



J Street 2009
DRIVING CHANGE, SECURING PEACE



J Street IS THE POLITICAL ARM OF THE PRO-ISRAEL, PRO-PEACE MOVEMENT.

J Street was founded to change the dynamics of American politics and policy on Israel and the Middle East. We believe that rapidly achieving a two-state solution and regional comprehensive peace is essential to the security and future of Israel as the democratic home of the Jewish people. Our mission is to promote meaningful American leadership to achieve peace and security in the Middle East and to broaden the debate on these issues nationally and in the Jewish community.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 2009



2009 – J Street's first full year of operation – was filled with momentum, excitement and hope.

We started the year buoyed by a new President whose clear commitment to the two-state solution and to ending the Arab-Israeli conflict was affirmed by his appointment of Senator George Mitchell as Special Envoy for Middle East peace on the first day of his Presidency.

What a change to have a strong ally and friend of Israel in the White House who understands that ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and achieving regional, comprehensive peace is a matter of existential importance to Israel and of vital national interest to the United States.

And we capped the year with our first National Conference – a roaring success that drew over 1,500 activists to Washington for three days of organizing, education and advocacy. The historic gathering heralded the arrival of a vibrant new political voice on the Washington scene, representing a significant part of the American Jewish community when it comes to Israel and the Middle East.

2009 was a year of spectacular growth and achievement for J Street. We doubled our budget to \$3 million, grew to nearly 30 staff, established a national presence and increased our online support base to 115,000 people. We launched an educational arm called J Street Education Fund (an independent 501(c)(3)) that is running our college program (J Street U) and our new field and grassroots effort. The Education Fund's activities are covered in a separate report.

Perhaps most important, our emergence stirred a firestorm of debate in the Jewish community and media, fulfilling one critical arm of our mission – broadening the conversation on what it really means to be pro-Israel.

Looking to 2010, our goal is to keep the momentum going – in particular by setting up regional political operations all around the country.

Thank you so much to those who have provided us with the critical support to get off the ground in these early months. And to those taking a first look at J Street, we invite you to join this important movement, giving political expression to our values and principles when it comes to Israel and helping to achieve real security and peace not only for Israel, but for its neighbors and the region as a whole.

Jeremy Ben-Ami
Executive Director

J Street's First National Conference ↗

Over 1,500 pro-Israel, pro-peace activists gathered in Washington, DC from October 25th to the 28th for **J Street's** first national conference. The historic gathering generated enormous excitement, significant media attention and sent a powerful message to Washington that there's a new voice to be heard when it comes to Israel and the Middle East.

J Street and the 20 participating organizations that helped put on the Conference brought together a diverse group of people from all around the world for three days packed with wide-ranging panels, training and advocacy.

Keynote speakers included President Obama's National Security Advisor, General Jim Jones, the head of the Union of Reform Judaism, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, and former Senator Chuck Hagel.



↑ **Jane Eisner**, Editor of The Forward, moderates the Jewish Community Town Hall with Rabbi Eric Yoffie and Jeremy Ben-Ami.



↑ **General James L. Jones**, United States National Security Advisor gives the keynote at the J Street Conference.

"At the J Street Conference, I was positively thrilled to see so many of the younger generations – vibrant, thoughtful, young Jewish Americans in their '20's, '30's, and '40's – thoroughly engaged in the intra-family conversation. They were present in amazingly large numbers, and unabashedly clear in their support for Israel, while questioning some 'received wisdom' from the older generations. Their search for solutions, and engagement in dialogue and debate (as Jews have done through the centuries, and certainly do in modern Israel) gave me hope for the future."

– CAROLYN OPPENHEIM, FLORENCE, MA



Over 1,000 people attended the opening night plenary, Israel and 21st Century American Jewry.

OUR CONFERENCE BY THE NUMBERS:

Over **1,500** participants • **20** participating organizations • **148** Members of Congress on the Honorary Host Committee for the Gala • Over **35,000** viewers watched conference events online • Over **150** members of the press • **210** Congressional lobbying meetings • **250** college students from over 70 campuses in the U.S., Canada, and England

↓ *Letters of support for the conference from President Shimon Peres, Senator John Kerry, and Leader of Kadima, Tzipi Livni.*

"I suggest that we need a broad, sensible, and inclusive definition of what it means to be pro-Israel and let us beware of those who insist, in effect, that the only way to be pro-Israel is to be just like me."

– RABBI ERIC YOFFIE



J Street In The News ↗



Over 150 members of the media from 19 countries attended our inaugural conference.

“Riding alongside the ascent of President Obama and other liberal Democrats, J Street blends old-style politicking with a media-savvy approach aimed at altering the U.S. political debate over Israel and other Middle East issues.”

— WASHINGTON POST, YEAR OLD JEWISH LOBBY HAS QUICKLY MADE ITS MARK, APRIL 17, 2009

“When J Street appeared on the Washington political scene last year, it won the distinction of being the first Israel-focused organization to combine a peace-oriented Middle East policy agenda with old-style political action. “It’s one thing to present position papers and talking points, hold Capitol Hill seminars and get small numbers of lawmakers to sign pro-peace-process letters and resolutions,” noted Besser on his blog. “It’s something very different to create a Jewish, pro-Israel and strongly pro-peace-process presence in the realm of campaign finance, with a view to using the clout that produces to boost lobbying.” In many ways, J Street’s timing couldn’t have been better.”

