

J STREET NATIONAL CONFERENCE, GALA DINNER & ADVOCACY DAY

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, DC

February 25 – 28, 2017

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Registration Opens
	Marriott Metro Center, 775 12th Street, NW, Junior Ballroom 2, Second Floor
5:30 PM (Doors Open)	Opening Night
6:30-8:30 РМ	Stories of Our Past, Dreams for Our Future
Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall 1776 D Street, NW	J Street's 2017 National Conference comes at a moment of significant political challenge for both Americans and Israelis whose politics are driven by their democratic and Jewish values. The Conference's opening plenary, presented in conjunction with the New Israel Fund, presents some of the challenges facing Israel today through stories told by the popular "Israel Story" podcast. Shimon Peres' granddaughter will draw the connections between the dreams our grandparents had for the country in 1948, the realities of today and our hopes for the Israel we will leave to our children and grandchildren. And J Street's President will provide the opening call to defend our values and fight for our future that will be a unifying theme throughout the conference's program. WELCOMING REMARKS Rabbi Andrea London Co-Chair, J Street Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet SPEAKERS The Israel Story Podcast J Street U Student Board Jeremy Ben-Ami President and Founder, J Street Mika Almog Israeli Writer, Columnist and Satirist
9:00 – 10:30 PM	J Street Regional Meet-Ups
	Join other J Street supporters local from your area for food, drinks and discussion. All regional meet-ups take place after opening night at 9:00 pm.
	J Street Capital Region Meet-Up: Busboys and Poets, 1025 5th Street, NW J Street South Region Meet-Up: City Tap House, 901 9th Street, NW J Street Tri State Region Meet-Up: L'Hommage Bistro Français, 450 K Street, NW J Street New England Region Meet-Up: Fado Irish Pub, 808 7th Street, NW J Street Midwest Region Meet-Up: La Tasca, 722 7th Street, NW J Street Northwest Region Meet-Up: Sixth Engine, 438 Massachusetts Avenue, NW J Street Southwest Region Meet-Up: Vapiano, 623 H Street, NW J Street Mountain West Region Meet-Up: Carmine's, 425 7th Street, NW



7:30-11:30 AM	Registration
	Marriott Metro Center, 775 12th Street, NW, Junior Ballroom 2, Second Floor
9:00-10:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions
143AB	Tribal Nation: Identity Politics in Israel
	Israeli society is frequently described these days, most notably by its president, Reuven Rivlin, as "tribal" — comprised of secularists, the ultra-orthodox, Arabs and national Zionists. Each tribe has its own education system, identity and voting record. Effecting political change in Israel will require engaging a broad spectrum of communities, crossing ethnic and religious divides. This panel — bringing together representatives of several of the "tribes" — will discuss how identity politics affects Israel in general and the political left in particular. As the left looks to rebuild, what should its parties and leaders do to better understand and address the needs of Israel's diverse society?
	MODERATOR
	Mika Almog Israeli Writer, Columnist and Satirist
	PANELISTS
	Amal Elsana Alh'jooj Founder, Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation Emilie Moatti Columnist, Haaretz
	Michal Zernowitski Chairperson, Ultra-Orthodox Caucus of the Israeli Labor Party
145AB	Between the Lines: Deciphering a New US Approach to the Broader Middle East
	For several years now, US policy in the Middle East has been caught between a crying need for American leadership and an American desire to disengage. The new president faces tough policy choices — on Syria, Iraq, Iran and more — all made more difficult by some of his rhetoric and his desire to reset relations with other global powers. How this administration decides to wield US power in the region will have significant impact on both American and Israeli security. Join us for an exploration of the opportunities and pitfalls as the United States navigates a path forward through the intertwined and often contradictory geopolitics of the Middle East.
	MODERATOR
	Nahal Toosi Foreign Affairs Correspondent, POLITICO
	PANELISTS
	Lucy Kurtzer-Ellenbogen Director, Arab-Israeli Conflict Program, United States Institute of Peace
	Member of Knesset Akram Hasson Kulanu Party

9:00-10:15 AM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
146AB	US Politics and Israel: Adding Allies, Building Bridges, Pursuing Peace
	Pro-Israel, pro-peace advocates can count on significant support from Jews and from Democrats. But the Jewish vote is just a small piece of the American body politic and Democrats are out of power. Changing politics on issues related to Israel and the Middle East will require a broader coalition — developing real partnerships with Republicans, finding common cause with Arab-American two-staters and engaging with Christian evangelicals and Mainline churches. Join allies from different political, religious and ethnic backgrounds — who share the goal of peacefully resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict — to talk about building a winning pro-peace, pro-two-states coalition.
	MODERATOR
	Ben Shnider National Political Director, J Street
	PANELISTS Rev. Dr. Mae Cannon Executive Director, Churches for Middle East Peace Todd Deatherage Co-Founder, Telos George R. Salem Former Solicitor of Labor, Reagan Administration; Co-Founder, Arab American Institute
143C	Fighting for Our Future: Harnessing Our Power in the Age of Trump Training
	In just eight years, J Street has built a well-respected and powerful lobby and PAC and created an important presence in the Jewish community. How do we use that power to fight for policies that reflect our values in the new administration? How does J Street view the dynamics involved in politics, money and the Jewish community, and how do we wield influence in those areas? Using the nomination of David Friedman as US Ambassador to Israel and the Iran deal as examples, this training session will provide hands-on skills related to harnessing power to create political change.
	PRESENTERS
	Benjy Cannon Communication and Content Associate, J Street Jodie Rubenstein Mountain West Regional Director, J Street
10:15-10:45 AM	Breakfast
	First Level North Building Concourse



