



**NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**WHY DOES JERUSALEM MATTERS? THE IMPLICATIONS
OF THE DEAL OF THE CENTURY ON ISRAEL-PALESTINE
CONFLICT**

MA THESIS

MEEKIE JONATHAN REEVES, JR

Nicosia

JUNE, 2022

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REEVES, JR**
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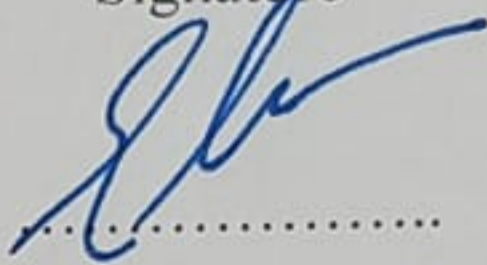
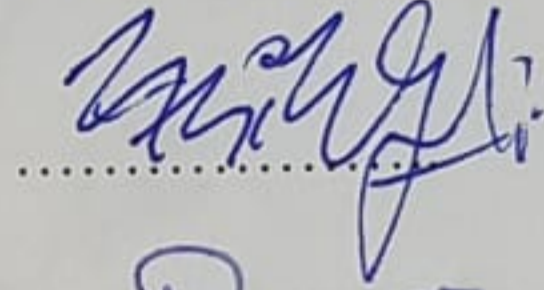

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Approval

We certify that we have read the thesis submitted by Meekie Jonathan Reeves, Jr titled “**Why Does Jerusalem Matters? The Implications of the Deal of the Century on Israel-Palestine Conflict**” and that in our combined opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and in quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of International Relations.

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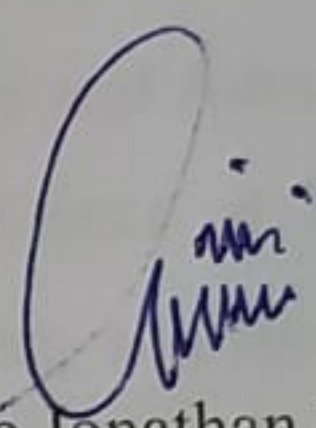
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Declaration

I hereby declare that all information, documents, analysis and results in this thesis have been collected and presented according to the academic rules and ethical guidelines of Institute of Graduate Studies, Near East University. I also declare that as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced information and data that are not original to this study



Meekie Jonathan Reeves, Jr

...../...../2022

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Meekie Jonathan Reeves, Jr

Abstract

Why Does Jerusalem Matters? The Implications of the Deal of the Century on Israel-Palestine Conflict

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Masters, Department of International Relations

Supervised by Prof. Dr. Nur Köprülü

June, 2022, 101 pages

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is one of the most intricate and protracted conflicts in the world today. The Trump administration's pro-Israel policies, as well as the potential loss of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination unravel the idea that the solution now seems far away. This thesis points out that the foreign policy of the US within the framework of the Palestine-Israeli Conflict prior to the Trump era was constructed more carefully, but during the administration of the former President Donald Trump, the US preferred an unconventional policy towards Palestine. During the administration of former President Trump, the US has eroded its historical role and mediation in the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, weakening the foundations that underpin the country's international power and sphere of influence. In conclusion, the aim of this thesis is to examine the effects of the Deal of the Century, which was put forward in 2019 regarding the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict. One of the most fundamental results of the Deal of the Century is the dynamics that are reflected in the policies of the US aimed to be implemented in the Middle East region. Considering these objectives, this study will emphasize the importance of the status of Jerusalem in the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict by referring to the US foreign policy-making in the region.

Keyword: Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, Israel, Palestine, Jerusalem, Deal of the Century, United States, Middle East region

ÖZ

Kudüs Neden Önemlidir? Yüzyılın Anlaşmasının İsrail-Filistin Uyuşmazlığı Üzerindeki Etkileri

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Danışmanı Prof. Dr. Nur Köprülü

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İsrail-Filistin Uyuşmazlığı bugün dünyanın en hassas ve uzatılmış sorunlarından birisini oluşturmaktadır. ABD'nin İsrail lehine yönelik politikaları, uyuşmazlığın şiddetinin son yıllarda artması ve Filistin halkının kendi kaderini tayin hakkının erozyona uğradığı bu dönemde çözüm çok uzak görünmektedir. Bu tez çalışması, ABD'nin Trump Dönemi öncesinde Filistin-İsrail Meselesi çerçevesinde ortaya koyduğu dış politikanın daha dikkatli bir şekilde inşa edildiğini ancak, bir önceki Başkan Donald Trump yönetimi sırasında, ABD'nin alışlagelmişin dışında bir yaklaşım tercih ettiğine işaret etmektedir. Eski Başkan Trump'ın yönetimi sırasında ABD, ülkenin uluslararası gücünü ve etkisini destekleyen temelleri zayıflatarak, Filistin-İsrail Uyuşmazlığında ortaya koyduğu tarihsel rolü ve arabuluculuğunu sekteye uğratmıştır. Sonuç olarak, bu tezin amacı, 2019 yılında ortaya atılan Yüzyılın Anlaşması'nın İsrail-Filistin uyuşmazlığı üzerindeki etkilerinin neler olduğunu irdelemektir. Yüzyılın Anlaşması'nın en temel sonuçlarından birisini ABD'nin Orta Doğu bölgesinde uygulamaya çalıştığı politikalarına yansıyan dinamiklerdir. Bu hedefler göz önüne alındığında, bu çalışma bölgedeki ABD dış politika kararlarına değinerek Kudüs'ün statüsünün Filistin-İsrail Uyuşmazlığındaki önemine vurgu yapılacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Filistin-İsrail Çatışması, İsrail, Filistin, Kudüs, Yüzyılın Anlaşması, Amerika Birleşik Devletleri, Orta Doğu bölgesi