— CQ, NEW PRO-ISRAEL LOBBY, NEW POINT OF VIEW, AUGUST 10, 2009

The Washington Post

The Economist

The New York Times

CQPOLITICS

JTA

THE JERUSALEM POST

↑ In 2009 J Street was featured in a wide array of media outlets.



“J Street, in short, will not lack for acreage to till. The organization promised its supporters that between August and Labor Day it would take “50,000 actions” to support the president’s policies....

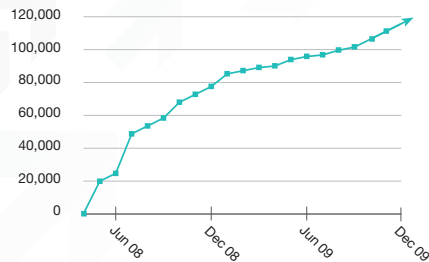
And J Street’s new corps of lobbyists will soon be fanning out into the wilds of Congress, there to sit down with legislators and staff who have never heard of, much less met with, liberal advocates on Israel. J Street may still be too small a blocking back

to clear much of a path for the Obama administration. But you can compensate for size if you’re not afraid of contact.”

— NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE, THE NEW ISRAEL LOBBY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

J Street Action ↗

In 2009, we continued to grow our list and deepen our connection to online supporters. We grew our online file to 115,000 supporters from 88,000, raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, and took more than 500,000 actions together online.



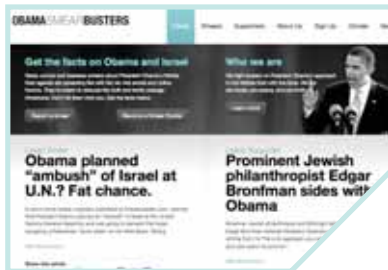
DON'T WHITWASH AVIGDOR LIEBERMAN



After it became official that Avigdor Lieberman had become Israel's new Foreign Minister last Spring, a J Street video asked American Jewish leaders not to whitewash Lieberman's racist rhetoric or platform and encouraged our list members to join us. Our video has now been viewed nearly 30,000 times.

We continue to be concerned that Lieberman's proposals threaten the foundations of Israeli democracy and, if unchallenged, could strain relations between the United States and Israel.

OBAMASMEARBUSTERS.COM



As nasty rumors and baseless smears about President Obama's Middle East agenda spread like wildfire via viral emails and online forums this summer, we launched a brand new website called ObamaSmearBusters.com to fight back.

We asked J Street supporters to pitch in - and they sent us smears to debunk, as well as sending the website to their friends and family. Tens of thousands of web visitors ended up getting the truth about President Obama's balanced Middle East approach from us - rather than the online rumor mill.

AUGUST ACTION CHALLENGE ENDS WITH 63,932 ACTIONS



At the beginning of August and in the dead of the summer heat, we set an ambitious goal of taking 90,000 actions by the end of the month to support the President's push for a two-state solution. We smashed our goal - taking a total of 63,932 actions in the month of August, sending 59,400 emails, making 1,288 calls, and telling 3,244 friends about our work.

PUSHING THE PRO-ISRAEL, PRO-PEACE MESSAGE IN CONGRESS



In 2009, J Street Members were asked to weigh in on three separate legislative efforts in Congress with thousands of calls and tens of thousands of emails.

We urged Senators to add their names to Sen. Diane Feinstein's letter to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton supporting the Administration's peace efforts. We asked Members of the House to support a resolution authored by Rep. William Delahunt supporting President Obama's choice of former Senator George Mitchell as Middle East Peace Envoy and we supported a letter authored by Reps. Cohen, Boustany, and Carnahan calling for active American leadership in the peace process.

↑ Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D, IL-09), Rep. Bob Filner (D, CA-51), Rep. Jared Polis (D, CO-2), Rep. Charles Boustany (R, LA-07) speak at the J Street Conference.

J Street ADVISORY COUNCIL

Hundreds of prominent former public officials, policy experts, community and academic leaders are on the **J Street** Advisory Council.

Tom Allen
Former Member of Congress

Stuart Appelbaum
President, Jewish Labor Committee;
President, Retail, Wholesale &
Department Store Union

Bernard Avishai
Author, *The Hebrew Republic*

David Avital
MTP Investments

Diana Aviv
President and CEO, Independent Sector;
Former Vice President for Public Policy,
United Jewish Communities

Aaron Back
Director, Ford Foundation Israel Fund

Rabbi Andy Bachman
Congregation Beth Elohim, Brooklyn,
New York

David Baltimore
Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine
and President Emeritus, Caltech

Judith Barnett
Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of
Commerce for the Middle East and Africa

Patricia Bauman

Rabbi Leonard Beerman
Founding Rabbi, Leo Baeck Temple

Dolores Beilenson
Former Co-Chair,
Congressional Spouses for Soviet Jewry

Rep. Anthony C. Beilenson
Former Member of Congress, California

Marjorie Benton
Co-Founder of the Chicago Global
Donors Network and Co-Founder of the
Chicago Foundation for Women

