



regional alliances, as well as the decades-long obstinance of Palestinian negotiators, and Palestinians' persistent incitement of its people to terrorist acts.

**Build on the Arab-Israel peace process.** Alongside any outreach to the Palestinians, President-elect Biden should build on the Trump administration's successes in ensuring more Arab and Muslim countries open or normalize relations with Israel. Recent months have witnessed unprecedented warming of ties between Israel and the Arab world and thus has effectively ended the Israel-Arab conflict. Above all, this has also meant the end of the Arab Peace Initiative, whose tenets the Palestinians have employed to pressure Israel to accept potentially millions of descendants of Palestinian "refugees," which would demographically destroy the Jewish state. *The demand is on its face a deal-breaker.*

**Focus on Palestinian acceptance of the Jewish state.** The Biden Administration should put away the repeatedly failed, illogical and tired notion that the Israel-Palestinian conflict is about land, borders or the so-called "occupation." Countless offers by Israel, the U.S. and the international community, which would have ended with a Palestinian state, were rejected by the Palestinians—never because of the amount of land or the position of a future border.

These generous proposals were rejected solely because the Palestinian leadership would have to accept the reality of Israel as the national homeland of the Jewish people. Indeed, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has repeatedly stated that there is "no way" he will recognize Israel as a Jewish state. This is obviously a stumbling block for Israel, since it confirms Israelis' conviction that the Palestinians cling to their decades-old commitment to eliminate the Jewish state.

If President-elect Biden wants to unclog the bottleneck that has mired the peace process for more than half a century, he will demand up front that Palestinian leaders state openly and officially that Israel is a Jewish state. There should be no concessions toward the Palestinians—not on U.S. bilateral ties with the PA, nor any movement on the peace process, until this fundamental demand has been met.

**Stop Palestinian terrorist incitement.** As a third strategic premise, the U.S. should ensure that incitement and violent rejectionism is rooted out of the Palestinian education system, official state propaganda and state-funded mosques. Terrorists, known colloquially as "martyrs," should be shunned and not lauded. All streets names, institutions, sports camps and other entities that are named after murdering terrorists should be renamed. Children should be taught against idolizing those who have shed innocent blood. PA media should likewise be purged of any denial of Jewish history and rights in the Holy Land, and Israel should be restored on all maps.

*Stop Palestinian "Pay for Slay."* As part of this anti-incitement policy, the U.S. should insist that the Palestinian Authority immediately end its "pay for slay" program, which rewards terrorists and their families by paying them a monthly stipend depending on how many Israelis they have killed. Palestinian officials have stated in recent days that they may try and amend these payments or reframe—but not discontinue—them, but the U.S. should require their unequivocal end.

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These elements—especially acceptance of Israel as a Jewish state and eliminating state-sponsored incitement to terrorism—are the litmus tests for Palestinian seriousness towards ending the conflict and achieving peace with Israel. The conflict cannot end—ever—if the Palestinians will not recognize the identity and foundational character of the Jewish state. It cannot end if the murder of Israeli citizens continues and their Palestinian murderers are lionized and incentivized.

These should be the basic conditions for the U.S. reversing congressional legislation from 1987 that labeled the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) “and its affiliates” a terror group, reopening the PA office in Washington and offering it any type of U.S. tax-dollar assistance.

I hope you will point out to friends, family, colleagues and your elected representatives that the focus of efforts toward peace in the Middle East should remain on the Palestinians—until they have proven themselves worthy of a serious peace process. Israel has said many times that it is prepared to sit at the negotiating table with no preconditions and everything on the table. Now the Palestinians must prove they are also willing and able—*and with clean hands and honest intentions*—to do likewise.

I hope you'll also take a minute, while you have this material front and center, to forward this message to friends, visit FLAME's lively [Facebook page](#) and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME's new hasbarah campaign—which exposes the outrageous, false accusation that Israel is an “apartheid state.”

Best regards,

Jim Sinkinson  
President, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. Every year, dozens of major American colleges and universities host Israel Apartheid Week, sponsored by radical pro-Palestinian groups like Students for Justice in Palestine. In addition, critics of Israel also assert that Israel is or will soon become an apartheid state. As you know, nothing is further from the truth. Israel guarantees equal rights to all its citizens and its laws bear zero resemblance to any of the hateful rules of apartheid South Africa, where the term was invented. To clarify this point, FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called “[The Israel Apartheid Lie](#).” I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which will run in *USA Today*, the *Washington Post*, and other media nationwide. It spells out specific tenets of apartheid and refutes the apartheid calumny against Israel point by point. This piece will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Pence and President Trump. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us. Remember: FLAME's powerful ability to influence public opinion—and U.S. support of Israel—comes from individuals like you, one by one. I hope you'll consider giving a donation now, as you're able—with \$500, \$250, \$100, or even \$18. (Remember, your donation to FLAME is tax deductible.) To donate online, just go to [donate](#) now. Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that the American people, the U.S. Congress and

the President stay committed to realistic policies in relation to Israel, Iran and the entire Middle East.

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The logo for FLAME, featuring the word "FLAME" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letter "A" is stylized with a white flame icon above it.

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