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List of Abbreviations

DFLP: Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine

DoC: Deal of the Century

EU: European Union

IAF: Israeli Air Force

IDF: Israel Defense Forces

JCPOA: Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action

OIC: Organization of Islamic Conference

PA: Palestine Authority

PLO: Palestine Liberation Organization

PNA: Palestinian National Authority

UAE: United Arab Emirates

UK: United Kingdom

UN: United Nations

UNEF: United Nations Emergency Force

UNRWA: United Nations Relief and Works Agency

UNSC: United Nations Security Council

UNSCOP: The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine

US: United States

USAID: United States Agency for International Development

USSR: Union Soviet Socialist Republics

WZO: World Zionist Organization

CHAPTER I

Introduction

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which dates back to the aftermath of World War II and has been one of the most intricate and protracted issues at the global scale. The state of Israel was founded on May 14, 1948, and with it commenced a conflict that seemed to have no end in sight. Palestinians call the day *Nakhba*, which means "catastrophe," since it symbolizes the turning point in their happy story. Israelis, on the other hand, can be proud of their accomplishment in creating a state for Jewish people living in diaspora. Many people perceive the First Arab-Israeli war (1948-49) to be a long-term struggle, according to author Charles D. Smith, who wrote a book titled *Palestine and Arab-Israeli Conflict*. Smith (2001), in his recounting of the events, uses primary sources to show how and why the attempts to establish a negotiated solution failed. This is made feasible by Smith's understanding of the issues at hand, which allows him to go beyond a simple timeline of events.

The creation of the state of Israel was the result of a long and well planned Zionist endeavor that began with the founding of the World Zionist Organization (WZO). It was not until the arrival of the first Zionist settlers in Palestine that the project began to take shape. During the latter years of the British Mandate between 1921-1947, their numbers increased to the point where they comprised approximately thirty percent of the total population in Palestine, owing mostly to mass immigration (Smith, 2001: 151). Following the end of World War II, ideas of re-establishing Palestine as the Jewish people's homeland, as articulated in the 1917 Balfour Declaration, appeared to be getting closer to becoming a reality. Because the British considered Zionist goals as a means of justifying their imperial status in Palestine, the Palestinians saw the Zionists as a threat. As a result, Palestinians have a poor perception of Zionists. Despite the fact that it did not guarantee the foundation of a Jewish state, the UN resolution on the partition of Palestine –passed in 1947, sparked military preparations on the side of both Jews and Arabs. The Israelis concluded that they could do more than the UN-approved division

plan, and as a result, they opted to maintain their military effort in order to take advantage of the Arabs' bewilderment. As of the 14th of May in 1948, Israelis and Palestinians were still fighting each other.

The UN imposed a cease-fire after the first clash in 1949 between Arabs and Israelis, but it ended up being more of a factor in the conflict than a solution. Britain, the US, and France enacted an arms embargo that accomplished little more than stifle the flow of western weapons to Arabs. Because Syria and Egypt refused to extend the cease-fire, Israel came out of the conflict in a far better military position than any of the other Arab countries. Prior to the Suez War in 1956, Israel acquired the Negev and a large piece of Galilee, both of which had been part of the Arab zone. The UN plan did not include the Negev, which was the only portion of Israel's new state boundaries that was not included. Following Israel's victory in the 1967 Six-Day War, the region of Gaza, which had previously been part of Arab land, was annexed by Israel (Smith, 1995: 205-7). Israel's borders were defined during armistice discussions between Israel and various Arab states, at least until the 1967 war. However, in regard to the existing state of conflict, little more was accomplished than the cessation of hostilities. The 1967 Six-Day War was then followed by the 1973 Yom Kippur War which paved the way for the signing of the Camp David Accords between Egypt-Israel in 1979. The Camp David Accords was also followed by the historic peace treaty between Israel and the PLO in 1993 in Oslo.

Despite the fact that there have been various attempts to solve Palestine-Israeli conflict, such initiatives such as Saudi Peace Plan in 2002 or the Middle East Road Map launched by the Middle East Quartet with the EU, US, Russian Federation the UN, the problem is persistent which is intertwined with the global actor's –such as the US– interventions in the Middle East region.

Statement of the Problem

The US under Donald Trump administration announced the complexities of the political side of its agreement to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on January 28, 2020, an agreement known around the world as the “Deal of the Century”. Thus, after three years of tense discussion, the key components of the proposed harmony plan have already been identified. The goal of this research is to better understand the reasoning behind this deal and the implications it has for Israelis and Palestinians states. Furthermore, the concept of Palestinian states, land, and security, as well as the corner of Jerusalem, was viewed as something that had never previously been the subject of any research. This study is, therefore, expected to provide in-depth research on this Deal's implications on the “two-state solution”, which has been seen as the most durable settlement for the Palestine-Israeli Conflict.