Rabbi Don Berlin
Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Oheb
Shalom, Baltimore

David Birenbaum
Former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. for
U.N. Management Reform

Rabbi Barry Block
Senior Rabbi, Temple Beth-El in San
Antonio and Board Member, Central
Conference of American Rabbis

Kenneth Bob
President, Ameinu

Ernest Bogen
Board Member, Harry S. Truman Institute
for the Advancement of Peace, Hebrew
University

Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein
Congregation Bnai Jeshurun, New York
City

Rabbi Sharon Brous
IKAR-LA

Martin Buzni

Daniel G. Cedarbaum
Immediate Past President, Jewish
Reconstructionist Federation

Lincoln Chafee
Former United States Senator

Michael Chabon
Pulitzer Prize-winning author

David Cohen
Co-Founder, Advocacy Institute,
President, Global Integrity and former
President, Common Cause

Steven M. Cohen
Professor of Jewish Social Policy,
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute
of Religion

Rabbi Hillel Cohn
Rabbi Emeritus, Congregation Emanu El,
San Bernardino, CA

Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels
Beth Shir Shalom

Rabbi Rachel Cowan
Executive Director, Institute for Jewish
Spirituality

Lynn Cutler

Former Deputy Assistant to the President
for Intergovernmental Affairs

Debra DeLee
President/CEO, Americans for Peace Now

Rabbi Elliot Dorff
Rector, American Jewish University

Rep. Thomas J. Downey
Former Member of Congress, New York

Sheldon Drobny
Co-Founder, Nova M Radio, Air America
Radio

Albert J. Dvoskin
President/CEO, A.J. Dvoskin &
Associates, Inc.

Maria Echaveste
Former Deputy White House Chief of Staff

Peter Eckstein
Jewish Educator, formerly of Temple
Israel of West Palm Beach

Peter Edelman
Board Chair, New Israel Fund

Paul Egernan
Co-founder, IDX Systems Corporation,
and former CEO, eScription, Inc.

Sara Ehrman
Former Political Education Director,
AIPAC

Rabbi Amy Eilberg
St. Paul Interfaith Network

Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi
Professor of Comparative Literature,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Leonard Fein
Writer

Chai Feldblum
Professor of Law, Georgetown University
Law Center

Rabbi Tirzah Firestone
Board Member, Rabbis for Human Rights

Dr. Franklin Fisher
Board Chair, Americans for Peace Now

Dan Flesher
Writer and Blogger

Marcia Freedman
Founding President, Brit Tzedek
v'Shalom

Rabbi Allen I. Freehling
Former Executive Director, City of Los
Angeles Human Relations Commission

David Friedman
Former Co-Chair, Jewish Funders
Network

Dodi Fromson
Board of Directors of the American
Associates of Ben Gurion University and
member of the Community Relations
Council of the Jewish Federation of Los
Angeles

Gail Furman
Board Member, Democracy Alliance

Larry Garber

Lila Garrett
Emmy-Award Winning Writer and
Director and Host, public radio's *Connect
the Dots*

Eric Geller

Former member of National Board of
Governors, American Jewish Committee

Jim Gerstein
Former Executive Director, Center
for Middle East Peace and Economic
Cooperation

Davidi Gilo

Rabbi Edwin Goldberg
Temple Judea, Coral Gables, Florida

Michelle Goldberg
Author, *Kingdom Coming*

Dr. Richard C. Goodwin
Chair, Middle East Peace Dialogue
Network

Dr. David Gordis
President Emeritus, Hebrew College

Rabbi Samuel Gordon
Rabbi, Congregation Sukkat Shalom

Rabbi Joshua Levine Grater
Rabbi, Pasadena Temple and Jewish
Center

Rabbi Arthur Green
Rector, Hebrew College Rabbinical School

Mark Green

Former New York City Public Advocate

Robert Greenwald
Brave New Films

David Gross
Nobel Laureate, Physics; Director,
Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics,
University of California, Santa Barbara

Richard and Lois Gunther

Morton H. Halperin
Former Director of Policy Planning,
Department of State

Ambassador William C. Harrop
Former Ambassador to Israel and
former Inspector General of the State
Department and Foreign Service

Floyd Herman
Rabbi Emeritus, Har Sinai Congregation,
Baltimore, MD

Arnold Hiatt
Former Chairman, The Stride Rite
Corporation

Elaine Hoffman
Former Finance Director, Democratic
National Committee

Stanley Hoffman
Professor of Government and Social
Studies, Harvard University

Michael Huttner
Executive Director of ProgressNowAction
in Colorado

Dr. Jill Iscol
President of the IF Hummingbird
Foundation

Richard D. Jacobs
Chair, Courage Campaign

Rabbi Steven B. Jacobs
Founder, Progressive Faith Foundation

Jonathan Jacoby

Professor Robert Jervis
Professor of International Politics,
Columbia University

Marc Kahn
President, The Bancroft Foundation, Inc.