10:45 АМ-12:00 РМ	Concurrent Sessions
146C	Building an Effective Alternative to the Israeli Right
Session will be livestreamed.	Energetic, optimistic and virtually unknown to American audiences, a new, young and progressive leadership is emerging in Israel. They are focused on changing Israel's broken politics and getting ready to help govern and to advance progressive policies. If you're one of the many who wonder where the leaders of tomorrow are, come meet and be inspired by a sample of this exciting new cadre of leadership.
	MODERATOR John Halpin Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress
	PANELISTS
	Avi Buskila Director, Peace Now Mikhael Manekin Israeli Director, Alliance for Israel's Future Liat Schlesinger Executive Director, Molad
	Michal Zernowitzki Chairperson, Ultra-Orthodox Caucus of the Israeli Labor Party
143AB	Human Rights: Views from the Field
	The struggle for human and civil rights gets only more challenging as we close in on 50 years since the 1967 War and the beginning of the occupation. None of the governmental actors — the Israeli government, the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and Hamas in Gaza — are free from responsibility for policies and practices that deepen human suffering, restrict civil liberties and deepen the conflict. With no end-of-conflict in sight, what are the most pressing human and civil rights issues facing Israeli and Palestinian societies today? What are the greatest threats to rights on the ground, and what are the most effective tactics Palestinians, Israelis and Americans can use to address those threats going forward?
	MODERATOR
	Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin Policy Fellow, Mitvim: Israel Institute for Regional Foreign Policies & Permanent Writer, +972 Magazine
	PANELISTS
	Dr. Galia Golan Combatants for Peace; Darwin Professor Emerita, Hebrew University of Jerusalem Tania Hary Executive Director, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement Yuli Novak Executive Director, Breaking the Silence
	CHAIR
	Joanna Goodwin Friedman J Street Board of Directors

10:45 АМ-12:00 РМ	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
145AB	Ripping Up the Iran Deal?
	President Trump's rhetoric on the Iran deal has been inconsistent. He's threatened both to tear it up and to strictly enforce it — sometimes in the same speech. More than one month into the new administration, what are the threats — both explicit and more subtle — to the agreement? What is the interplay between the agreement and domestic politics, both here and in Iran? More than a year into its implementation, how has the agreement affected regional geopolitical dynamics? This panel features top experts on sanctions, nuclear non-proliferation and US-Iranian relations, looking at the future of the Iran nuclear agreement and its broader impacts.
	MODERATOR
	Barbara Slavin Acting Director, Future of Iran Initiative, Atlantic Council
	PANELISTS Colin Kahl Former Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to the Vice President Jasmin Ramsey Journalist Elizabeth Rosenberg Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security
147AB	Daylight to No Daylight: Switching Gears on US-Israel Relations
	American policy toward Israel appears set to undergo one of its biggest shifts in recent memory. President Obama and Secretary of State Kerry focused on resolving Middle East conflicts diplomatically — whether with Iran or between Israel and the Palestinians. Their view was that the US-Israel relationship did not require full and constant alignment on views and policy. The new administration — symbolized by the President's choice of David Friedman as Ambassador to Israel — has signaled a clear intent to reverse course. It has de-emphasized pursuit of the two-state solution and re-surfaced the principle that there should be "no daylight" between the US and Israel. It may well take action that — intentionally or not — undercuts the Iran nuclear agreement. Join our panel of experts in exploring what this rapid shift means for Israel, for the region and for American interests.
	MODERATOR
	Noa Landau Editor, Haaretz English Edition
	PANELISTS
	Ilan Goldenberg Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security
	Ambassador Alon Pinkas Former Israeli Consul General to New York Khaled Elgindy Fellow, Center for Middle East Policy, Brookings Institution



10:45 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
146AB	Combating Islamophobia
	President Trump's xenophobic and Islamophobic campaign surfaced some of the uglier currents in American society. Since the election, hate crimes targeting Muslim Americans have continued to rise and mosques have been vandalized. Muslims have been harassed and attacked and prominent Islamophobes have received senior roles in the administration. This panel will explore what the pro-Israel, pro-peace movement can do to defend Jewish and democratic values by adding our voices to the fight against Islamophobia. MODERATOR
	Amna Farooqi Former President, J Street U National Board
	PANELISTS
	Rebecca Kirzner Campaigns Director, HIAS Salam Al-Marayati President, Muslim Public Affairs Council
	Meira Neggaz Executive Director, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding
150B	Advocacy Day Training: State Captains and Team Leaders This session is closed to the press.
	All Advocacy Day State Captains and Team Leaders must attend this training. This session is also offered on Sunday, February 26 from 12:15-1:30pm. State Captains and Team Leaders are asked to attend one of these two sessions.
11:30 AM	Registration Opens at Convention Center
Salon GHI	Coat check available
12:00-5:00 PM	Action Center Open
Salon GHI	Join fellow Conference participants for a Congressional call-in action! Call your Members of Congress to support J Street's advocacy priorities in support of diplomacy in the Middle East and in defense of our values at home. The call-in center will provide directions for calling your lawmakers.

