

*We, the undersigned Jewish community leaders, respectfully urge Democratic Party leaders to ensure that the Israel/Palestine section of the Party's platform expresses support for the security and rights of both Israelis and Palestinians. United by our Jewish values, we share the view of a majority of our community that the United States should be an honest broker in the region. We ask the Democratic Party to make this a central element of its vision for the Middle East in its 2020 Platform.*

Date: May 2020

To: The Democratic National Committee

From: Jewish Community Leaders

Subject: Israel/Palestine in the Democratic Party Platform

The actions of the Trump administration have upended decades of bipartisan US support for a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. They have provided the Israeli government with a green light to permanently reject Palestinian statehood, legitimize settlement expansion, entrench the occupation, and pave the way for annexation in the West Bank.

Past party platforms have rightly stated a commitment to Israel's security and included condemnations of threats and actions against our ally, in addition to embracing a two-state outcome. Those platforms have, however, also been silent on the rights of Palestinians, on Israeli actions that undermine those rights and the prospects for a two-state solution, and on the need for security for both peoples.

The 2020 platform should end this double standard by expressly stating both a commitment to Israel and its security and a commitment to Palestinian rights. It should include clear opposition to ongoing occupation, settlement expansion and any form of unilateral annexation of territory in the West Bank.

We ask that the platform address these issues—each of which has been exacerbated under the current administration—to make clear what a comprehensive Israel/Palestine foreign policy looks like under a future administration, which includes a commitment to security, democracy, and human rights.<sup>1</sup>

Signed,

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<sup>1</sup> A companion to this letter is also being conveyed to the Republican National Committee.

Rabbi	Melanie	Aron	Los Gatos	CA	Congregation Shir Hadash
Rabbi	Susan	Averbach	San Francisco	CA	Society for Humanistic Judaism
Rabbi	Chava	Bahle	Suttons Bay	MI	
			Greenwood		
Rabbi	Eliot	Baskin	Village	CO	Temple Emanuel
Rabbi	Michael	Beals	Wilmington	DE	Congregation Beth Shalom
Rabbi	Marci	Bellows	Chester	CT	
Rabbi	Jim	Bennett	St. Louis	MO	Congregation Shaare Emeth
Rabbi	Joshua	Bennett	Bloomfield Hills	MI	
Rabbi	Leah	Berkowitz	Elkins Park	PA	
Rabbi	Donald	Berlin	Bethesda	MD	
	Carrie	Berman	Hartford	CT	
Rabbi	Marjorie	Berman	Clarks Summit	PA	RRA
Rabbi	Phyllis	Berman	Philadelphia	PA	Mashpia: ALEPH Ordination program
Rabbi	Jonathan	Biatch	Madison	WI	
					Humanist Chaplaincy at American University
Rabbi	Binyamin	Biber	Silver Spring	MD	
Rabbi	Arthur	Blecher	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Rena	Blumenthal	New Paltz	NY	
	Kenneth	Bob	Plainview	NY	Ameinu, President
Rabbi	Daniel	Bogard	Saint Louis	MO	Central Reform Congregation
					Eitzah: The Center for Personal and Community Transformation
Rabbi	Terry	Bookman	Miami	FL	
Rabbi	Stephen	Booth-Nadav	Denver	CO	Wisdom House Denver
Rabbi	Bradd	Boxman	Parkland	FL	Congregation Kol Tikvah
	Leslie	Boyer	Albany	NY	URJ
Rabbi	Reeve	Brenner	Rockville	MD	
	Elizabeth	Brody	Summerfield	FL	Temple Beth Shalom
Rabbi	Rick	Brody	Denver	CO	
Cantor	Vera	Broekhuysen	North Andover	MA	
Rabbi	Yechiel	Buchband	Valley Stream	NY	
Rabbi	Harold	Caminker	Holly Springs	NC	
Rabbi	Debra	Cantor	Bloomfield	CT	B'nai Tikviah-Sholom/Neshama Center
Rabbi	Ken	Chasen	Los Angeles	CA	Leo Baeck Temple