Linda Heller Kamm
Former General Counsel, House Budget
Committee

Robert H. Kapp
Founder and Co-President, International
Senior Lawyers Project

Ambassador Ted Kattouf
Former US Ambassador to Syria and the
United Arab Emirates

Marilyn Katz
President, MK Communications

Stanley N. Katz
Director, Center for Arts and Cultural
Policy Studies, Princeton University

Jim Klutznick

Rabbi Peter Knobel
Former President, Central Conference of
American Rabbis

Herman S. Kohlmeier, Jr.
Former Louisiana AIPAC Chair

Doris Kosmin
Cantorial Soloist, West End Synagogue of
Nashville, TN

Markos Kounalakis
President and Publisher, The Washington
Monthly

Melodee Kornacker

Victor Kovner
Former Corporation Counsel of the City
of New York

Rabbi Douglas E. Krantz
Congregation B'nai Yisrael

Rabbi Charles A. Kroloff
Past President, Central Conference of
American Rabbis

Luis Lainer

J. Shawn Landres
CEO & Director of Research, Jumpstart

Leon Lederman
Nobel Laureate, Physics; Director
Emeritus, Fermi National Accelerator
Laboratory

Lawrence I. Lerner
President, MeretzUSA

Daniel Levy
Former Advisor, Israeli Prime Minister's
office

Lawrence S. Lewin
Former President and CEO, The Lewin
Group

Geoffrey Lewis
Kernstein, Coren & Lichtenstein LLP

Hon. Samuel W. Lewis
Former U.S. Ambassador to Israel

Bud Lifton
Board Member, New Israel Fund; Board
Member, Jewish Council on Urban
Affairs; Board Member, Kam Isaiah Israel
Congregation

Rabbi Andrea London
Beth Emet the Free Synagogue,
Evanston, IL

Rob Malley
Former Special Assistant to the President
for Arab-Israeli Affairs

Yaffa Maritz

Eric Maskin
Nobel Laureate, Economics; Professor,
Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

Steve Masters
President, Brit Tzedek v'Shalom

Rabbi Rolando Matalon
Congregation Bnai Jeshurun, New York
City

Avi Meyerstein
Founder, Alliance for Middle East Peace

Seth Morrison

Professor David N. Myers
Former President and Director, UCLA Center for
Jewish Studies

Arthur Obermayer
President, Moleculon Research
Corporation

Ambassador Herbert S. Okun
Former Ambassador to the German
Democratic Republic and to the United
Nations

Professorial Lecturer, School of
Advanced International Studies, Johns
Hopkins University

Michael Ostrolenk
Co-Founder, The Transpartisan Center

Eli Pariser
Board President, MoveOn.org
Political Action

Robert Pastor
Former Senior Director,
National Security Council

Ricken Patel
Co-founder and Executive Director, Avaaz

Ambassador Robert Pelletreau
Former Assistant Secretary of State for
Near Eastern Affairs and former U.S.
Ambassador to Egypt, Tunisia and Bahrain.

Kathleen Perattis
Partner, Outen & Golden, LLP

Michael Pertschuk
Former Chairman, Federal Trade
Commission; co-founder,
The Advocacy Institute

Professor David Politzer
Nobel Laureate, Physics;
Professor of Theoretical Physics,
California Institute of Technology

Avi Poster
Chair, Jewish Community Relations
Council of Nashville Tennessee

Kevin F.F. Quigley
President, National Peace Corps Association

Rabbi Arnold Rachlis

Jeri Rice

Fran Rodgers

Dr. Irwin Rose
Nobel Prize Winner, Chemistry

Rabbi Kliei Rose
Nashville, TN

Norman Rosenberg
Former Chief Executive Officer, New
Israel Fund

Hannah Rosenthal
Former Executive Director, The Jewish
Council on Public Affairs

Mrs. Ruth M. Rothstein

Leonard Rubenstein
Visiting Scholar, Johns Hopkins Center
for Public Health and Human Rights

Barnett R. Rubin

Director of Studies, Center on
International Cooperation, New York
University

* PLEASE NOTE: Affiliations are listed for identification purposes only;
individual involvement in this effort does not imply organizational support.
Names are in alphabetical order.

Alan Sagner
Organizer/First Chairman, Young
Leadership Cabinet of National UJA

Deborah Sagner
Board Member, Democracy Alliance

Bettylu Saltzman

Herb and Marion Sandler

Mark Schneider
Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of
State for Human Rights

Irwin Schneiderman
Senior Counsel, Cahill Gordon & Reindel

Stanley Sheinbaum
Publisher, New Perspective Quarterly

Rabbi Arnold I. Sher
Immediate Past Director of Placement
of the Joint Placement Commission
representing the Central Conference
of American Rabbis, Union for Reform
Judaism and the Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion

Michael Shtender-Auerbach
Founder, Social Risks LLC

Rabbi Dennis Shulman
Former Congressional Candidate, New
Jersey

Henry Siegman
President, U.S./Middle East Project

Bill Singer
Brandeis Fellow and Commissioner on
the Presidential Advisory Commission on
Holocaust Assets in the United States

Maxine Singer
Biochemist, President Emerita, Carnegie
Institution of Washington

Scott Sklar
President, The Stella Group, Ltd.