Supplementary Sessions Lunch carts available outside room 151AB, in Salon GHI, and kosher options will be available outside room 143.
Bereaved Israelis and Palestinians Bridge Divides Presented by Parents Circle - Families Forum (PCFF)
At a time when Israelis and Americans are so politically polarized, efforts at personal reconciliation can bridge divides, provide hope and keep us on the path toward a two-state solution. Bereaved Israelis and Palestinians who have paid the highest price in the conflict share their stories of loss. These bereaved families, united by the uncommon path they have chosen, have opened a crack in the psyche of a hardened and skeptical populace on both sides. They work to create an awareness of the humanity of the conflict that transcends history and politics. Hear from Parents Circle - Families Forum (PCFF) activists Robi Damelin, Elik Elhanan and Mazen Faraj, as well as other experts, about the work that this group does to heal the wounds of this conflict.
MODERATOR Craig Zelizer Founder and CEO, Peace and Collaborative Development Network PANELISTS Robi Damelin Spokesperson, Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF) Elik Elhanan Member of Parents Circle - Families Forum (PCFF), Assistant Professor, The City College of New York
Mazen Faraj Co-Executive Director, Parents Circle - Families Forum (PCFF) Jerusalem 2017: Crisis and Opportunity
Presented by Ir Amim
Jerusalem is constantly in the news, usually with headlines about violence and tension between Israelis and Palestinians. Talk of unilaterally moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem has sparked concern of adding fuel to the flames. The future of Jerusalem is one of the core issues of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and determining its future will be one of the most daunting tasks in achieving a negotiated peace. Join two Jerusalem-based NGOs, Ir Amim and the <i>Palestine-Israel Journal</i> , to discuss the possibilities and learn about their work together to empower Jerusalem's youth.
PRESENTERS
Yudith Oppenheimer Executive Director, Ir Amim Hillel Schenker Co-Editor, Palestine-Israel Journal
Ziad Abu Zayyad Co-Editor, Palestine-Israel Journal



ne Settlers: A New Film Ince Israel's victory in the Six Day War, hundreds of thousands of Israeli citizens have established residence the West Bank. A new film called <i>The Settlers</i> offers a comprehensive exploration of the controversial mmunities that exert inordinate influence on the fates of Israel and Palestine. Written and directed by imon Dotan, <i>The Settlers</i> will have its US theatrical premiere in March 2017. Dotan will screen parts of the n and discuss how it addresses Zionism, settlements and religion in Israel. RESENTER
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imon Dotan Director, The Settlers
raeli-Palestinian Conflict 101
t yet an expert on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but want to learn more? This session is a must for yone looking to be exposed to, or brush up on, history and current events. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, h its decades of history and many players, is undeniably complicated. This crash course, led by a former irralist turned leading pro-Israel, pro-peace activist will provide an overview of the major events that laid a groundwork for the conflict and Israel's founding and that have shaped the conflict since. It will also dress the final status issues that must be solved in order to achieve a two-state solution.
i Nir Director of Communications and Public Engagement, Americans for Peace Now
Proclaim Release": Using Jubilee Texts to Speak Across Political Divides esented by T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
ty years since the Six Day War. Fifty years of Jewish access to the Old City of Jerusalem. Fifty years of aeli occupation of the Palestinian territory. In the bible, the counting of 50 years culminates in a Jubilee ar or "yove!" in Hebrew. The laws of yove! teach us that such anniversaries are an opportunity to reflect what has changed as a basis for figuring out how best to move forward. Join T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call Human Rights for a study session using our new book Yove!: a Sourcebook for Fifty Years.
RESENTER Abbi Toba Spitzer Treasurer, T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
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12:15–1:30 РМ	Supplementary Sessions (continued)
146AB	High School Meet-Up
	Are you a high school student interested in learning about J Street U, the fastest growing, pro-Israel, college student movement? Join us for a meet-up of high school students already thinking about their contribution to pro-Israel, pro-Palestinian, pro-peace work. You'll get to strategize about the ways you can be a part of organizing toward a two-state solution, and build relationships with other students invested in bringing about change in Israel and in their communities! Don't miss this opportunity to learn how you can make an impact in your youth movements, at your high schools and in your communities.
146AB	JSpaceCanada Meet-Up
	All participants from Canada are invited to join Karen Mock, President of JSpaceCanada, and Barbara Landau, Chair of JSpaceCanada's Shared Society Initiative, to learn more about JSpaceCanada! Grab your lunch and join us to discuss how we can work together from coast to coast to raise the progressive Zionist voice more effectively in Canada. And enjoy a taste of maple syrup! For more information see www.jspacecanada.ca. Please RSVP to kmock@sympatico.ca.
147AB	Defending Our Values: Organizing in the Jewish Community Training
	J Street is committed to being the political home for the pro-Israel, pro-peace majority of American Jews. How can we effectively bring that message into established Jewish communal organizations across the country and urge those in leadership positions to speak truth to power? What role or responsibility do Jewish leaders have in speaking out in support of our values? This training will explore how to bring J Street's action and agenda into Jewish spaces. This training will also focus on the question of how to best integrate J Street U students and recent graduates into our Jewish communal engagement strategy. This session is geared toward rabbis, Jewish educators and other Jewish lay leaders and professionals.
	PRESENTERS
	Alan Elsner Special Advisor to the President, J Street Professor Steven M. Cohen Research Professor of Jewish Social Policy, HUC-JIR Rabbi Marion Lev-Cohen Director of Community Support and Israel Engagement Initiatives, Central Synagogue, NY Maureen Flaherman Student, Washington University in St. Louis, J Street U Aitan Groener Midwest Regional Co-Chair, J Street U
150B	Advocacy Day Training – State Captains This session is closed to the press.
	All Advocacy Day State Captains and Team Leaders must attend this training. This session is also offered on Sunday, February 26 from 10:45am-12:00pm. State Captains and Team Leaders are asked to attend one of these two sessions.



