



Position Paper

Committee: Security Council

Topic: The situation in the Middle East

Country: **The United States of America**

Delegate: Ghassan Shakhshir, "Babes - Bolyai" University, Romania

United States of America's history in the region

The United States of America is a country which has been implicated in the Palestinian-Israeli issue since its foundations and still is, hoping to reach to a final agreement in establishing the peace in a country of 60 years of war.

The United States has lead the path towards peace in the Middle East, starting with the most important one moderated by former president Jimmy Carter, at the Camp David Accords, when Israel's recognition was done by Arab states neighboring Israel. The US implication continued through all the following agreements, reaching the Roadmap and the last Middle East direct Peace talks in Washington 2010.

As representatives of the United States we consider that a peace agreement with real chances of success and truly being a solution is a *2 state solution*, with fully independent rights, and most importantly a guaranteed security system. This needs compromises from both sides, and also, very important form the other Arab countries, as a real peace plan has to include not just Palestine and Israel, but Middle East and Israel.

This is why the United States considers that a viable peace should include the following necessary conditions:

- Adopting a **2 state solution**: An Israeli state and a Palestinian state living peacefully side by side
- Stop of any direct or indirect support and the **disarmament** of all military movements.
- **New elections** in the West Bank and the Gaza strip with the purpose of establishing an unity government, which controls the West Bank and the Gaza strip and secures peace among the Palestinians, assisted by international troops in the beginning
- **Land issues** –Israel to perform complete withdrawal from the Palestinian, Syrian territories to the pre 5 June 1967 border lines and Palestinians to be offered to create their own independent state is the one before 1967- West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem- with a secure and easy to reach roadway from the West Bank to Gaza.
- **Settlements issue**: Israeli withdrawal from all settlements in the Palestinian territories and the immediate and full freeze of all Israeli settlement activity, including the "natural growth" of existing settlements as to make real conditions for the creation of a Palestinian State. The United States views all settlement activity in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem as illegal and in contravention of International Humanitarian Law and Fourth

Geneva Convention. Moreover, the United States views the issue of Israeli settlements as one of the main issues hampering the development of peaceful negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians.

- **Security issues** - Severe encouragement of all Arab governments to prevent terror attacks against Israel and consequently fight anti-Semitism. Some rights regarding Israel's possibility of incursion within the new Palestinian state in that point would be assessed after 5 years by both sides and adapted in case of a successful development towards security for Israel.
 - Israel's **separation barrier**, which cuts deep into Palestinian territories, is illegal and must be brought down in a 3 year period after the peace treaty is signed as it threatens the creation of a Palestinian state, the peace process, and it violates humanitarian law and international law
- **Refugees and the right of return**- it is a vital issue and one of the main pillars of the peace process. The United States recommends the offering to refugees one of two choices
 - **1.** To return to their homeland – specifying that a number not larger than 300.000 refugees to return to the future Israeli state and the rest to be sent to the future Palestinian state.
 - **2.** To receive a significant amount of money and remain in the country in which they have been living since evacuation, receiving a local national citizenship along with his family members. Countries with large number of refugees can option to send up to 70% of them to other countries accepting Palestinian refugees.
- **Jerusalem**- the problem of Jerusalem is a main priority and a very sensitive one. The United States has left this issue to be decided by the two main parties, Israelis and Palestinians. At the same time The United States recommends the creation of an Internationalized Jerusalem as the one before 1967, at least for the first 10 years and see future developments.
- **Water**- the problem of water is not just an Israeli-Palestinian one, but a regional issue. The repartition on the Jordanian river and its sources must be established with clear Jordanian-Syrian-Israeli-Palestinian agreements. Also limits must be imposed on the quantity of the underground water taken by each part. Each nation will ensure that its water management and development does not “in any way harm the water resources of the other party.”; neither country has enough water to meet its needs and that they must both look to regional and international cooperation to increase supplies; and finally cooperation in developing water resources, preventing pollution, dealing with shortages, and, significantly, conservation.

Finally, we consider the parties not being just Israel and the Palestinians, but with all the countries in the surroundings and with significant implications such as the United States, as a lasting and long term peace requires normalization and economic, social, political and cultural bonds between the states implicated in the accords.