Alan Smitow
Smitow-Kaufman Productions

Daniel Solomon

Robert Solow
Nobel Laureate, Economics; Professor
Emeritus of Economics, MIT

Robert Spiegel
Private Investor

Herzl R. Spiro
Former Chair, Jewish Agency for
Israel Committee on Immigration and
Absorption

Rabbi Toba Spitzer
President, Reconstructionist Rabbinical
Association

Ronna Stamm

Alexandra Stanton
Former Chief of Staff,
Empire State Development Corporation

Mary Ann Stein

Rabbi Jack Stern
Past President, Central Conference of
American Rabbis

Paula Stern
Former Chairwoman, United States
International Trade Commission

Rabbi Alvin Sugarman
Rabbi Emeritus, The Temple-Hebrew
Benevolent Congregation

Joshua B. Tenenbaum
Associate Professor,
Brain and Cognitive Sciences,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

J. Marty Tenenbaum
Chairman and Founder, CommerceNet

Rabbi David A. Teutsch
Director, Center for Jewish Ethics,
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Sidney Topol
Former Chairman/CEO,
Scientific Atlanta, Inc.

Joshua Tzaker
Former Legislative Director, Office of
Congressman John Dingell

Ambassador (ret.) Nicholas Veliotos
Former Assistant Secretary of State for
Near East and South Asia, former U.S.
Ambassador to Egypt and Jordan and
former Deputy Chief of Mission to Israel

Milton Viorst
Writer

Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky
Professor, Jewish Theological Seminary

Al Vorspan
Director Emeritus, Commission on
Social Action Union of American
Hebrew Congregations

Ayelet Waldman
Author, *Love and Other Impossible Pursuits*

Robert L. Wald
Founder and former Co-Chair,
Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil
Rights and Urban Affairs

Michael Walzer
Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton University

Bernice Weissbourd
President, Family Focus

Robert Weissbourd
President, RW Ventures

Ambassador (ret.) Philip C. Wilcox, Jr.
Former President, Foundation for Middle East
Peace

Edward Witten
Professor, Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton

Alan Wurtzel

Mark Zivin
Partner, Morrison & Morrison,
CPAs, Chicago

Israeli Support for J Street

The following Israelis have expressed support for **J Street** in an ad or letter during the past year.

Yossi Alpher

Former Director of the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies

Col (Ret) Shaul Arieli

Former Commander Gaza Brigade; former head of the 'Peace Negotiations Administration' under PM Ehud Barak

Rabbi Arik Ascherman

Executive Director, Rabbis for Human Rights

Haim Assa

Former National Security Advisor to PM Yitzhak Rabin

Bernard Avishai

Author, *The Hebrew Republic*

Ambassador Colette Avital

Former Deputy Speaker of Knesset

Adm (Ret.) Ami Ayalon

Former head of the Shin-Bet and Navy

Uzi Baram

Former Minister of Internal Affairs

Shlomo Ben Ami

Former Foreign Minister

Daniel Ben Simon

Member of Knesset

Brig Gen (Ret) Shlomo Brom

Former Deputy National Security Advisor

David Broza

Singer, writer; performer

Avrum Burg

Former Speaker of the Knesset

Eytan Cabel

Member of Knesset

Professor Naomi Chazan

Former Deputy Speaker of Knesset

Brig. Gen. (ret.) Nehemia Dagan

Former Chief of the Educational Corp.

Sidra Dekoven Ezrahi

Professor Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Professor Galia Golan

Interdisciplinary Center, Herzlia

Maj Gen (Ret.) Shlomo Gazit

Former Commander of IDF Intelligence

Micha Harish

Former Minister of Industry and Commerce

Tamar Hermann

Dean of Academic Studies, The Open University of Israel

Itzhak Herzog

Minister of Welfare

Anat Hoffman

Executive Director of Israel Religious Action Center

Nitzan Horwitz

Member of Knesset

Dalia Itzik

Member of Knesset; Former Speaker of the Knesset

David Kimche

Former Director General of the Foreign Ministry

Shlomo (Tchich) Lahat

Ret. Major General in the IDF; former Mayor of Tel Aviv

Maj Gen (Ret.) Amos Lapidot

Former Commander of Israel Air Force

Alon Liel

Former Director General of the Foreign Ministry

Maj Gen (Ret.) Amnon Lipkin-Shahak

Former Chief of the General Staff of the IDF

Eti Livni

Former Deputy Speaker of the Knesset

Tzipi Livni

Leader of Kadima

Werner Lovai

Past President, AACI Jerusalem Branch (Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel)

Moshe Maoz

Former adviser to Israeli Prime Ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres

Maj Gen (Ret.) Amram Mitzna

Former Chairman of the Israel Labor Party and Knesset Member

Shlomo Molla

Member of Knesset

Ambassador Ora Namir

Former Minister of Labor and Social Affairs; Former Ambassador to China

Orit Noked

Member of Knesset

Nimrod Novik

Former senior advisor to the Prime Minister

Haim Oron

Member of Knesset; Former Minister of Agriculture

Brig General (Ret.) Israela Oron

Former Deputy National Security Council Adviser

Amos Oz

Author

Shimon Peres

President of Israel

Orni Petrushka

Businessman; Entrepreneur

Brig Gen (Ret) Ilan Paz

Former Head of the Civil Administration in the West Bank

Ophir Pines-Paz

Member of Knesset

Avi Primor

Former Israeli Ambassador to the EU and Germany; Director of European Studies at the IDC in Herzliya