Cantor	Jack	Chomsky	Columbus	OH	Congregation Tifereth Israel
Rabbi Dr.	Geoffrey	Claussen	Greensboro	NC	Elon University
Rabbi	Aryeh	Cohen	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi	Eric	Cohen	Lambertville	NJ	
Rabbi	Kimberly	Cohen	Dallas	TX	
Rabbi	Michael	Cohen	Dallas	TX	
Cantor	Gerald	Cohen	Yonkers	NY	
Rabbi	Hillel	Cohn	San Bernardino	CA	
	Nomi	Colton-Max	South Orange	NJ	Ameinu, Vice President
Rabbi	Neil	Comess-Daniels	Santa Monica	CA	Beth Shir Shalom
	Carol	Conell-Price	Palo Alto	CA	
Rabbi	Julian	Cook	Denver	CO	
Rabbi	David	Cooper	Berkeley	CA	Kehilla Community Synagogue
Rabbi	Fredi	Cooper	Glenside	PA	
Rabbi	Meryl	Crean	Upper Gwynedd	PA	
Rabbinical student	Jessica	Dell'Era	New York	NY	Jewish Theological Seminary Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation
Rabb	Fred	Dobb	Bethesda	MD	
Rabbi	Robert	Dobrusin	Ann Arbor	MI	
Rabbi	Malka	Drucker	Idyllwild	CA	
Rabbi	Marc	Dworkin	Long Beach	CA	
Rabbi	Doris	Dyen	Pittsburgh	PA	
Rabbi	Amy	Eilberg	Los Altos	CA	
Rabbi	Marc	Ekstrand	New London	CT	Temple Emanuel
Rabbi	Barat	Ellman	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Daniel	Epstein	Baltimore	MD	
Rabbi	Susan	Falk	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Charles	Feinberg	Washington	DC	Interfaith Action for Human Rights
Rabbi	Michael	Feinberg	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Zev-Hayyim	Feyer	Pomona	CA	
Rabbi	Brian	Field	Denver	CO	Judaism Your Way
Rabbi	Avi	Fine	Seattle	WA	
Rabbi	Steven	Fineblum	Riverton	NJ	

Rabbi	Adam	Fisher	Port Jefferson Station	NY	Temple Isaiah, Stony Brook, NY
Professor	Sam	Fleischacker	Evanston	IL	Director, Jewish Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
Rabbi	Jeff	Foust	Newton	MA	Spiritual Life Center at Bentley University
Rabbi	Eli	Freedman	Philadelphia	PA	Congregation Rodeph Shalom
Rabbi Dr.	Joan	Friedman	Wooster	OH	
Rabbi	John	Friedman	Durham	NC	
Rabbi	Stacy	Friedman	Mill Valley	CA	
Cantor	David	Frommer	San Francisco	CA	Congregation Sherith israel
Rabbi	Serena	Fujita	Somerville	MA	
Rabbi	Jonah	Geffen	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Laura	Geller	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi Emeritus	Everett	Gendler	Great Barrington	MA	Phillips Andover Academy
Rabbi	Jordie	Gerson	Cos Cob	CT	
Rabbi	Jonathan	Gerard	Durham	NC	WakeUp: The Havurah of Upper Wake County
	Judi	Glickman-Shnider	Bethesda	MD	Ameinu
Rabbi Dr.	Miriam	Glazer	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi	Bob	Gluck	Albany	NY	University at Albany
Rabbi	Susan	Goldberg	Los Angeles	CA	Nefesh
Rabbi	Howard	Goldsmith	Rye	NY	Congregation Emanuel of Westchester
Rabbi	Debra	Goldstein	Natick	MA	
	Jerry	Goodman	New York	NY	Ameinu, Board Member
Rabbi	Jerrold	Goldstein	Sherman Oaks	CA	
Rabbinical student	David	Goodman	Elkins Park	PA	Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Rabbi Dr.	Marc	Gopin	Arlington	VA	George Mason University
Rabbi	Andy	Gordon	Baltimore	MD	Bolton Street Synagogue
Rabbi	Roberto	Graetz	Pleasant Hill	CA	
Rabbinical student	Joshua	Greenberg	Los Angeles	CA	Ziegler School of Rabbinical Studies
Cantor	Tanya	Greenblatt	Jupiter	FL	