1:45-3:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions
143AB	Fighting for Israeli Democracy and Human Rights in the Age of Trump Presented by New Israel Fund
	For decades — and particularly during the past eight years — progressive Israeli civil society organizations have been bolstered by the American government's commitment to democratic principles and opposition to settlements. President Trump's election throws that support into serious question. Faced with rapidly changing international politics and an American administration with close ties to the settlement movement, many Israeli civil society and human rights organizations will have to revisit their strategies. What does it mean to organize for Israeli democracy, peace and human rights in the face of unsympathetic Israeli and American governments? How has the international strategy of these organizations changed? What, if any, opportunities does this new, tumultuous territory open up?
	MODERATOR
	Libby Lenkinski Vice President for Public Engagement, New Israel Fund
	PANELISTS
	Amal Elsana Alh'jooj Founder, Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation Hagai El-Ad Executive Director, B'Tselem Boaz Rakocz Executive Director, The Whistle
	Bode National Process, the Windle
146AB	Trump, Putin, Brexit and Bibi: A New World Order?
	We have witnessed two major political shocks in the past year and many other disquieting signs. First, the people of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. Then, President Trump had a surprise victory in the US elections. Meanwhile, we've seen the ascendance of right-wing, nationalist ideologies across the globe — in Russia, France, Turkey and Israel, to name only a few. Are these phenomena representative of a broader trend of democracy eroding? Are we entering a new era dominated by some of the most extreme voices of the political right? What are the most pressing issues surrounding US foreign policy, including but not limited to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in such a world?
	MODERATOR
	Alan Elsner Special Advisor to the President, J Street
	PANELISTS
	Lora Berg Senior Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States David Chemla General Secretary, JCall Europe Dr. Danny Gutwein Professor, University of Haifa, Israel

1:45-3:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
146C	Bridging Divides, Rebuilding Alliances: How Can the Jewish and Black Communities Work Together?
Session will be livestreamed.	For decades, liberal American Jews have felt proud of the Jewish community's contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and secure in the belief that it is a strong ally to the black community. But major tension over the stance on Israel in the Movement for Black Lives platform helped to surfaced significant divides. This moment should prompt tough questions: How can American Jews be better allies to black communities? How can the Jewish and black communities begin to speak more openly and productively about the questions that divide us and the values they share? Can they find common ground on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? How should Jews acknowledge and elevate the needs and voices of Jewish people of color? What can be done to strengthen the relationship between the two communities, in an era when the threats many communities face are growing?
	MODERATOR
	Rabbi Jill Jacobs Executive Director, T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights PANELISTS
	April N. Baskin Vice President of Audacious Hospitality, Union for Reform Judaism
	Wil Jones Student Activist Maharat Rori Picker Niess Executive Director, Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis Rev. David Wright Executive Director, Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston
145AB	A Security-Driven, Two-State Process Presented by Israel Policy Forum
	Engage with top Israeli and American security experts as they address Israel's security needs, including the preservation of a two-state solution. Come hear about two complementary plans designed to ensure Israel's security needs are met through a peace agreement with the Palestinians. Commanders for Israel's Security (CIS), a non-partisan movement comprised of former senior Israeli security officials, will discuss "Security First," a plan to improve Israel's security and international standing that preserves conditions for a two-state agreement. The Center for a New American Security (CNAS) will then present "Security System for the Two-State Solution." Join us to hear and discuss responses to the plans from veteran senior Israeli security and policy officials.
	CHAIR Dr. Michael Koplow Policy Director, Israel Policy Forum
	MODERATOR Ilan Goldenberg Senior Fellow, Center for a New American Security
	PANELISTS Member of Knesset Omer Bar Lev Zionist Union Rolly Gueron Ret. Mossad Division Chief Brigadier General (ret.) Israela Oron Former Deputy National Security Advisor, Israel's National
	Security Council



1:45-3:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
147AB	Peace in Search of a Process: Who Steps In if the US Steps Back?
	For decades, US-led bilateral negotiations have been a primary approach to seeking an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Now — whether because prior US-led initiatives have all failed or because the new administration does not seem as interested — this 40-year-old approach is called into question. Our panel will look at what happens if the United States really does step back from its traditional leadership role and specifically who steps in? What paths exist independent of American leadership? Can efforts to resolve the conflict be internationalized? Are there regional players who can step up to the plate? And are there economic opportunities that the parties themselves can advance to move the ball forward?
	MODERATOR Nadia Bilbanay Chartera Washington Burgay Chief, Al Arabiya Talayisian
	Nadia Bilbassy-Charters Washington Bureau Chief, Al Arabiya Television PANELISTS
	Bernard Avishai Author and Journalist, The New Yorker
	Ghaith al-Omari Senior Fellow, The Washington Institute
	Nadav Tamir Director of International and Government Affairs, Peres and Associates Global Consulting
150B	An Encounter Preview Session is capped at 25 participants.
	Join us for a facilitated conversation with Palestinian civil society leaders to hear how they are confronting the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We will hear firsthand points of view about the political realities and how next-generation grassroots activists are working for change. The program will include small group discussions with Encounter's facilitators. At this moment of intense polarization, join us to see for yourself how encountering new perspectives can help us lead the critical conversations our communities need to be having.
	PRESENTERS Yona Shem Tov Executive Director, Encounter
	Ziad AbuZayyad Co-Editor, Palestine-Israel Journal
	Rebecca Polivy Former Regional Director, Encounter
	Sulaiman Khatib Co-Founder and Co-Director, Combatants for Peace
143C	Advocacy Basics Training
	This session is closed to the press.
	Note: This is an optional training that is different from the mandatory Advocacy Day training.
	This is a new training for leaders to learn the nuts-and-bolts of organizing and holding an effective meeting with a Member of Congress or their staff. This session will cover how to prepare for a congressional meeting, how to best deliver information, how to stay on message and make effective asks and how to continuously build your relationship with these offices. This training is strongly recommended for all district advocacy coordinators (DACs), JNETs and other advocacy leaders.
	PRESENTER
	Dylan Williams Vice President of Government Affairs, J Street

