Trump Can Reverse Obama's Betrayal Of Israel By Defunding The U.N.

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President Obama's stunning decision to back Israel's many enemies in the United Nations is one of the worst foreign policy decisions in decades. It's a good thing that a new president will soon reverse this travesty, which further destabilizes the Mideast.

Working hand-in-hand with Israel's enemies, Obama and his Secretary of State John Kerry no doubt thought that they were pulling a clever trick on Israel, which has suffered repeated diplomatic insults and attempts at undermining its very existence during the Obama years. By [abstaining in a vote that declared Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem illegal](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_UNITED_STATES_ISRAEL?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2016-12-28-16-22-18), the U.S. has undermined the possibility of talks between Israel and the Palestinians that will lead to anything even remotely resembling peace.

Maybe that was the intent. From Obama's barely concealed personal contempt for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the official U.S. stance that all the failings in the so-called "Mideast process" are due to Israeli intransigence, these days it's hard to say that the U.S. is even a friend to the only democratic state in the Mideast.

In a speech Wednesday defending the Obama administration's stab-in-the-back of Israel, [Kerry asserted](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_UNITED_STATES_ISRAEL?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2016-12-28-16-22-18): "The United States did in fact vote in accordance with our values, just as previous administrations have done. The vote in the United Nations was about preserving the two-state solution. That's what we were standing up for."

Utterly false. Undercutting our closest ally in the Mideast is not in keeping with "our values." Nor does it preserve the "two-state" solution, since one side — the Palestinians — seek a one-state solution through the destruction of the Jewish state.

The big problem with this progressive view of the Israel-Palestine conflict — as embodied perfectly in the Obama-Kerry policy — is that it pretends there can be a "settlement" or a two-state deal only if Israel stops building homes on disputed territories. This is plainly absurd, and both Obama and Kerry know it.

The destruction of Israel is the central tenet of the Palestinian movement. It's in its founding document, and has never been repudiated. Israel has been exceedingly generous in repeatedly agreeing to sit down at a negotiating table with an enemy that swears its annihilation. Yet, it's always met with rejection.

The only way the conflict can be settled is for the Palestinians to accept Israel's right to exist within secure, defensible borders as a Jewish state. Anything less is entirely unacceptable, for obvious reasons.

The often-made claim by the Palestinians and the disgraceful campus-based "Boycott, Disinvest and Sanction" movement in the U.S. and Europe that Israel "stole" its territory from the Palestinians is likewise false. There has never, ever been a Palestinian state. There was however a territory within the Ottoman Empire called "Palestine," the name given it by its Roman conquerors. But it was never a self-governing state with its own borders. Even today, what was "Palestine" is now mostly within Jordan's borders.

So why isn't Jordan the "Palestinian homeland"?

The disputed land that Israel holds, the so-called "West Bank" and its associated properties, was also part of Jordan as recently as 1967. At any time, it could have been declared a Palestinian state. Why wasn't it?

The truth is, the Arabs who lived in what's called Palestine weren't even called "Palestinians" until 1964. It was a political move to create a counterclaim against the land that Jews were living on in Israel. The surrounding Arab states despised the presence of an infidel nation in their midst, and believed they would militarily annihilate it.

In 1967, the six-day war took place. After being threatened with a massive military buildup on its borders, Israel defeated Egypt, Syria and Jordan in battle, and claimed Jerusalem, Sinai, the West Bank, Gaza and Golan Heights as its prizes.

In 1973, Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Iraq attacked Israel on its highest holy day, Yom Kippur. This time, a surprised Israel suffered major casualties, but still managed to hold on to the land it had captured as a security buffer in 1967.

Since then, Israel has repeatedly offered a land-for-peace deal with the Palestinians and other Arab nations. It would give back land for a Palestinian state, in exchange for defensible borders and peace. It actually signed a peace deal with Egypt's Anwar Sadat that still more or less stands to this day.

The Palestinians, however, have steadfastly refused to recognize Israel as a nation at all, dooming the possibility of any kind of permanent deal.

As we said, this history is well known. Obama and Kerry both know it. But they don't care. They both despise Israel, as most leftists do, while paying hypocritical lip-service to it being a friend and to its continued existence.

As for the U.N., it has for decades operated as an anti-Israel, anti-Western organization run by anti-Semitic authoritarians and kleptocrats. Since the U.N. was created after World War II, a 70-year period marked by totalitarianism, mass murder, genocide and horrendous atrocities around the world, the Security Council alone has passed 226 resolutions involving Israel.

By one count, from 1955 to 2013, the U.N.'s general body [passed 77 resolutions condemning Israel](http://www.ifamericansknew.org/stat/un.html), but just one condemning the terrorist PLO. The anti-Israel bias is overwhelming and irrefutable.

Then there's the U.N.'s ironically named Human Rights Council, which began relatively recently in 2006. In just the first four years of its existence, [it issued 33 resolutions condemning governments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UN_Watch#cite_note-79): six of those were directed at Burma and North Korea and the remaining 27 all condemned Israel — but not the terrorists in Hamas and Hezbollah that threaten them daily.

Since the U.N.'s beginning, millions have died around the world from war, famine and government-directed murder. But Israel, a tiny multicultural, multireligious, multiethnic democracy of just 8 million people, is treated as if it were the world's biggest problem. This is literally insane.

And yet, our highest officials have thrown their lot in on the side of the anti-Semitic inmates that now run the U.N. asylum. On Wednesday, Kerry dangerously crossed a line in what was billed his "farewell" speech, saying, "If the choice is one state, Israel can either be Jewish or democratic, it cannot be both and it won't ever really be at peace."

For the record, this is pure idiocy. As we said, Israel is the only democratic nation in the Mideast. That is a fact, not an opinion. And it extends full rights to its Arab citizens, who even serve in its legislature. None of the 22 Arab-ruled nations that surround Israel in the Mideast give even their own citizens the same rights that Arabs have in Israel.

Given Obama's perfidy against a former strong ally, President Trump, wisely, has counseled Israel to "hold on."

As if to acknowledge Trump's words, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu tweeted out Wednesday: "President-elect Trump, thank you for your warm friendship and your clear-cut support for Israel."

Once in office, we hope Trump can immediately begin undoing the damage of Obama's betrayal of Israel.

A good first step in our opinion would be to start defunding the United Nations — which has become a toxic-talk shop that serves as little more than a propaganda arm for the Palestinian cause, and an enemy to our ally Israel — and to us. That, to quote Kerry, would truly represent "our values."