Rabbi	Laurie	Green	Baltimore	MD	
Rabbi	James	Greene	Stafford Springs	CT	
Rabbi	David	Greenstein	Montclair	NJ	
Rabbi	Reuven	Greenvald	New York	NY	Rabbinic Assembly
Rabbi	Suzanne	Griffel	Chicago	IL	
Rabbi	Joshua	Gutoff	Watertown	MA	
Rabbi	Steve	Hart	Buffalo Grove	IL	
Rabbi	Maurice	Harris	Wyncote	PA	Reconstructing Judaism
Rabbi	Jill	Hausman	New York	NY	Actors' Temple, Congregation Ezrath Israel
Cantor	George	Henschel	Baltimore	MD	Kol HaLev
Rabbi	Floyd	Herman	Towson	MD	
Rabbi	Lauren	Herrmann	New York	NY	SAJ
Rabbi	Erin	Hirsh	Glenside	PA	
Rabbi	Moshe	Heyn	Half Moon Bay	CA	Coastside Jewish Community
Rabbi	Geoff	Hunting	Sarasota	FL	Temple Sinai
Rabbi	Jocee	Hudson	Los Angeles	CA	Temple Israel of Hollywood
Rabbi	Mark	Hurvitz	New York	NY	Davka
Rabbi	Brian	Immerman	Hamden	CT	
Rabbi	Daniel and Carol	Isaak	Portland	OR	Congregation Neveh Shalom
Rabbinical student	Jessica	Jacobs	Los Angeles	CA	Hebrew Union College
Rabbi	Jill	Jacobs	New York	NY	T'ruah
Rabbi	Steven	Jacobs	Alameda	CA	Progressive Faith Foundation
Rabbi	Daria	Jacobs-Velde	Laurel	MD	
Rabbi	Jennifer	Jaech	Elverson	PA	Temple Israel of Northern Westchester
Rabbi	Beth	Janus	Philadelphia	PA	
Rabbi	David	Jaffe	Sharon	MA	Kirva Institute
Rabbi	Rachel	Kahn-Troster	New York	NY	T'ruah
Rabbi	Yoel	Kahn	Berkeley	CA	Congregation Beth El
	Nancy	Kaufman	New York	NY	NCJW, Immediate Past CEO
Rabbi	Justin	Kerber	Carmel	IN	
Rabbi	Nancy	Kasten	Dallas	TX	Faith Commons
Rabbi	Jonathan	Klein	Los Angeles	CA	HOPE for All

Rabbi	Sharon	Kleinbaum	New York	NY	Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
Rabbi	Michael	Knopf	Richmond	VA	
Rabbi	David	Kline	Brooklyn	NY	NAORRR
Rabbi	Debra	Kolodny	Portland	OR	
Rabbi	Jodi	Kornfeld	Deerfield	IL	
Rabbi	Ira	Korinow	Newton	MA	Temple Emanuel
Rabbi	Michael	Kramer	Hockessin	DE	
Rabbi	Douglas	Krantz	Townsend	DE	
Rabbi	Claudia	Kreiman	Brookline	MA	Temple Beth Zion
Rabbi	Brett	Krichiver	Indianapolis	IN	Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation
Rabbi	Barry	Krieger	Greenland	NH	
Rabbi	Charles	Kroloff	Westfield	NJ	CCAR past president
Rabbi	Noa	Kushner	San Francisco	CA	The Kitchen
Rabbi	Susan	Laemmle	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi	Karen	Landy	Brookline	MA	
Rabbi	Anson	Laytner	Seattle	WA	
Rabbi	Jim	Lebeau	Jerusalem	MA	
Rabbi	Susan	Leider	Tiburon	CA	Congregation Kol Shofar
Rabbi	David	Lazar	Palm Springs	CA	Or Hamidbar
Rabbi	Joshua	Lesser	Atlanta	GA	Congregation Bet Haverim
Rabbi	Samuel	Levine	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Sheldon	Lewis	Palo Alto	CA	
Rabbi	Michael	Lezak	San Francisco	CA	Glide
Rabbi	Ellen	Lippmann	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Andrea	London	Evanston	IL	Beth Emet the Free Synagogue
Rabbinical Student	Allen	Lipson	New York	NY	Jewish Theological Seminary
Rabbi	Devorah	Lynn	Chevy Chase	MD	
	Jonathan	Malino	Sioux Falls	SD	
Dr.	Joel	Magid	Scarsdale	NY	Ameinu
Professor	Jeffry	Mallow	Glenview	IL	Ameinu
Rabbinical Student	Andrew	Mandel	Long Island City	NY	Hebrew Union College
Rabbi Emeritus	Harry	Manhoff	Berkeley	CA	Temple Beth Sholom