3:15-4:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions
145AB	The State of the Palestinian Economy
	What is the state of the Palestinian economy today? Palestinian entrepreneurs and foreign governments have poured resources into developing the foundations for an independent Palestinian state. Where have they succeeded, and where are they falling short? How much progress is possible while the occupation continues? What frustrations and impediments deter developers? Could major economic progress help to create the political conditions for peace?
	MODERATOR Howard J. Sumka Former Senior Development Advisor, USAID Mission to West Bank and Gaza
	PANELISTS Bashar Azzeh Palestinian Entrepreneur and Youth Activist Karim Nashashibi Former IMF Country Director to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip Omar Shaban Director, PalThink for Strategic Studies Manal Zraiq Partner, General Director of Massar International CHAIR Elaine Rueben Member, J Street Tikva Society and President's Council
146C	Shared Values: Fault Lines in the American and Israeli Jewish Communities
Session will be livestreamed.	The strength of the US-Israeli relationship has long been ascribed to our countries' "shared values." Yet we are witnessing growing gulfs within and between both the American Jewish and Israeli Jewish communities. This pertains to attitudes on human rights, pluralism within Judaism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In an age of global hyper-partisanship, in which cultural and political chasms are widening, can we still say we have "shared values?" What are the implications for our relationship moving forward?
	MODERATOR Dr. Dov Waxman Professor of Political Science, International Affairs and Israel Studies, Northeastern University
	PANELISTS Yair Rosenberg Senior Writer, Tablet Magazine Rabbi Noa Sattath Director, Israel Religious Action Center Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin Policy Fellow, Mitvim: Israel Institute for Regional Foreign Policies & Permanent Writer, +972 Magazine Rabbi Shira Stutman Senior Rabbi, Sixth & I Historic Synagogue
	CHAIR Ken Bob National President, Ameinu



Concurrent Sessions (continued)
Israeli Changemakers on the Cutting Edge Presented by J Street Women's Leadership Forum
Political leaders in Israel will only take steps to change the status quo when effective groups of citizens come together to demand that they do. As we face the challenge of right-wing politics in Israel, the US and around the world, learn from experts who are fighting back by mobilizing the communities too often left out of the political process. This panel will shine a light on the changemakers who are working to empower diverse groups, to develop new pro-peace messages that work and to prove that the path to peace can and must mobilize the people, not just the politicians, in support. Go beyond the headlines and meet three progressive leaders whose powerful grassroots work is gaining traction in Israel.
MODERATOR Maya Haber Director of Programming and Strategy, Partners for Progressive Israel
PANELISTS Hamutal Gouri Representative, Member of Women Wage Peace Dr. Danny Gutwein Professor, University of Haifa, Israel Avi Meyerstein Founder and President, Alliance for Middle East Peace
CHAIR Molly Freeman Steering Committee Member, J Street Women's Leadership Forum
What's a Pro-Israel, Pro-Peace Advocate to Do in 2017?
Arguing over the prognosis for the two-state solution may make for a vibrant academic debate, but advocates need an action agenda. For those who care that Israel can't be both Jewish in nature and democratic in character while continuing the occupation indefinitely, what policies should we be seeking to advance in coming years? J Street remains committed to striving for a comprehensive two-state agreement, while others argue for unilateralism, incrementalism and even entirely new frameworks. Join a lively discussion within the pro-Israel, pro-peace family about the path forward with a two-state solution on life support.
MODERATOR Mitchell Plitnick Peace and Human Rights Advocate
PANELISTS Bernard Avishai Author and Journalist, The New Yorker Dr. Michael Koplow Policy Director, Israel Policy Forum Joel Rubin President, Washington Strategy Group Jenn Pollan Movement Member, IfNotNow

3:15-4:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
143AB	From Enemy to Asset: Israel's Moment of Regional Opportunity
	For decades, the Arab world cited the very existence of the state of Israel as the region's number one problem. Yet over the past decade, the regional dynamics have shifted dramatically. The Arab world's list of strategic challenges today is topped by Iran, extremism and the economic challenge posed by a massive generation of young people lacking economic opportunity and hope. Rather than being seen as a central threat, Israel today is perceived by regional players as a potentially key asset in addressing these challenges. Join us in exploring the opportunities and challenges Israel faces at this historic inflection point and whether, for Israel to take advantage of these strategic opportunities, it must first resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
	MODERATOR Attila Somfalvi Political Analyst
	PANELISTS Member of Knesset Akram Hasson Kulanu Party Brigadier General (Ret.) Israela Oron Former Deputy National Security Advisor, Israel's National Security Council Nadav Tamir Director of International and Government Affairs, Peres and Associates Global Consulting
4:45-5:00 PM	Mincha Services
150A	
5:00-7:00 PM	J Street U Session
146AB	Organizing in the Opposition This session is closed to the press. The Student Session is required programming for all students attending the conference.
	For the first time in its existence, J Street is operating in a world where the US president does not explicitly support a two-state solution. Join us as we explore how J Street U will organize in this new and challenging environment. This student-only session will kick off with a discussion with MK Ayman Odeh about his experience working from the Israeli political opposition. From there, students leaders will facilitate an open conversation about what power students have and how can we use it to lead pro-Israel, anti-occupation activism on college campuses.
	SPEAKER Member of Knesset Ayman Odeh Head, Joint List



5:30-7:00 PM	Reform Movement Reception
Fado Irish Pub 808 7th Street, NW	Join us for a reception to celebrate the work of the Reform movement for peace, pluralism and democracy in Israel.
5:45-7:15 PM	T'ruah and J Street Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet Happy Hour for Rabbis, Cantors and Seminary Students
Sixth and I Synagogue 600 I Street, NW	T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights and J Street's Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet invite you to join us for a happy hour. Meet your clergy colleagues, seminary students and leaders from both organizations. Complimentary drinks and light food will be served. Questions? Stop by T'ruah's information booth in the exhibit hall, find J Street's Director of Rabbinic and Synagogue Engagement Josh Friedes or visit truah.org.
7:30-9:00 рм	Plenary Session
Ballroom AB	Aftershocks: What the Trump Era Means for Israel and the United States
	President Trump and, in particular, his advisers present themselves as close allies of Prime Minister Netanyahu, his government and the settlement movement. But their mutual embrace alienates many Americans — particularly Jews and Democrats — who reject Trump's policies and ideology. For decades, the US-Israel relationship has been grounded in shared interests that transcend party lines in both countries. Yet this consensus is threatened by a new alignment between right-of-center governments with anti-democratic agendas. Does moving from bipartisan alignment to partisan division damage Israel's interests in the long run? How deep is Israeli support for Trump and his ideals? How will Israel's centrist and progressive friends in Congress and across the US respond to an Israeli government that aligns with an American administration they distrust? And what openings does this create for critics of both leaders to work together?
	MODERATOR Aluf Benn Editor-in-Chief, Haaretz
	PANELISTS Member of Knesset Omer Bar Lev Zionist Union Professor Steven M. Cohen Research Professor of Jewish Social Policy, HUC-JIR Dr. Philip Gordon Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations Member of Knesset Akram Hasson Kulanu Party Alan P. Solow Former Chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations Member of Knesset Tamar Zandberg Meretz Party KEYNOTE ADDRESS Member of Knesset Ayman Odeh Head, Joint List