Ron Pundak

Director General of the Peres Center for Peace

Dalia Rabin

Chair of the Rabin Center; former Member of Knesset; Deputy Minister of Defense

Haim Ramon

Former member of Knesset; Former Vice Prime Minister

Ambassador Gad Ranon

Former Director, North America Division, Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Rabbi Andrew Sacks

Director General of the Rabbinical Assembly in Israel

Talia Sasson

Former Special Adviser to Prime Minister Sharon

Uri Savir

Former Member of Knesset; Director General of the Foreign Ministry

Professor Alice Shalvi

Founding Chair of the Israel Women's Network

Ambassador Shimon Shamir

Former Ambassador to Egypt and Jordan

Meir Sheerit

Member of Knesset

Colonel (Ret.) Gilead Sher

Former Israeli Prime Minister's Chief of Staff

Professor David Shulman

Professor, Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Professor Hillel Shuval

Professor, Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Yuli Tamir

Member of Knesset

Abu Vilan

Former Member of Knesset

Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman

Kehilat Kol HaNeshama, Jerusalem



Leader of the Opposition

MK Tzipi Livni

Jerusalem,
Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Mr. Jeremy Ben-Ami
Executive Director
JStreet


Dear Jeremy,

Thank you for your invitation to J Street's first national conference. Unfortunately, my schedule does not allow me to take part in this event but, as you know, "Kadima" will be well represented at the conference by senior members of the Party.

I would like to congratulate you on your Inaugural national conference. I believe most American Jews support Israel and want to see it thrive as a Jewish and democratic state. Like you, I believe ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by realizing the vision of two nation states, living side by side in peace and security, is in the best interests of Israel, the United States, the Palestinians, and the region as a whole.

In my view, the discussion within the pro-Israel community of what best advances Israel's cause should be inclusive and broad enough to encompass a variety of views, provided it is conducted in a respectful and legitimate manner. Along the way, we may not agree on everything but I do believe that we must ensure that what unites us as Jews who are committed to Israel's future as a secure, Jewish and democratic State is far greater than what separates us.

I wish the organizers and the participants much success in the upcoming conference,

Sincerely,

Tzipi Livni
Head of the "Kadima" Party
Leader of The Opposition
State of Israel

 Letter of support from Tzipi Livni

Joanne Yaron

Chair, Democrats Abroad-Israel

Danny Yatom

Former Knesset Member; former Head of the Mossad

Esther (Etty) Yevnin

Former Director, International Relations,
Israeli National Police

Orit Zuareztz

Member of Knesset

J Street Polls American Jewish Opinion

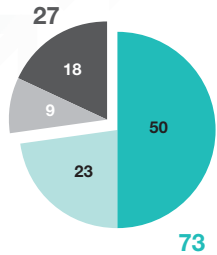
In the aftermath of the war in Gaza and elections in the United States and Israel, **J Street's** Spring 2009 national survey of American Jews revealed that Jews continue to support assertive American leadership to achieve a two-state solution and resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Fundamental attitudes about the conflict and America's role in the Middle East remained unchanged from J Street's national survey conducted during the 2008 Presidential campaign, and demonstrate that firmly held beliefs about the critical importance of American leadership were not shaken in the wake of major events.

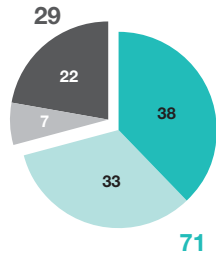
The survey showed strong support for President Obama and his approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict. It was also very clear from this survey that American Jews have a sophisticated approach toward the Middle East and the challenges Israel faces, which contrasts sharply from conventional wisdom and the hawkish characterization of Jewish attitudes often conveyed by some Jewish organizational leaders.

KEY FINDINGS

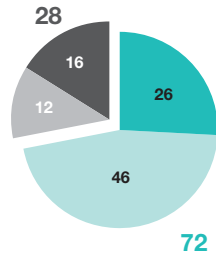
1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as president?



2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the economy?

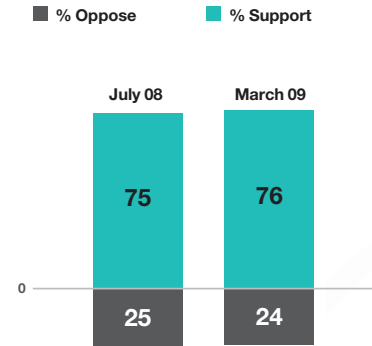


3 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling the Arab-Israeli conflict?



% Strongly Disapprove % Strongly Approve
 % Somewhat Disapprove % Somewhat Approve

4 Would you support or oppose the United States playing an active role in helping the parties to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict if it meant the United States publicly stating its disagreements with both the Israelis and the Arabs?