Aim and Objectives of the Study

In light of the above context given, the primary objective of this thesis is to address the underlying causes of the conflict between Palestine and Israel, as well as how the ongoing conflict and escalation led to a setback in making the solution plans durable. Also included will be an examination of the significance of the position of Jerusalem to both the Palestine Authority (PA) and Israel and the reasons why it is still a source of contention even after the announcement of the Deal of the Century. Furthermore, to achieve a compromise, to reconcile Palestinian disparities, and to exhaust the patience of Gaza's Palestinians, they attempted to reach an agreement with Hamas that would make it easier for Palestinians to swallow the bitterest pill.

Significance of The Study

As aforementioned, to achieve a compromise, to reconcile Palestinian disparities, and to achieve a durable and comprehensive settlement for the Palestinians living in Gaza as well as the Palestinians residing in West Bank and Jerusalem, various plans or steps were taken. One of the most recent and popular peace plans was launched by the former US President Donald Trump entitled the “Deal of the Century” in 2019. Moreover, prior to former President Trump’s declaration of the Deal of the Century, the US administration decided to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in 2017 – which was realized a year later in 2018. The Saudis, Emiratis, and Egyptians are widely believed to have opted to relocate the US consulate from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem despite being aware of President Trump's decision to declare Jerusalem as Israel's capital. (A. Tamimi, 2018). Both Egypt and Saudi Arabia utilized their spheres of influence to convince the Palestinian Authority (PA) President and Jordan's King Abdullah II to cooperate – needless to say that Jordan has always perceived the two state solution as the best guarantee for the survival of the monarchy (Köprülü, 2021).

President Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and Emirati Muhammad Salman, the three parties directly involved in this process, are all dealing with rising internal issues. Perhaps two or three positive outcomes resulted from all of this process. On the one hand, Palestine has reclaimed a position of prominence in local and global governance following a lengthy period of marginalization. On the other side, Hamas has discovered a more justification for mobilizing Gazans than simply putting pressure on their own needs (Salman, 2020). The Abraham Accords normalization of relations between Israel and Bahrain, UAE and Morocco followed the Deal of Century.

Limitations of the Study

The primary goal of this thesis is to discuss the conflict between Israel and Palestine over Jerusalem, as well as the implications of the Deal of the Century on the

decades-long conflict between Jews and Arabs. Furthermore, one of the study's major limitations is that it is subjective, and its findings could be influenced by press decisions, government reports, research papers, and articles. These essayists' one-sidedness cannot be overlooked.

Research Questions

The purpose of this research is to address the following questions:

1. What are the implications of the US foreign policy towards Israeli-Palestinians conflict from 2017 onwards (i.e. following the decision of the Trump Administration in the US in moving its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem)?
2. What are the implications of the “Deal of the Century” (2021) on the two states solution/settlement of the Problem?
3. Why is Jerusalem so peculiar to the Israeli-Palestinians?

Hypothesis

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has been historically exacerbated by both sides' adamant positions. Meanwhile, the announcement of "The Deal of the Century" by the former US President Trump has triggered the escalation of the conflict. Despite the fact that the details of the agreement are being kept under wraps, the US Administration's track record suggests that the initiative will prioritize Israeli interests over Palestinian rights, disregard fundamental principles of international law, and depart significantly from the two-state solution concept. Despite the fact that the agreement's details are kept under wraps, this is the case. Despite attempts to defuse tensions between the two countries, nothing significant has ever been accomplished. In order to reach a peaceful solution to the problem, both parties may have to give up something in order to gain something else. As evidenced by their responses to the issue, both parties are eager to

resolve the issue through dialogue and are willing to live amicably while forgetting their bitter past.

Data Collection and Method of Analysis

The method of this study draws its source from secondary data and is centered on qualitative research methodology. This study was secondary throughout. The research, therefore, relies extensively on a wide range of sources, including articles, books, news websites, and magazines. In addition, a qualitative research methodology is employed. Because of the ongoing pandemic, COVID-19, and a lack of resources, these methods were used.

CHAPTER II

A Historical Background of the Israeli-Palestine Conflict

The Israeli-Palestinian dispute is one of the world's recurring issues that has once again gotten the greatest attention in the last 10 years with the onset of the Arab Uprisings as well as the inauguration of the Deal of the Century by the former US President Trump. Several studies have been undertaken on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in order to acquire a better understanding of the situation. Despite the fact that the problem is becoming more complex, no immediate remedy appears to be available. This chapter aims to explore the elements that contributed to the conflict between Palestinian Arabs and Israeli communities escalating, as well as the impact that US actions have had on Palestine since 2017.

A large number of academics have focused their studies on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Thus, in this section of the thesis, besides the literature review, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the contrasts between the two conflicts, and the Oslo Peace Talks since 1993 will all be discussed and addressed.

The rivalry between Palestinians and Israelis, as well as their Arab neighbors, dates back to when large numbers of Jews began migrating to Palestine, which was ruled by the Ottoman Empire at the time. As a result, this element of the thesis will look into the early twentieth-century conflicts between the warring parties. The purpose of this section is to give light on the dynamics and features of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Israel was created in 1948, following a series of confrontations between Israel and Arab countries, two long-term Palestinian uprisings, and waves of Palestinian refugees (Aldana, 2014). In analyzing the dimensions of the conflict, it is obviously significant to understand the historical and political penetration of the idea of Zionism as well as the post-World War I settlement by the victorious powers between 1919-1922. For instance, Jews were oppressed in various countries in which the Holocaust during

the Second World War was among the most dramatic one (Falah, 1996). The Jewish community were then forced to flee the area whenever a new conqueror arrived.