9:00-11:00 PM	Young Professionals Meet-Up
Sixth Engine 448 Massachusetts Avenue, NW	J StreetLEAD partners with the New Israel Fund to host a young professional bar night. Meet new friends and enjoy your first drink on us, while they last.
9:00-11:00 PM	LGBTQ Meet-Up Co-sponsored by A Wider Bridge
Ping Pong Dim Sum 900 7th Street, NW	Are you a member of the LGBTQ community? Join us for some social time and watch the Oscars with us. Meet your peers from across the country who share our pro-Israel, pro-peace values. Enjoy your first drink on us, while they last.

7:30-9:00 AM	Breakfast
	First Level North Building Concourse
8:15 AM-5:00 PM	Action Center Open
Salon GHI	Join fellow Conference participants for a Congressional call-in action! Call your Members of Congress to support J Street's advocacy priorities in support of diplomacy in the Middle East and in defense of our values at home. The call-in center will provide directions for calling your lawmakers.
8:15-9:45 AM	Advocacy Day Training These sessions are closed to the press.
	Everything you need to know for Advocacy Day. Attendance is mandatory for all Advocacy Day participants. Please attend only the training for your region, below:
145AB	New England, South and Northwest, except California
146AB	Tristate, Midwest and Connecticut
147AB	Mountain West, Capital Region and Southwest, including California



10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Plenary Session
Ballroom AB	POLICYMAKERS ROUNDTABLE: Conflicts, Chaos and Opportunity in the Middle East
	There is no shortage of challenges facing the United States in the Middle East. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict marks 50 years of occupation in 2017 with no end in sight. Iran's sponsorship of terror and ongoing efforts to increase its regional influence threaten its neighbors. And, of course, non-state extremists from al-Qaeda to the Islamic State are tearing nations apart and spreading terror globally. American policymakers must wrestle in coming years with defining American interests in this troubled region, assessing the risks to those interests and defining the best roads forward to advance them. This plenary will open with keynote remarks from a leading voice on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and a panel of the nation's leading diplomats will delve into the challenges, while looking for opportunities. The session will also feature greetings from the Leader of the Israeli Opposition Zionist Union MK Isaac Herzog and remarks from Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat. WELCOMING REMARKS BY VIDEO Member of Knesset Issac Herzog Leader of the Opposition, Chairman of the Labor Party and the Zionist Union KEYNOTE ADDRESS The Honorable Chris Murphy Senator from Connecticut MODERATOR Tom Friedman Foreign Affairs Columnist and Author, New York Times PANELISTS Michèle Flournoy Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Center for a New American Security Ambassador Martin Indyk Executive Vice President, The Brookings Institution Rob Malley Former Special Assistant to the President and White House Coordinator for the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf Region
	KEYNOTE ADDRESS Dr. Saeb Erekat Palestinian Chief Negotiator

12:20-1:30 PM	Supplementary Sessions Lunch carts available outside room 151AB, in Salon GHI, and kosher options will be available outside room 143.
143AB	Welcome Disturbers of the Peace: A "How To" Session
	Director Stephen Apkon and representatives from Combatants for Peace will share and narrate clips from the award-winning film, <i>Disturbing the Peace</i> , a film about people born into conflict and sworn to be enemies, who challenged their fate. Panelists will discuss the film's impact on creating open and empathetic conversations in both Israeli and Palestinian societies. They will also discuss the challenges and opportunities of bringing the film to campuses and communities as a model for creating "brave spaces" and developing deeper and more authentic relationships with Israel.
	PRESENTERS
	Stephen Apkon Director, Disturbing the Peace Maya Katz Combatants for Peace
	Sulaiman Khatib Co-Founder and Co-Director, Combatants for Peace
145AB	The Israel-Diaspora Partnership to Save Israel and Stop the Occupation Presented by Save Israel, Stop the Occupation (SISO)
	There is currently a battle to control the narrative around the 50th anniversary of the 1967 War. The Israeli government and its ultra-nationalist allies are highlighting "unified" Jerusalem and strengthening Israeli control in what they refer to as the biblical lands of Judea and Samaria. For its part, the peace camp is using the moment as a wake-up call for those troubled by Israel's military rule over millions of Palestinians and its disastrous implications for Israel's future as a Jewish and democratic state. Join us at lunch to learn more about the Israeli organizations and Jewish communities on five continents working with Save Israel, Stop the Occupation (SISO) to build effective public messaging and a concrete program of action toward ending the occupation.
	PRESENTERS
	Daniel Bar-Tal Chair of the Board, Save Israel, Stop the Occupation (SISO) Tony Klug Special Advisor on the Middle East, Oxford Research Group Jessica Montell Executive Director, Save Israel, Stop the Occupation (SISO)