Rabbi	Paula	Marcus	Aptos	CA	
Rabbi	Bonnie	Margulis	Madison	WI	
Rabbi	Jeffrey	Marker	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Yocheved	Mintz	Las Vegas	NV	
Rabbi	Abby	Michaleski	Sicklerville	NJ	
Rabbi	Michelle	Missaghieh	Los Angeles	CA	Temple Israel of Hollywood
Rabbi	Adam	Morris	Denver	CO	Temple Micah
Rabbi	Lev	Meiowitz Nelson	Brooklyn	NY	T'ruah
Rabbi	Laura	Owens	Los Angeles	CA	B'nai Horin, Children of Freedom
Rabbi	Allison	Peiser	Marblehead	MA	
Rabbi	Barbara	Penzner	West Roxbury	MA	Temple Hillel B'nai Torah Jewish Wellness Center of North Jersey
Rabbi	Rex	Perlmeter	Montclair	NJ	
Rabbi	Shoshana	Perry	Westford	MA	Congregation Shalom
Rabbi Emeritus	Aaron	Petuchowski	Littleton	CO	Temple Sholom of Chicago
Rabbi	Robin	Podolsky	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi	Philip	Posner	Santa Cruz	CA	
Rabbi	Charles	Rabinowitz	Larchmont	NY	
Rabbi	Arnold	Rachlis	Irvine	CA	
Rabbi	Jonah	Rank	Morrisville	PA	Kehilat HaNahar
Rabbi	Sunny	Romer	Sacramento	CA	
Rabbi	Victor	Reinstein	Jamaica Plain	MA	
Rabbi	Kliel	Rose	New York	NY	Congregation Etz Chayim
Rabbi	James	Rosenberg	Providence	RI	
Cantor Emerita	Aviva	Rosenbloom	Altadena	CA	Temple Israel of Hollywood
Rabbi	Ken	Rosenstein	Brighton	MA	
Rabbi Emeritus	John	Rosove	Los Angeles	CA	Temple Israel of Hollywood
Rabb	Harry	Roth	Los Angeles	CA	
Rabbi	Michael	Rothbaum	Acton	MA	Congregation Beth Elohim
Cantor	Michal	Rubin	Columbia	SC	
	Brad	Rothschild	New York	NY	Ameinu, Chair of Policy and advocacy
Rabbi	Joan	Sacks	Dresher	PA	