Initially, the Palestinian Arabs also saw the lands of Palestine as their main homeland and remained in the area (Khalidi, 1997). Over time, the Middle East region has grown to become their majority. By 1914, Arabs accounted for 6.15 million of the overall population of 7 million, while Jews accounted for approximately 85000 (Della Pergola, 2016). In reality, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is rooted in an unresolvable disagreement over the Palestinian lands claimed by Jews as their biblical heritage and sought by Palestinian Arabs seeking self-determination and an independent state. Furthermore, following the first Arab-Israeli War of 1948-49, the situation has been referred to as one of the world's biggest refugee crisis, which has resulted in severe humanitarian suffering and the emergence of Palestinian struggle for liberation (which led to the formation of Palestine Liberation Organization – PLO in 1964). Only 700,000 people were able to enter Jordan, which is just across the border. The Kingdom of Jordan seized the West Bank lands in 1950 after the end of hostilities in 1948, and it is imperative to state that Jordan has been the only country to offer Palestinians citizenship since then (Brand, 1995). While Israeli soldiers retreated, Egypt took control of the Gaza Strip. Following the loss of Palestinian territory, the Palestinian people's fight for independence strengthened their national identity. The loss of Palestinian areas triggered this conflict. In the same year, in 1964, as mentioned earlier, the PLO was founded. Palestinian militant groups have, in fact, continued to resist Israel even as Israel continues to expand its settlements in the West Bank (Feige, 2001).

As a result of the intensification of the conflict, the situation was portrayed as one involving a long-drawn-out conflict. Both Hamas' takeover of Gaza by 2000 onwards and right-wing parties' rise to power in Israel show that new forces have emerged on both sides of the conflict, casting doubt on, if not outright rejecting, the possibility of a negotiated settlement and prefer to continue the conflict rather than manage it.

The UN Plan – 1947

Following the end of World War II, the United Kingdom presented the Palestinian issue to the UN for discussion. On May 15, 1947, the UN conceived of an entity that would subsequently be known as the UN Special Commission on Palestine (UNSCOP). Representatives from eleven different countries from across the world attended the summit (Podeh, 2021). The attendance of the Great Powers was not requested since it was judged that doing so would jeopardize the committee's ability to remain objective. After spending five weeks analyzing the land, they arrived at the decision that Palestine should be divided into two states: one for Jews and one for Arabs. The so-called "two-state solution" was endorsed by the UN General Assembly in November 1947, with 33 votes in favor, 13 votes against, and 10 abstentions. Resolution 181 passed with 33 votes in favor, 13 votes against, and 10 abstentions (Assembly, 1947). This is important information to know. The League of Arab States (or Arab League) founded in 1945, which is made up of Arab countries, voted against the resolution. In order to win control of critical places in the region, Palestinian Arabs and Jews waged open battle against one another. Each side was responsible for a number of significant crimes perpetrated during the period of antagonism that existed between the two parties. On May 14, 1948, one day before the end of the British mandate in Palestine, Israel declared independence and sovereignty over the section of Palestine partitioned for it by UNSCOP which then responded militarily by the Arab countries culminating in First Arab-Israeli War of 1948-49. The Arab League sent a note to the UN the next day, expressing its opposition to a settlement including two states. When Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Iraq invaded the region that had been partitioned for an Arab state in 1948, the Arab-Israeli War began. The confrontation between Israel and the Arab states was triggered by this move. Because Israeli forces were successful in forcing Arab nations out of a portion of the occupied areas, and as a result of this

extension of Israeli borders, Israel was able to extend its borders beyond the UNSCOP divide (Sarsar, 2004).

By the end of December 1948, Israel had taken control of the majority of the region west of the Jordan River in Mandate Palestine. Jordan, what was then known as the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip were the only territories still under international control after the mandate expired (Egypt-controlled). More than 711,000 Palestinians have been forced to flee their homes as a direct result of the conflict, including those who evacuated before and after the conflict began (2008). Prior to the signing of the Armistice Agreements in 1949, which brought the conflict to an end, hostilities had been ongoing since 1948. Every one of Israel's Arab neighbors signed a piece of paper agreeing to these terms.

The Balfour Declaration, 1917

Following the release of the British Foreign Secretary's Balfour Declaration in 1917, it became clear that the British Foreign Secretary was willing to establish a "national home for Jewish people" in the land that is now known as Palestine (Yapp, 1995). At the time, Lionel Walter Rothschild was the honorary president of the World Zionist Organization (WZO). Britain's foreign secretary and a major figure in the British Jewish Community Sir Arthur James Balfour sent a letter to Rothschild in 1917 promising a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. The British Mandate for Palestine ordered its construction in 1914 and continued to do so until 1918, when it was ultimately completed. All of this happened during World War I. Palestine, on the other hand, lacked anything like an equivalent. Despite the fact that the proportion of Jewish people in the population was less than 10% at the time, the British Mandate in Palestine was established with the primary goal of providing a "national home" for the Jewish people (Ginat, 2018). As a result, this was a departure from the principal goals of other

countries' post war missions. The British government began making it easier for Jews living in European countries to relocate to Palestine shortly after the mandate began.