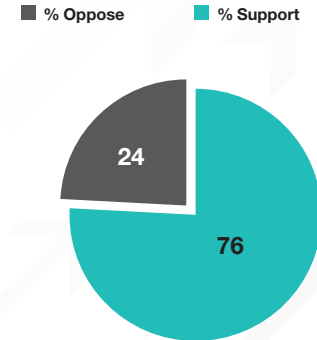


5 Eight years ago, Israeli, Palestinian, and American negotiators came very close to reaching a final status peace agreement, but ultimately fell short.

The details of that agreement include:

- A demilitarized Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza
- Internationally recognized borders that include some land swaps allowing for most Jewish settlers in the West Bank to be inside Israel while the Palestinians get comparable land areas in return
- Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem become part of the new Palestinian state while Israel retains control of Jewish neighborhoods and the Western Wall in Jerusalem
- International forces to monitor the new Palestinian state and border crossings
- Financial compensation for Palestinian refugees while allowing some refugees to return to Israel if they meet specific family reunification criteria and the Israeli government approves

Do you support or oppose such an agreement?



JStreetPAC

JStreetPAC is the first political action committee to endorse and raise money for federal candidates based on their support for Israel and for American policy in the Middle East that promotes security through peace, a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and active diplomacy to address regional conflicts.

JStreetPAC HELPS IN TWO CONGRESSIONAL SPECIAL ELECTIONS



SCOTT MURPHY (NY-20) – JStreetPAC HELPS PROPEL MURPHY TO VICTORY

In the Spring of 2009, JStreetPAC endorsed Scott Murphy in the special election of New York's 20th District, after Kirsten Gillibrand was appointed to fill the New York Senate vacancy. JStreetPAC's endorsement helped tip the scale in an election where Murphy eked out a victory with 726 votes.



BILL OWENS (NY-23) – ANOTHER SPECIAL ELECTION VICTORY

In the Fall of 2009, JStreetPAC endorsed Rep. Bill Owens in a special election in New York, adding another pragmatic voice to the Congress that supports our pro-Israel, pro-peace agenda. JStreetPAC jumped into this race in the last week helping push Owens over the top in a hotly contested election against an ultra-conservative opponent, raising over \$20,000 in less than three days.

JStreetPAC had a very successful 2008 cycle, endorsing 41 candidates—33 of which were successful. The PAC distributed more than \$575,000 to its endorsees, making it the largest pro-Israel PAC. In the 2010 election cycle, JStreetPAC aims to distribute nearly \$1 million to its endorsed candidates.

JStreetPAC SHOWS GRASSROOTS FUNDRAISING STRENGTH



DONNA EDWARDS (MD-8) – GRASSROOTS RALLY BEHIND FRIENDS

Congresswoman Donna Edwards was one of JStreetPAC's first endorsed candidates. In the Spring of 2009, she came under attack for not being sufficiently "pro-Israel." Some called for a primary challenge to Edwards simply because she did not buy into their hawkish views of what it means to be "pro-Israel." JStreetPAC responded to these intimidation tactics by sending out a fundraising appeal to support Edwards and her reasonable pro-Israel, pro-peace positions. JStreetPAC raised over \$35,000 for Edwards' campaign—with \$15,000 coming in the first four hours of the appeal.



STEVE COHEN (TN-9) – OVER \$35,000 RAISED FOR TOUGH PRIMARY

Congressman Cohen has consistently demonstrated his pro-Israel, pro-peace credentials in Congress. As a lead signatory on a letter backing President Obama's balanced approach to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Cohen has advocated for strong American leadership to achieve a two-state solution. When Cohen's primary opponent turned the campaign in an ugly direction by using race and religion, JStreetPAC decided to help Rep. Cohen with an online fundraising drive. In only one week, JStreetPAC raised over \$35,000 to help support Rep. Cohen's campaign.

How You Can Help

There are a number of ways to contribute and participate in **J Street's** work. Contributions of any size are, of course, welcome. Those interested in supporting our work should fill in the form on the next page or visit us online at www.jstreet.org.

J-NET: J Street's POLITICAL ACTION NETWORK

The J-NET is J Street's national network of political activists and donors who serve as primary points of contact for J Street with Members of the House and Senate on policy and legislation related to Israel and the Middle East.

J-NET members are in personal, phone and email touch with members of Congress and their staff around specific legislation or policy proposals of interest to J Street. J-NET members receive talking points and periodic training on effective lobbying as well as regular briefings from policy experts on substantive issues related to J Street's advocacy goals. As a vital part of our national political efforts, all J-NET members are invited to participate in J Street's Missions to Israel, its Leadership Summits, and other national activities reserved for J Street leadership.

J-NET members contribute at least \$1,800 to J Street annually. In addition to acting as liaisons to elected officials, J-NET members serve as ambassadors for J Street in their communities and help to recruit others to participate in the J-NET.

J Street/JStreetPAC FINANCE COMMITTEE

Members of the Finance Committee contribute \$5,000 (or more) per year in operating support to J Street or JStreetPAC – and agree to direct \$10,000 over the two-year election cycle to federal candidates endorsed by JStreetPAC.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- Exclusive briefings throughout the year from elected officials and policy makers
- Participation in J Street Advisory Council meetings
- Special recognition on all J Street promotional materials
- Invitations to participate in local and national leadership events including a mission to Israel, the West Bank and Jordan planned for Spring 2010 and semi-annual Leadership Summits.

