



June 9, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

The American Christian Leaders for Israel (ACLI) comprises over 3,000 Christian leaders nationwide who represent tens of millions of American Christians. We want to thank you for your strong support for Israel and for the understanding you have demonstrated regarding the complexities of Israel's relationship with her Palestinian and Arab neighbors. Moreover, we want to draw your attention to a very concerning United Nations conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, due to be held in New York on June 17-20, 2025.

The conference is being chaired by Saudi Arabia and France. According to the co-chairs, the aim of the Conference is "to help end the occupation and materialize the independent and sovereign State of Palestine." This push for Palestinian statehood is one-sided, unrealistic, untimely and dangerous. A majority of United Nations member states—primarily the Islamic, Arab, and African groups—carefully orchestrated the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions calling for this conference. It is a deliberate attempt to further undermine the legal rights and security needs of the Jewish state.

We respectfully ask you, as Secretary of State, to take a robust approach against the attempt to call for Palestinian statehood at the June conference. We urge you to prevent the United Nations from imposing a two state solution on Israel.

Thank you again for your support for Israel at this most critical moment.

Below, you will find more information and specific recommendations.

Sincerely,

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***\*Organizations listed for identification purposes only.***

## The UNGA Conference on the Two-State Solution

The upcoming conference is a result of the recent UNGA Resolutions ES-10/24 and A/79 L/23. These resolutions aim to compel Israel to unilaterally withdraw its military and civilian presence from the “Occupied Palestinian Territory” (East Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria known as the “West Bank”, and the Gaza Strip) and to facilitate the swift establishment of a Palestinian state on the entirety of that territory—without security guarantees and bypassing the negotiation process.

**Resolution ES-10/24** (September 2024) demands Israel’s unconditional withdrawal from this territory within 12 months of its adoption date. This resolution sought to implement the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in July 2024.

**Resolution A/79 L/23** (November 2024) calls for a high-level, international conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, in New York in June 2025.

**UNGA Resolution A/79 L/23 specifically calls for:**

- The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem.
- The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State.
- A just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its Resolution 194 (III) of December 11, 1948.

## These UN Resolutions Undermine International Law and Policy

According to a recent report issued by The Hague Initiative for International Cooperation (thinc.)—a global network of international lawyers who advocate the realistic interpretation and fair application of international law—there are four main legal and policy problems with the approach proposed in these resolutions:

**First**, it calls for unilateral Israeli withdrawal from the “occupied Palestinian territory” in these resolutions (and the 2024 ICJ Advisory Opinion on which they are based) ignore the realities on the ground, especially the massive problem of internationally sponsored, extreme Islamist terrorism in the “West Bank” and Gaza Strip.

Iran remains deeply invested in supporting terrorism in the region, including Gaza and the “West Bank.” Qatar’s sponsorship of terrorism in the “occupied Palestinian Territories” is highly problematic. Syria has introduced a heightened risk of regional instability since the fall of Bashar al-Assad. In Lebanon, Hezbollah remains a major threat to peace and security.

**Second**, these resolutions ignore the lack of effective Palestinian governance in these territories. Palestinian governance in Gaza is non-existent, and in the “West Bank” remains a critical security risk. The Palestinian Authority (PA) continues to struggle with corruption and inefficiency and remains committed to terror. Its weakness and inaction were significant factors leading to Hamas’s attack on Israel on October 7.

**Third**, these resolutions are highly contentious from a legal perspective. Reflecting flaws in the judicial procedure and reasoning of the recent Advisory Opinion by the ICJ, they conflict with Israel’s rights under international law to territorial integrity and political inviolability. In

particular, they make a fundamental error in concluding that Israel's presence in the territories is illegal.

The apparently failed Oslo Accords which were sanctioned by the Security Council and are still binding required all permanent status issues (including settlements, security, borders and Jerusalem) to be negotiated directly between the parties (Israel and the PLO). To bypass negotiations is a breach of the UN's own requirements.

## **Recommendations**

In light of these findings, we urge the United States to create a coalition of UN member states at the upcoming UNGA conference to implement the following recommendations:

**Reject** calls for an immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from East Jerusalem, the "West Bank," and the Gaza Strip.

**Emphasize** the legal obligation of states to neutralize internationally sponsored terrorism and jihadist threats in the region.

**Recognize** that international law entitles the State of Israel, subject to the principles of international humanitarian law, to use necessary and proportionate force to eliminate the threat posed by the existence of Hamas and other hostile forces in the territories controlled by Israel since 1967.

**Affirm** that implementation of the Palestinian right to self-determination is conditional upon:  
a. The cessation of violence and removal of extremist and destabilizing forces of the radical Islamist camp in the "West Bank" and Gaza. b. The replacement of the Palestinian Authority with a stable, effective, and independent Palestinian government. c. Recognition of Israel's right to secure borders, and its legitimate sovereignty claims to the territory of East Jerusalem and the "West Bank" and Gaza Strip.

**Recognize** that under international law, Israel is entitled and obliged to maintain control of the "West Bank" and Gaza Strip until these conditions have been satisfied.