The Balfour Declaration has thus drastically altered the lives of Palestinian Arabs living in Palestine at that time. Zionism's principal goal was to establish a Jewish state in Palestine, and Britain's pledge that it would build a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine. With this action, Zionism made great progress in the right direction. The vast majority of academics believe that the pledge was a primary driving element in the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 and the subsequent struggle with the Palestinians. Because it is one of the most contentious debated papers in the contemporary history of the Arab world, historians have been baffled by it for decades.

War of Attrition

Egypt launched its "War of Attrition" against Israel in 1969, hoping to wear them down to the point where they would relinquish control of the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt. Nasser's death in 1970 signaled the conclusion of the conflict for all time. The armies of Syria and Egypt started an attack on Israel on Yom Kippur, October 6, 1973. Syria and Egypt won a decisive victory as a result of this attack. The Yom Kippur War resulted in direct hostilities between the US and the Soviet Union. It's remarkable to contemplate that the Soviet Union promised to intervene militarily once Israel had turned the balance of power in their favor. Fearing that a nuclear war would break out, the US successfully negotiated a cease-fire with its rivals on October 25. Following Israel's victory in the 1967 Six-Day War, relations between the United States and Israel began to improve. In terms of Israel alone, the US has evolved a position in which it regards Israel as its most significant regional ally.

The Perspective of the Arabs and the Palestinian

The Middle East has been plagued by inter-Arab and inter-Muslim conflict. Throughout the region, there had been an increase in violence. In the early 19th century, endemic violence took on new and international forms as Western and European powers entered the Middle Eastern stage. It is impossible to achieve a more democratic and peaceful Middle East by ignoring the factors that led to today's conflict. To understand the reality that prevails in the region, one must look back more than a millennium and more than 200 years of political and military intervention by European powers and the United States and its allies (Cohen, 2014). We must address Middle East issues because they have an impact on both Arabs and Israelis. The conflict between Israel and the Arab world predates Israel's UN and other international recognition as a state.

According to the findings of a 2006 study done jointly by Israelis and Palestinians, 78 percent of those polled felt that "the Muslims in the region will never recognize Israel's existence" (Litvak, 1998). According to additional studies, anti-Palestinian bias has been on the rise since 2000 (Dotsch, 2008; Dotsch et al., 2008). According to a 1997 poll of Israeli Jews, 39 percent thought Palestinians were violent, and 42 percent thought they were dishonest (Litvak, 1998). Jews, on the other hand, believe that Palestinians have no regard for human life and will continue to participate in violent activities notwithstanding the large number of losses suffered by Palestinians (Sima & Tov, 2010).

Since the year 2000, victimization stereotypes in the media and popular culture have made a comeback in Israeli society. Following the *Al-Aqsa intifada*, also known as the Second Intifada, this sensation arose. The *Al-Aqsa Intifada* has been referred to as an uprising, a revolt, or a resistance movement; nevertheless, all of these labels refer to the same event. It is one of the most important expressions in modern Arabic, and it alludes to a lawful insurrection in order to combat injustice. The *Al-Aqsa intifada* can be regarded as a Palestinian uprising against Israel when viewed through this lens. As previously stated, Jewish people feel that the Palestinians are totally or nearly entirely to

blame for the deterioration of Israeli-Palestinian relations. Furthermore, they believe that the Palestinians are to blame for the worsening situation. The repeated attacks that create resentment targeting civilians, instilled in Israeli Jews a strong sense of 'victimization'. As each attack on Israeli Jews was taken as an act of terrorism and received considerable media coverage as such, Israeli Jews began to feel that they were always the victims precisely since the Holocaust.

Israeli political elites routinely depicted Palestinian people as victims of Palestinian actions in their remarks. Despite this perception, Israeli leaders were more worried about Israeli civilians' suffering (Shohat, 1988) and also Hamas' control of the southern communities of the Gaza Strip (Lead, 2009).

The Perspective of the Arabs – The Great Arab Rebellion of 1916

Greeks (1821-1832), Bulgarians (1876), and Serbians (both 1804-1817) revolted against the Ottoman Empire in the hopes of gaining varied degrees of autonomy and independence from it. In 1876, Bulgarians revolted. Between 1821 to 1832, the Greeks revolted. This occurred throughout Europe during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, when nationalist movements were on the rise (Bakri, 2018). In response to rising internal unrest and external pressures during the Tanzimat period of the nineteenth century, the Ottoman administration began implementing reforms influenced by Europe.

The state had to be updated in order to reclaim influence over its subjects, which it had lost through time. The Ottoman Empire produced its first constitution as well as its first parliament between 1876 and 1878. Both its breakup in 1876 and their subsequent restoration in 1908 were due to the Ottomans. There were several significant social and political transformations during the reform period, one of which was the expectation of greater inclusion for members of underrepresented groups and representational politics. A number of other significant social and political upheavals occurred as well (Bakri, 2018).