Finance Committee members are deeply engaged in the PAC's endorsement process, participating in candidate interviews and providing input on endorsement decisions and strategy.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR SERVING ON OUR FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Richard A. Abdo	Sandy and Linda Gallanter	Betsy Krieger	Abby Sher
Paul Abrams	Davidi Gilo	Luis Lainer	Larry Silverton
Elaine Attias	Margery Goldman	Robert and Genevieve Lynch	William S. Singer
David Avital	Jane Gottesman and Geoffrey Biddle	Paul and Yaffa Maritz	Daniel Solomon
Frank Bamberger	Sally Gottesman	John and Wendy Neu	Robert Spiegel
Patricia Bauman	Richard and Lois Gunther	Arthur and Judith Obermayer	Ronna Stamm and Paul Lehman
Ernie and Rita Bogen	Arnold Hiatt	Kathleen Peratis	Alexandra Stanton
Stuart Brown	Michael Hirschhorn	Michael Rappeport	Mary Ann Stein
Dan Cedarbaum	Elaine Hoffman and Jack Cherbo	Jeri Rice	Marty Tenenbaum
Al Dwoskin	Audrey Irmis	Fran Rodgers	Sidney Topol
Paul Egerman	Jane Jelenko and William Norris	Marci Rosenberg and Ben Samuels	Sandy Weiner and Irwin Levin
Michael Engler	Martin Kace	Alan Sagner	Edward Witten
Frank Fisher	Linda Heller Kamm	Deborah Sagner	Carol and Terry Winograd
David Friedman and Tirzah Firestone	Sara and Victor Kovner	Lela and Gerald Sarnat	Alan and Irene Wurtzel
Barbara Fleischman		Irwin Schneiderman	Mark and Margie Zivin
Gall Furman		Harold and Myra Shapiro	

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

WE SUPPORT:

- Consistent and concerted **diplomatic engagement by the United States to achieve Israeli-Arab peace**. A negotiated end to the Israeli-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts serves both U.S. and Israeli strategic and security interests. Achieving it must be a priority for any future U.S. administration;
- **An enduring relationship between the US and Israel** that promotes their common interests. We recognize and support Israel as the homeland of the Jewish people, a democratic country that promises equal rights for all its citizens and that has the right to defend itself against external threats;
- **The creation of a viable Palestinian state** as part of a negotiated two-state solution, based on the 1967 borders with agreed reciprocal land swaps. The future Palestinian state will require unprecedented levels of international economic and political support to succeed, including a resolution of the refugee issue within the new Palestinian state and in current host countries;
- **An Israeli-Syrian peace agreement** based on the land-for-peace formula, security guarantees, and details outlined in previous negotiations;
- **A comprehensive regional peace that builds on the Arab Initiative**, leading to recognition of Israel by all its neighbors in the Middle East and the creation of a new regional approach to cooperation and security;
- An American policy in the Middle East more broadly based on **diplomacy, multilateralism and real partnership with the European Union, the Quartet and others**. We support dialogue with a broad range of countries and actors, including Iran, over confrontation in order to find solutions to the region's conflicts.

To advance these goals, we seek to build a broad and inclusive campaign that crosses ethnic and religious lines and in which American Jews play a prominent role.

We believe honest discussion of American and Israeli policies is healthy for the U.S for Israel and for the American Jewish community. We will actively promote debate in the United States that is as open and spirited as it is in Israel. In that debate, we will oppose alliances with the religious right or any radical religious ideologues in the name of supporting Israel as well as efforts to demean and fan fears of Islam or of Muslims.

MAKE YOUR DONATION TO J Street TODAY

GIVE ONLINE

Contributions to J Street can be made online at www.jstreet.org

GIVE BY CHECK

Please complete the form and enclose it with your payment, payable to J Street.

GIVE BY CREDIT CARD

Please complete and sign the form below.

Return your completed form with the enclosed envelope to:

J Street
PO Box 66073
Washington, DC 20035

Please note: Contributions to J Street, a 501(c)4, organization and JStreetPAC are not tax-deductible.

I AM PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE J Street EFFORT IN 2010.

I will provide operating support in 2010 to J Street in the following amount:

- \$10,000 \$1,000
 \$5,000 \$500
 \$1,800 Other: _____

- My payment is enclosed (check made payable to "J Street")
 I will pay this pledge in full by ___ / ___ / 2010
 Please charge my credit card for the amount indicated above

- I am interested in learning about JStreetPAC's Finance Committee
 I am interested in learning about joining the J-NET, J Street's network of supporters and political activists

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____
 Phone: _____

Card Type: VISA Master Card
 AMEX Other: _____

Name on card: _____
 Card #: _____
 Exp Date: ___ / 20 ___

Signature: _____

For more information about contributing to J Street, please contact giving@jstreet.org

NOTES



J Street ↗

J Street PAC

J Street, PO Box 66073, Washington, DC 20035

www.jstreet.org