Rabbi	Regina	Sandler-Phillips	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Scott	Saulson	Atlanta	GA	
Rabbi	Jeffrey	Saxe	Falls Church	VA	Temple Rodef Shalom
Rabbi	Julie	Saxe-Taller	Berkeley	CA	
Rabbi	Daniel	Schaefer	Jamaica Plain	MA	Temple Ohabei Shalom
President	Paul	Scham	Washington	DC	Partners for Progressive Israel
Rabbi	Howie	Schneider	Aptos	CA	
Rabbi	Jeremy	Schwartz	Willimantic	CT	
Rabbi	Avi	Schulman	Fremont	CA	Temple Beth Torah
Rabbi	Judith	Seid	Pleasanton	CA	CPA
Rabbi	Amanda	Schwartz	Denver	CO	
Rabbi	Mayer	Selekman	Bala Cynwyd	PA	Temple Sholom
Rabbi	Joel	Shaiman	New York	NY	
	Karen	Shapiro	Los Angeles	CA	Partners for Progressive Israel, Vice-President
Rabbi	Gerald	Serotta	Chevy Chase	MD	
Rabbi	Jeremy	Sher	Oakland	CA	
Rabbi	David	Shneyer	Rockville	MD	
Rabbi	Suzanne	Singer	Riverside	CA	
Rabbi	Alanna	Sklover	Philadelphia	PA	Or Hadesh
Rabbi	Jonathan	Slater	Hastings on Hudson	NY	
Rabbi	Eric	Solomon	Raleigh	NC	
Rabbi	Robin	Sparr	Natick	MA	Hamakom
Rabbi	Aaron	Spiegel	Indianapolis	IN	
Rabbi Dr.	S.David	Sperling	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Toba	Spitzer	Waltham	MA	Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
Rabbi	Samuel	Stahl	San Antonio	TX	Temple Beth-El
Rabbi	Jacob	Staub	Blue Bell	PA	RRA
Rabbi	David	Steinberg	Duluth	MN	
Rabbi	George	Stern	Philadelphia	PA	
Rabbi	Andrew	Straus	Oakland	CA	
Rabbi	Joshua	Strom	Armonk	NY	Congregation B'nai Yisrael
	Hadar	Susskind	Takoma Park	MD	Americans for Peace Now
Rabbi	Elliott	Tepperman	Montclair	NJ	Bnai Keshet



Rabbi	Lennard	Thal	New York	NY	
Dr.	Beth	Turetsky	Jupiter	FL	
Rabbi	Daniel	Utley	Dallas	TX	Temple Emanuel
Rabbi	David	Vaisberg	Maplewood	NJ	Temple B'nai Abraham
Rabbi	Burt	Visotzky	New York	NY	
Rabbi	Andrew	Vogel	Newton Center	MA	Temple Sinai, Brookline, MA
Cantor	Eliot	Vogel	Narberth	PA	Har Zion Temple
Rabbi	Howard	Voss-Altman	Providence	RI	Temple Beth-El
Rabbi	Ariel	Walsh	Baltimore	MD	
					OHALAH: The Association for Rabbis for Jewish Renewal
Rabbi	Arthur	Waskow	Philadelphia	PA	
Rabbi	Pamela	Wax	Williamstown	NY	
Rabbi	Deborah	Waxman	Wyncote	PA	
Rabbinical Student	Abigail	Weber	New York	NY	Jewish Theological Seminary Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
Rabbi	Elyse	Wechterman	Abington	PA	
	Steven	Weinberg	East Brunswick	NJ	Ameinu
Rabbi	Cheryl	weiner	Hollywood	FL	
Rabbi	Daniel	Weiner	Seattle	WA	
Rabbi	Martin	Weiner	San Francisco	CA	Past CCAR president
Rabbi	Simkha	Weintraub	Brooklyn	NY	
Rabbi	Micah	Weiss	Philadelphia	PA	
Rabbi	Zari	Weiss	Seattle	WA	
Rabbi	Sarah	Weissman	Redwood City	CA	Congregation Beth Am
Rabbi	Josh	Whinston	Ann Arbor	MI	Temple Beth Emeth
Rabbi	David	Wirtshafter	Lexington	KY	
	Ros	Wolf	Pacific Palisades	CA	
Rabbi	Joseph	Wolf	Portland	OR	Havurah Shalom
Rabbi	Greg	Wolfe	Davis	CA	Congregation Bet Haverim
Rabbi	Michal	Woll	Shorewood	WI	
Rabbi	Bridget	Wynne	Albany	CA	
Rabbinical Student	Naomi	Zaslow	New York	NY	JTS
Rabbi	Michael	Zedek	Chicago	IL	

Rabbi	Shawn	Zevit	Philadelphia	PA	
Rabbi Emeritus	Henry	Zoob	Westwood	MA	Temple Beth David
Cantor	Michael	Zoosman	College Park	MD	Adat Shalom Synagogue