

PRESS RELEASE

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AIPAC APPLAUDS TRILATERAL MEETING; CALLS ON ARAB STATES AND PALESTINIANS TO MATCH ISRAEL'S EFFORTS FOR PEACE

AIPAC applauds today's trilateral meeting in New York with President Obama, Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Abbas. We strongly support efforts designed to help achieve a lasting peace between Israel and all of her Arab neighbors, including the Palestinians.

Congress and the Obama administration, like successive previous administrations, have repeatedly underscored America's unbreakable bond with the Jewish State. Built around shared values and democratic ideals, America's commitment to Israel's vitality, security and right to defend its people from attack is unquestionable.

For over six decades, Israel has consistently offered its hand in peace, demonstrating again and again its willingness to make real and heartrending sacrifices – altering borders, relinquishing territory, uprooting families and entire communities – in the pursuit of peace.

AIPAC calls on the Palestinians to follow Israel's lead and drop all preconditions to negotiations and on the Arab states – Saudi Arab especially – to heed the calls of both the [U.S. House](#) & [Senate](#) and [President Obama](#) to take immediate and meaningful steps toward normalization, and after 60 years, grasp the hand that Israel has outstretched in the cause of peace.

In the past few months alone, Israel has taken dramatic steps to improve the everyday lives of Palestinian civilians in the West Bank. Israeli authorities have removed more than 140 roadblocks and inspection points and significantly reduced their security foot print. In addition, Israel has made great efforts to bolster the Palestinian economy – efforts that the International Monetary Fund predicts will result in seven percent GDP growth for the West Bank this year.

Israel is taking meaningful steps and tangible risks for peace.

Now it is time – well past time – for the Arab states and the Palestinians to match Israel's commitment to peace with actions of their own.

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Consistently ranked as the most influential foreign policy lobbying organization on Capitol Hill, AIPAC is an American membership organization that seeks to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Israel. For more than 50 years, AIPAC has been working with Congress to build a strong, vibrant relationship between the U.S. and Israel. With more than 100,000 members across the United States, AIPAC works throughout the country to improve and strengthen that relationship by supporting U.S.-Israel economic, scientific, military and cultural cooperation.