Because of the government's unshakable dedication to centralization, all post-elementary educational settings and governmental organizations, regardless of their geographic location, were mandated to retain the use of Ottoman Turkish. Throughout the Ottoman Empire, this was a common procedure. At least some of the Arabs living in the empire felt repressed and excluded as a direct result of such strategies. As the empire's position and future became more tenuous, the seeds of a distinct Arab identity separate from the Turkish governing body began to germinate. In 1913, the First Arab Congress met in Paris with the goal of determining the legal status of Arabs living under Ottoman control. Discussions during the Congress focused on providing Arab municipalities more administrative authority, as well as making Arabic the administrative language of Arab areas (Bakri, 2018). There were twenty-five recognized delegates in attendance, as well as several unofficial delegates, all of whom were linked with various Arab nationalist organizations.

Arab nationalism movements, such as those in Syria's Arabist forces, were suppressed during the struggle, adding to the Ottomans' reputation as tyrannical rulers. However, the Arab nationalist movement did not truly emerge as a political force until after World War I. Prior to this, the vast majority of Arab Ottoman subjects were more concerned with their family, clan, or religion than with their "Arabness." The legality of Ottoman authority over Muslim countries, during which the sultan acted as the caliph of the Muslim *ummah*, was not questioned by the vast majority of Arabs. Despite the difficult circumstances that occurred during the war and the fall of the empire, this was the case (Bakri, 2018).

In light of these circumstances, the Arab Revolt's leaders called for Arab and Muslim brotherhood, as well as freedom and independence for their people. The British and Sharif Husayn bin 'Ali, King of Hejaz (1853-1931), the Ottoman-appointed emir of Mecca, were both working together to combat the Central Powers. Both of these persons lived during the First World War period (Al-Momani, 2014). Husayn, the Sharif of Mecca, had a vision of an Arab country that was free of Ottoman rule and that he would

govern over as of 2018. Husayn's relationship with the Ottoman government under the auspices of the Committee of Union and Progress began to worsen after the overthrow of Abdülhamid II, Sultan of the Turks (1842-1918) in 1909. This event signaled the start of the Ottoman Empire's downfall. He was concerned that as the state's efforts became more concentrated under his watch, the autonomy that came with his post would be eroded over time. Because he did not accept the Ottoman sultan's declaration of holy war against the Allies when the Ottoman Empire opted to side with the Central Powers in World War I, the Central Powers had severe misgivings about him. As a result, the CUP had major reservations about him. Husayn's sense of isolation grew as he learned of a plot by Unionists to depose him from office. In response, his son Faysal I, King of Iraq from 1885 to 1933, issued an order for negotiations with the leaders of the Damascus-based Arab nationalist secret societies al-Fatat and al-Ahd. The Damascus Protocol, which was backed by a number of Arab communities, underlined its support for a rebellion led by Sharif Husayn for a British-recognized Arab nation (1915). "The Arab rebellion," writes Peter Wien, "is the foundation myth of Arab nationalism"(Abboushi, 1977). The Arab Revolt is still regarded as a symbol of Arab revolutionary spirit, as well as the movement's ideas of courage and sacrifice, according to this statement. Many textbooks used to teach official history in classrooms across the Arab world continue to glorify the events of the revolt to this day (Bakri, 2018).

Legends and state-sponsored commemorations of the revolt's heroes, like the statue of Yusuf Al-Azma (1884-1920) in Damascus, have continued to tell the story of the insurrection. In Damascus, this statue was erected. Al-Fu'ad al-Fu'ad al-Fu' (1882-1957) The legend lives on thanks to the continual performance of Khatib's poetry, as well as its broadcast on television and inclusion on video platforms accessible via the internet. A quick glance at the Jordanian website commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt reveals the extent to which the uprising's memory is currently being mobilized by Arab nationalist rhetoric. The Arab Revolt, according to traditional Turkish discourse, was a major Arab treachery that led to Turkey's defeat in the war. This point of view is backed up by historical evidence. This is in stark contrast to the

reality that the Arab Revolt was backed by a substantial number of Arab nationalists. For a long time after it took place, this betrayal would remain a major source of tension in ties between Arabs and Turks.

Thus, the concept of an Arab country or union emerged in the twentieth century as a means of achieving unification among Arab peoples from Morocco to the Arabian Peninsula by defining itself in terms of language and culture. This goal was pursued in order to bring the vision of an Arab nation to fruition. This fight took place during the establishment of ideology as well as the struggle for the sovereignty of the Arab nation as well as the rise of Arab nationalism across the region.

The Arab's Perspective

Over the last fifty years, Arab politics has had to overcome a lack of legitimacy, terrible economic conditions, arbitrary rule, and outside involvement in order to achieve prosperity and stability. The measures provided by Arab states, on the other hand, virtually often made the problem worse. Despite the fact that the Arabs' preoccupation with their struggle with Israel makes it more difficult to recognize and solve these difficulties, there are two different elements that contributed to the current position in which they find themselves. First and foremost, the Middle East has attracted more ambitious tyrants than any other region on the planet. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Gamal Abdel Nasser, and Hafiz al-Assad are among the important figures mentioned. As a result, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Pan-Arab nationalism, and the Palestinian cause have all been used to advance Arab leaders' personal and political ambitions, as well as the national interests of individual Arab governments, to suppress any opposition, to bully other Arab regimes, and to hide the existence of internal problems (Hubbard, 1999).

Another aspect contributing to the bleak outlook was the search for a speedy way out of political and economic bankruptcy. The challenge arose as a result of this

endeavor. The most widely favored solution was for the creation of a single Arab state and the rejection of Western influence, with Israel as the primary on-the-ground presence. Despite this, war and revolution, militancy and armed resistance, allegiance to Moscow while despising the US, and a statist economy all contributed to the Arab world's collapse.

