As violence and instability mount across the Middle East, challenges to Israel’s and America’s security are growing more severe. Iran is racing towards a nuclear weapons capability, Egypt is sliding into chaos, the Syrian civil war is deepening and Jordan faces mounting unrest. Amid these troubling developments, the United States and Israel must stand together and find ways to broaden their already extensive cooperation.
NEW AND GROWING THREATS TO ISRAEL

TURKEY
NATO member with a strained relationship with Israel
Violence and refugees spilling over from the Syria crisis

LEBANON
Dominated by Iranian-backed terrorist group Hizballah
Hizballah possesses 60,000 rockets and missiles aimed at Israel
Violence and refugees spilling over from the Syria crisis

PALESTINIANS
Power struggle between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas
Unrest increasing in West Bank
Weapons smuggling into Gaza
Hamas rockets threaten 5 million Israelis

EGYPT
On verge of economic collapse
Islamist radicals gaining in power
Sinai remains lawless

This map is for illustrative purposes of current and potential threats. It does not imply any view regarding the durability of agreements between Israel and its neighbors.
**SYRIA**

Ongoing civil war has killed 70,000

Control of chemical weapons and strategic systems uncertain

Instability spilling over to Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey

**JORDAN**

Economy strained

Syrian refugees flooding country

Traditional pro-Western rule under challenge

**IRAQ**

Future orientation in doubt

Conduit for Iranian arms to Syria

Helping Iran evade sanctions

**IRAN**

Nearing a nuclear weapons capability

Engaging in cyber-warfare against U.S. and Gulf states

Possesses advanced missiles that can hit Israel, American forces, and other American allies

Supporting Assad’s rule in Syria with weapons, soldiers, and aid

**SAUDI ARABIA**

Aging leadership facing domestic challenges

Uncertain succession and future orientation
WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN DO:

The United States and Israel have long cooperated strategically, economically and politically to the benefit of both countries. The allies can further build upon this relationship in a wide variety of spheres: defense, intelligence, homeland security, energy, science and trade. With the Middle East in turmoil, the two nations should dramatically strengthen their relationship to deter potential foes and confront the new challenges both nations face.

In addition, American assistance to Israel has helped our ally to confront the threats it faces and enable Israel to work closely with the United States. America should:

› Continue to provide security assistance to Israel—$3.1 billion each in fiscal years 2013 and 2014

› Support the Iron Dome, David’s Sling and Arrow-3 missile defense systems

› Make available to Israel the advanced weaponry it needs to address new threats

› Pre-position additional vital military equipment in Israel that both allies can use in times of crisis

› Expand cooperation in cyber security, homeland security, intelligence and energy

› Include Israel in the Visa Waiver Program