Palestinian Officials Are Frustrated With Trump’s Pro-Israel Positions, Document Reveals

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Palestinian officials are frustrated with President Donald Trump’s pro-Israel positions, the [Hebrew news site nrg reported on Sunday](http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/879/836.html?hp=1&cat=404&loc=1), citing a new document authored by a top Ramallah political figure.

In the paper, which summarizes the diplomatic work the Palestinian Authority has done since Trump entered office earlier this year, Saeb Erekat — the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee and chief PA negotiator — wrote, “The Americans will vote against all plans and resolutions regarding Palestine at the [UN] Human Rights Council and UNESCO. Likewise, the American government will defend Israel at all international institutions and organizations, in accordance with President Trump’s declaration. Furthermore, the American government is threatening to leave the Human Rights Council if a resolution is passed against Israel.”

Erekat went on to note that, as of yet, the Trump administration has refrained from “publicly expressing support for a two-state solution, based on the 1967 borders, like the previous administration did.”

Also, Erekat continued, the Trump administration has not openly stated its “opposition to settlements, and hasn’t recognized the fact they are illegal.”

“The current administration…has not demanded that the Israeli government reduce construction in them [the settlements],” Erekat said.

On the issue of the potential move of the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem — a Trump campaign promise — Erekat observed that the president has yet to order it out of fear this would “destroy the peace process” and stoke “extremism and bloodshed” in the Middle East.

So far, PA President Mahmoud Abbas has met with Trump three times — in Washington, Riyadh and Bethlehem. At their meetings, according to Erekat, Abbas has emphasized to Trump that the only way to achieve peace is to “end the Israeli occupation and establish a Palestinian state with eastern Jerusalem as its capital that will live in peace and security alongside the State of Israel on the 1967 borders.”