The vast majority of Arab leaders have stated unequivocally that they oppose these ideas and have just given them lip regard. They, on the other hand, want this to be the outcome of their efforts. With the exception of the Palestinians, and especially after 1973, few Arab administrations were willing to stand up to Israel, even when it was not essential. Even though the Palestinians were the sole exception, this was the reality. The fact that the problem was unsolved contributed to the collapse of Arabist ideals and principles (Ajami, 1978). It was also to blame for the rise of revolutionary Islamic movements, costly weapons competitions, and destabilizing civil wars.

The 1978/79 Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty known as Camp David Accords was responsible for the destruction of Arabism and Arab nationalism principles (Ajami, 1978; Barnett, 1998), as well as dissuading Palestinian factions from believing that their liberation struggle could be won by applying secular nationalist values. For example, following Israel's two catastrophic military defeats, an extraordinary chain of events unfolded, beginning with Egypt's withdrawal from the boycott of Israel in 1977–1979, continuing with the Iranian revolution in 1979, and ending in the Iran–Iraq War from 1980 to 1988. Egypt was expelled out of the Arab League after signing the peace treaty with Israel, and it wasn't let back in until 1989. In addition, Egypt's membership in the OIC has been suspended for the time being.

The political instability created by the Palestinian-Israeli conflict had an impact on the surrounding area's politics as well. Israeli military triumphs against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan in 1967, as well as those against Egypt and Syria in 1973, contributed to the development of extremist political groups and ideologies. Other variables included, but were not limited to, Saddam Hussein's radicalization of politics and the crystallization of

Bath rules in Iraq and in Syria. Due to the occurrence of three great disasters, the year 1982 was one of the most disastrous in history. The Syrian attack in Hama and Homs is an example of the consequences that might follow authoritarian regimes' adoption of populist and progressive rhetoric (Hubbard, 1999). This was the first time Iranian troops had entered Iraq, and it served as a warning to Arab nations about the seriousness of the threat posed by Persian might and extreme Islam. As the Israeli army pushed into Lebanon, it displayed Israeli military superiority, the Soviet Union's and other Arab states' inability to retaliate, and the willingness of some Arabs to support Israel (such as the PLO) (Harb, 2020).

The Palestinian Perspective

The chances of Palestinians retaining back what they may have had in 1939 were halved by 1948, and those chances were halved again by 1967, 1979, or 1993. However, they were also the party that contributed most to the ongoing conflict by publicly advocating stalemate over a solution that required any actual compromise. According to Abu Iyad, in 1971, the PLO declared that it had no right to negotiate an agreement and that it must continue to fight to preserve the potential of one day taking back control of all of Palestine. In the meanwhile, this approach has been followed ever since. It declared that the PLO had no right to negotiate a settlement and they had to continue fighting even if they could not be liberated. It wasn't until 1984 that he was able to preserve his position "The only thing we have going for us is our tenacity and dedication to our country... Instead of committing treason, we'd rather be inactive for the next decade" (Carmichael, 2003).

The Palestinian claim to ownership of the entire land mass between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea, no matter how well-intentioned it was simply impossible to carry through in reality. The Palestinians were unable to get anything since they were so focused on achieving this goal for a long time. Palestinian public

opinion is still stuck in the old paradigm, even if times have changed. In the meantime, the PLO devised a strategy based on extensive research of Israel (Alexander, 2013). Their aim was to incite Arab governments to war and struggle to demoralize Israelis in the hope that Israel would eventually give up or surrender, but the fight continued anyhow because they believed that time was on their side.

Despite this, the PLO relied heavily on Arab governments, which either ignored or tried to take control of the organization (Alexander, 2013). For instance, the Camp David Accord was of such cases where identity and interest clashed when it comes to Arab support for the Palestinian cause, Western observers assumed that they were enthusiastic, but Palestinians, as one official put it, “almost every Arab state has stabbed them in the back at some point” (Sayigh, 1984: 247-271).

At a time when Arab policies and rivalries were constantly shifting, Yasser Arafat, the PLO's leader, tried to avoid being perceived as an enemy or a puppet of any one government. With the battle between Jordan and the PLO taking place in 1970 (Odeh, 1999), as well as the conflict between Syria and the PLO after 1975, and engagement in Lebanon's civil war, this was a hard assignment. As the Arab world fell apart, the PLO came to accept it. Although there were many factions inside the PLO, Arafat never made a deliberate effort to exert his authority over them.

Israeli Perspective

The Arab-Israeli conflict has essentially been settled as a result of a series of events that revealed the ineffectiveness of various solution plans initiated. This was largely due to both parties' willingness to test new techniques. When the PLO changed and moved towards establishing an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza alongside Israel, it made great headway. For the PLO, this was a significant step forward (Kronfeld, 1985). It is vital to realize that the conflict will not be resolved, just as it was during the period of "no war, no peace" and relative troop withdrawal. On the

other hand, it is equally crucial to recognize that prolonging the fight benefits the regime's interests, hinders its expansion, and even jeopardizes its survival. This is a situation similar to what is occurring in the Arab world.