12:20-1:30 РМ	Supplementary Sessions (continued)
146C	What's Gaza Got to Do With It?
Session will be livestreamed.	Since the 2007 Hamas takeover, the Gaza Strip's impact on the peace process has been fraught, and the fate of its two million residents uncertain. A recent UN report claimed that the Strip will be uninhabitable by the year 2020, just three years from now. Recent polling shows that Israelis are well aware of the risks of leaving Gaza to languish but don't really know what to do about it. Come hear options for improving the situation in Gaza and turning it from part of the problem into part of the solution.
	MODERATOR Tania Hary Executive Director, Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement
	PANELISTS
	Yousef Bashir Foreign Affairs Intern, Representative Gerry Connolly (VA-11) Dr. Dahlia Scheindlin Policy Fellow, Mitvim: Israel Institute for Regional Foreign Policies & Permanent Writer, +972 Magazine
147AB	J StreetLEAD Strategy Session This session is closed to the press.
	J StreetLEAD is J Street's new national, young professional program, geared toward engaging J Street U alumni and other young professionals. This will be an opportunity to discuss what role our demographic is best positioned to play in growing our movement and changing the politics in America and in the Jewish and progressive communities.
	PRESENTER
	Kalyani Grad-Kaimal Mikva Fellow, J Street
143C	Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 101
	Not yet an expert on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but want to learn more? This session provides an opportunity for anyone looking to be exposed to, or brush up on, history and current events. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with its decades of history and many players, is undeniably complicated. This crash course, led by a former journalist-turned-leading pro-Israel, pro-peace activist will provide an overview of the major events that laid the groundwork for the conflict and Israel's founding and that have shaped the situation since. It will also address the final status issues that must be solved in order to achieve a two-state solution.
	PRESENTER Ori Nir Director of Communications and Public Engagement, Americans for Peace Now
	THE Director of Communications and Fubilic Engagement, Americans for Feace NOW

12:20-1:30 PM	Supplementary Sessions (continued)
146AB	Habonim Dror/Hashomer Hatzair Meet-Up
	Have you proudly worn a blue shirt with either a red or a white string in your lifetime? Did you come of age doing peulot in your <i>tzrifim</i> and volunteering on Kibbutz? If the answer is yes and you were once or are currently involved in Hashomer Hatzair or Habonim Dror, come have lunch together. And who knows? Maybe we'll even play an I agree/I disagree game.
1:50-3:20 PM	Plenary Session
Ballroom AB	Rising to the Challenge: American Jewish Leadership in the Trump Era
	How should American Jews, many of whom are marching in the streets for Jewish values, expect their communal institutions to participate in the public debate moving forward? President Trump received only 25 percent of the Jewish vote in 2016, and the majority of American Jews disapprove of his bigotry, xenophobia and misogyny. In a community that is deeply committed to the concept of democracy and inclusion, what is the role of the organized American Jewish community in this fraught political environment? And what is the role of its leadership in continuing to advocate for a two-state solution when both American and Israeli governments seem to be moving in the opposite direction? INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Eva Borgwardt <i>J Street U, Regional Co-Chair, Northwest</i> MODERATOR J.J. Goldberg Editor-at-Large, Jewish Daily Forward PANELISTS Brooke Davies President, <i>J Street U National Board</i> Nancy K. Kaufman Chief Executive Officer, National Council of Jewish Women Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism Barry Shrage President, Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston Daniel J. Sokatch CEO, New Israel Fund Featured Address The Honorable Bernie Sanders Senator from Vermont



3:35-4:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions
146C	What's Next for Palestinian Leadership?
Session will be livestreamed.	Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is doing much to strengthen his control over the Fatah party, the PLO and the Palestinian Authority — yet polls show increasingly deep public discontent with the present state of Palestinian political leadership and disapproval of the president. There is recognition that succession for the 81-year-old president is a real and near-term issue, but there is no clarity on who will follow Abbas or even what the process will be for determining succession. Join us for a discussion of the political and social dynamics in Palestinian society and for an exploration of who might succeed Abbas and what that would mean for Palestinian politics and policy.
	MODERATOR
	Ziad AbuZayyad Co-Editor, Palestine-Israel Journal PANELISTS
	Ali Abu Awwad Founder, Taghyeer (Change) Palestinian National Nonviolence Movement Bashar Azzeh Palestinian Entrepreneur and Youth Activist Omar Shaban Director, PalThink for Strategic Studies
146AB	Ready for Battle: Putting J Street's Political Capital to Work in Opposition
	In its first eight years, J Street set out to change the political calculus for elected officials when it comes to Israel and, to a large extent, we succeeded. President Obama and Secretary Kerry had sufficient political space to pursue a two-state solution and to successfully shepherd an Iran deal through Congress. In the new American political environment, J Street needs to shift gears — from defending policies we support to fighting those we oppose. What does it look like for J Street to put our hard-earned political capital and institutional strength to work, blocking an anti-diplomacy, anti-democracy agenda? And what else do we need in order to prevail on Capitol Hill?
	MODERATOR Matt Nosanchuk Former White House Liaison to the American Jewish Community under President Obama
	PANELISTS Jim Gerstein Principal, GBA Strategies The Honorable Jan Schakowsky Representative from Illinois Randi Weingarten President, American Federation of Teachers Ben Wikler Washington Director, MoveOn.org

