19:00	<p>Briefing at the Dan Panorama with Lt. Col. (Ret.) Jonathan Conricus on the ongoing Israeli operation in Iran and strategic communications throughout the Israel-Hamas war</p> <p>Jonathan Conricus is a senior fellow at FDD focused on the Middle East. He served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) for 24 years as a combat commander in Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. He also served as a military diplomat, foreign relations expert, and international spokesperson. He recently retired as lieutenant colonel. Jonathan was the first Israeli officer to be seconded to the United Nations (UN), during which he provided military and strategic analysis for UN peacekeeping forces. He has directed social media and public diplomacy efforts and has extensive on- and off-camera experience from his years as a spokesperson.</p>

19:00-20:00	Dinner at the Dan Panorama Hotel and group debrief We used this opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to throughout the trip. We have found giving our participants the opportunity to reflect on the topics and perspectives presented to them as a group helps in their ability to understand Israel's complex realities.
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Sunday, June 15

Time	Activity
06:00-09:30	Breakfast at the hotel
09:30-11:00	Briefing at the hotel with Dr. Tal Becker on International Law and Israel's war with Iran and its proxies Dr. Tal Becker is a vice president and senior faculty member of the Kogod Research Center at Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he leads educational initiatives on Israel and the Jewish world. He served, until recently, as the Legal Adviser of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been a senior member of the Israeli peace negotiation team in successive rounds of peace negotiations. He earned his doctorate from Columbia University and, among numerous scholarly awards, is the winner of the Rabin Peace Prize and the 2007 Guggenheim Prize for best international law book for his book <i>Terrorism and the State</i> .
11:00-12:30	Briefing at the Dan Panorama Hotel with BG Nitzan Nuriel on U.S.-Israel military cooperation and Israel's ongoing strikes on Iranian nuclear assets Brig. General (Res.) Nitzan Nuriel is currently a fellow at the International Institute for Counterterrorism at Reichman University. From 2007-2012, he was the director of the Counterterrorism Bureau at the Prime Minister's Office, where he implemented cyber, cargo, aviation, border protection, and public security technologies. During the Second Lebanon War, Nuriel served as a deputy division commander of the 91st division. Across his military career, he has held roles as a military attaché at the Embassy of Israel in Washington, D.C., J-3 of Northern Command, deputy director of the Gaza Strip division, and commander of a territorial brigade in the West Bank. He holds a bachelor's degree and master's degree in political science and national security from the University of Tel Aviv and the University of Haifa, respectively.
12:30-13:00	Short break and prep for lunch
13:00-13:15	Travel by bus to lunch at Feel Beit
13:15-15:00	Group lunch at Feel Beit

	Over lunch the group met with Karen Brunwasser and Rimam Barakat, co CEOs of Feel Beit, an Israeli–Palestinian cultural house and incubator located on the "seam line" between East and West Jerusalem, founded in 2020. Karen and Rimam discussed the evolving demography of Jerusalem and the importance of dialogue in conflict. The CEOs also explored some of the economic and security challenges Jerusalemites face in Israel’s capital.
15:00-15:15	Travel by bus to the hotel
15:15-17:00	Refresh and prep for evening session
17:00-18:30	Briefing on Israeli agriculture during times of war with Noam Savion and Penina Kustanowitz on the hotel rooftop Penina Kustanowitz is an Israel expert and a veteran of Israel’s non-profit sector. In 2019 Penina made a dramatic career pivot to become an expert in one of Israel’s oldest agricultural exploits: cultivating grapes. Today Penina uses her agricultural expertise to discuss Israel’s past, present, and future and present cutting edge Israeli agricultural innovation.
18:30-20:00	Group dinner
Overnight	Dan Panorama Jerusalem 39 Keren Hayesod St., Jerusalem, 94188 +972-2-5695695

Monday, June 16

Time	Activity
06:30-07:00	Breakfast and check out of the hotel
07:00-08:00	Travel by bus to Allenby Border Crossing
08:00-12:00	Travel through Israeli and Jordanian border control at Allenby Crossing
12:00-13:30	Travel by bus to Intercontinental Hotel in Amman, Jordan
13:30-14:30	Group lunch at the hotel
14:30-19:00	Refresh and prep for dinner
19:00-20:30	Group dinner at the hotel and debrief
20:30-	Refresh and prep for charter on group evacuation flight #1 to Athens <i>Please note: the first charter group, which Krystina was part of, was initially scheduled to depart the hotel for the airport at 21:30. Due to delays in the flight, the group ultimately departed for the airport at +01:45. The group had rooms at the Intercontinental which were ultimately extended through the following day due to delays. There were two charter flights for the group due to space limitations.</i>
Overnight	Intercontinental Amman Islamic College Street, Amman, Jordan, 11180 +962 6 464 1361

Tuesday, June 17

Time	Activity
01:45-02:30	Travel to Amman Civil Airport
02:30-05:20	Travel through Jordanian Customs and wait to board evacuation flight <i>Please note: the plane was delayed further upon arriving at the airport. It was scheduled to depart at 04:00 but ultimately departed at 05:20.</i>
05:20-07:45	Flight on evacuation charter from Amman Civil Airport to Athens International Airport
07:45-08:15	Travel through Greek customs and take shuttle to Sofitel Athens Airport <i>Please note: since the group was initially supposed to arrive around 03:30, we secured hotel rooms for them across from the airport for the night and were unable to cancel. Thus, the hotel rooms were available for participants to freshen up in before their departure flight from Athens to the U.S.</i>
08:15-09:00	Breakfast and refresh at Sofitel Athens Airport
09:00-09:15	Walk over to the Athens International Airport
11:45	Group flight on UA 983 from Athens International Airport (AIA) to Dulles International Airport (IAD)
15:30	Arrival at Dulles International Airport (IAD)