3:35-4:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
147AB	The Settlement Movement's New Frontier: Outposts, Annexation and Preventing Two States Presented by Americans for Peace Now
	The Israeli political conversation was dominated last year by the fate of the illegal West Bank outpost of Amona. Settlement movement leaders have pushed initiatives to retroactively legalize wildcat outposts and to annex major settlement blocs. In the wake of Donald Trump's inauguration, many settler leaders think they have carte blanche to expand settlements at will — and destroy the two-state solution. What are the different tactics being used to try to legalize and expand settlement outposts? Can Prime Minister Netanyahu still exert control over the settlement movement, or are they the ones controlling him? How can the opposition effectively fight this legalization and annexation craze?
	MODERATOR Amir Tibon Washington Correspondent, Haaretz
	PANELISTS Lior Amihai Deputy Director, Settlement Watch Lara Friedman Director of Policy and Government Relations, Americans for Peace Now Member of Knesset Tamar Zandberg Meretz
145AB	When Facts Go Out the Door: American and Israeli Media Coverage in 2017
	At a time when leaders like Trump and Netanyahu frequently bully the press or use social media to bypass them, and when politicians regularly speak of #AlternateFacts and #FakeNews, how are journalists adjusting their tactics and techniques to provide accurate coverage and analysis? What lessons might American journalists learn from the experience of their Israeli colleagues and vice versa? Join American and Israeli journalists for a fascinating discussion on the state of journalism.
	MODERATOR
	Matthew Sienkiewicz Assistant Professor of Communication and International Studies, Boston College
	PANELISTS
	Noa Landau Editor, Haaretz English Edition Dan Raviv Senior Washington Correspondent, i24 Tal Shalev Chief Political Correspondent, Walla! News Jessica Schulberg Foreign Affairs Reporter, Huffington Post



3:35-4:45 PM	Concurrent Sessions (continued)
143AB	The State of Jewish Peoplehood: 1917, 2017 and the Transformations of Jewish Nationalism Presented by Shalom Hartman Institute
	The prevailing narrative in certain Jewish leadership circles is that there has been a precipitous decline in "Jewish peoplehood" in the last two generations of American Judaism, which is ascribed to as a cause — or perhaps a consequence — of Jewish distancing from Israel. In this session we will describe a more complicated and historically situated story about the twin poles of peoplehood — the vertical and the horizontal — and try to articulate ways in which our community can respond to the real challenges inherent in the political transformations underway in American Jewish life. PRESENTER Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer President, The Shalom Hartman Institute of North America
143C	Grabbing the Mic - Social Media Training
	The dominance of far-right and alt-right activists on social media was a major story of the 2016 election. They rallied around prominent messengers to amplify their posts. They swarmed against ideological opponents to intimidate and silence them. These tactics aren't new — they have been used for years by right-wing activists working on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to gain an outsized voice on social media. This training will discuss methods for taking back social media and getting out our message. We'll discuss how to push back (and ignore) the social media trolls, and ensure it is our message that is carried to those who matter. PRESENTER Avi Zollman Digital Campaigns Director, Everytown for Gun Safety
4:45-5:00 PM	Mincha Services
150A	

5:00-6:15 PM	Supplementary Sessions
146AB	The Next Generation of Pro-Peace Leaders
	Since the failure of the Oslo Accords, new leaders have emerged in the Israeli pro-peace movement to pursue a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These leaders have spawned new organizations and political parties. They have also helped shape the strategy of existing NGOs and political factions. This panel will be a window into the thinking of some of the young leaders involved in Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information, Seeds of Peace and Young Meretz and an opportunity to discuss how they can expand the reach of their creative work.
	MODERATOR Liel Maghen Co-Director, Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information
	PANELISTS
	Bar Gissin Co-Chairperson, Young Meretz
	May Pundak Director of New Generations, New Israel Fund
	Clarke Reeves Programs and Development Manager, Seeds of Peace
147AB	Building Progressive Movements in Polarized Societies Presented by OneVoice
	This session will delve into the complexities of building progressive grassroots movements amidst fractured societies, pulling from the experience of the OneVoice Movement and its regional partners, Darkenu in Israel and Zimam in Palestine. Each organization employs grassroots techniques in their respective societies – from training American university students, to awakening and enabling the moderate majority, to empowering non-violent youth leaders. We will discuss the strategies and tools of each initiative, focusing on the best practices of grassroots organizing. We'll explore the question of how to break out of traditional political paradigms through the power of local activism.
	MODERATOR Howard J. Sumka Former Mission Director to West Bank and Gaza, USAID
	PANELISTS
	Polly Bronstein CEO, Darkenu
	Mara Lee Executive Director, The OneVoice Movement and The PeaceWorks Foundation Samer Makhlouf CEO, Zimam
145AB	Facing Anti-Semitism in the Current Period
	When is criticism of Israel anti-Semitic? When is it not? When does shutting down dialogue around Israel on campuses fuel anti-Semitism? Looking at a series of recent events, including the LGBTQ Creating Change conference in Chicago, BDS resolutions on campuses, the Movement on Black Lives platform and the Trump campaign, this session will offer a fresh perspective on anti-Semitism and strategies for responding to it.
	PRESENTER Cherie Brown Executive Director, National Coalition Building Institute



5:00-6:15 PM	Supplementary Sessions (continued)
150A	Opening Up the Israel Conversation in Your Synagogue
	This session will explore recent case studies within our movement as a means of teasing out best practices for opening up the Israel conversation in congregations and Jewish communities. No two synagogues are the same, so this session provides participants the chance to determine what approach is best-suited for their community. Clergy, synagogue leaders and program facilitators will discuss a range of efforts to engage congregants in pro-Israel advocacy.
	FACILITATORS Josh Friedes Director of Rabbinic and Synagogue Engagement, J Street Rabbi John Friedman Co-Chair, J Street Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet Rabbi Andrea London Co-Chair, J Street Rabbinic and Cantorial Cabinet
6:30-7:30 рм	Gala Dinner Reception
South Prefunction	This is a ticketed event.
7:30–10:00 рм	Gala Dinner
7:30–10:00 PM Ballroom AB	This is a ticketed event. The 2017 Tzedek v'Shalom Award Honorees Daniel A. Kohl J Street Board of Directors Alexandra C. Stanton Vice-Chair, J Street Board of Directors; Co-Chair, JStreetPAC SPECIAL ADDRESS House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi KEYNOTE ADDRESS The Honorable Tim Kaine Senator from Virginia REMARKS Jeremy Ben-Ami President, J Street KEYNOTE CONVERSATION