The Israeli government was willing to talk with the PLO and make territorial concessions provided they were convinced that Arab states and the PLO were interested in reaching a deal. The PLO was recognized by the Arab countries as the sole legitimate entity representing the Palestinians at the Arab League Summit meeting held at Rabat in 1974. Later, the PLO renounced its support for terrorist organizations and recognized Israel's fundamental right to exist in peace in exchange for Israel's recognition of the PLO as the genuine representative of the Palestinian people. This was an instance in which everyone who was involved came out on top. In accordance with the provisions of an agreement agreed between the two parties, the PA will be constituted and given the task of governing the West Bank and Gaza Strip. During the next five years, this treatment will be carried out. Direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians began on July 29, 2013, as a direct result of Secretary of State John Kerry's attempts to re-energize the peace process in the US. The US administration chose Martin Indyk, a member of the staff at the Brookings Institution in Washington, District of Columbia, to be the chief negotiator for the discussions. These discussions will take place in the District of Columbia, in Washington, D.C.

Furthermore, they came to the conclusion that the low prices seen in these regions between 1967 and 1987 could not be maintained indefinitely at that level. It has been attempted to alter history by claiming that in 1974, the PLO endorsed the idea of a two-state solution. This assertion has been made (Golan, 2019).

Politicians might take advantage of this strategy by arguing that Yasser Arafat's recognition of Israel in 1993 was consistent with the PLO's long-standing standard operating procedure. Academics, on the other hand, are unable to gain an accurate picture of the PLO's past due to the distortion. It is based on a twisted interpretation of a resolution passed by the Palestine National Council in order to hinder Jordan's attempts

to reclaim control of the West Bank (Aruri, 1985). Furthermore, any territory retaken from Israel should be annexed by a Palestinian authority and used as a springboard for the capture of any and all adjacent regions, it was asserted (Aruri, 1985). The resolution specifically prohibits the creation of peace, as well as the recognition and cessation of hostilities with Israel. The PLO's rhetoric and actions were consistent with this stance for a long period. Despite the fact that the Oslo Accords were signed more than two decades ago, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the organization that was responsible for beginning the attempt in the first place, continues to reject them. Israel became substantially more suspicious of the PLO as a direct result of pursuing this two-pronged policy than it had been previously. Many other Arabs, including the PLO, believed that peace negotiations with Israel were hopeless and could never succeed as a result of Israel's hostile policy toward the Middle East. Despite the fact that this strategy ignored key facts, the claim that Israel's very existence was unjust, undesirable, and harmful to Arab countries' interests did not carry enough weight to be regarded convincingly.

The struggle between Israel and the Arab states is an example of how a war with a zero-sum outcome over existence can be transformed into a more normal and solvable state-to-state conflict. It shows how leaders can choose between acceptable risks that endanger their people's lives and viable solutions to problems. Finding a solution to the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Arab states, an entire age of history was required. In contrast to the Cold War, most of the time, this was a long and drawn-out process that could only succeed when all other options had been exhausted, when the need for an alternative had become unavoidable, and when the procedure had been ongoing for a long time.

Zionist Congress

The Zionist movement, which was advocated for a Jewish homeland in Palestine, saw a surge in popularity during 19th century. As a result of the movement's influence, a large number of European Jews began moving to Palestine. Jews were being

persecuted across Europe at the time of this incident. A Jewish national state in Palestine didn't begin to take shape until the late 19th century, but the land of Israel's significance to Jewish identity has always been strong. Many small Jewish communities were established in Palestine over the years, and they lived peacefully alongside Arabs of both Muslim and Christian faiths.

One of the fundamental reasons of the developing demand for a Jewish state in Europe was antisemitism, which existed for centuries before the Nazis carried out the Holocaust, which claimed the lives of six million Jews during World War II (Dowty, 1998). The Nazis perpetrated the Holocaust, which resulted in the deaths of six million Jews. Members of the UN General Assembly voted in November 1947 in favor of endorsing a plan to divide Palestine, which was ruled by the British at the time, into separate Arab and Jewish areas. As a direct result of this occurrence, Jewish residents of Palestine announced their decision to establish the state of Israel in May 1948.

Post-World War I Settlement

The Ottoman Empire controlled much of the Middle East, including Palestine, in the years leading up to the outbreak of World War I. Throughout nearly 500 years of human history, this dominant position has never been seriously challenged. The Ottomans began to create Turkish domination throughout the empire during this time period in order to promote their Turkish ethnic identity. This was done with the intention of promoting Turkish nationalism. Discrimination against Arabs was frequent throughout Ottoman rule.

During World War I, a large number of Jews and Arabs fought for the Allies in the hopes of winning freedom from the Ottoman Empire. This, in turn, contributed to the spread of Arab nationalism throughout the region. Tensions between Jews and Palestinians began to rise during this time, leading to a deterioration in relations between

the two groups. It was not until much later that there was a noticeable increase in the Jewish population.

The British government acknowledged the development of a Jewish homeland as a priority in the Balfour Declaration, which was released in 1917. As part of the Palestine Mandate, the UK took administrative control of the territory after the First World War ended (Greenberg & Keinan, 2009). His immigration was, however, insignificant as compared to the Palestinian population as a whole, as well as the other destinations chosen by migrants. In fact, on the eve of World War I, Palestine's 80,000 Jewish citizens made up less than a tenth of the country's overall population. Furthermore, during that time period, Jewish persons migrating across the ocean to Palestine accounted for only around 3% of all Jewish people migrating across the ocean. To put this in perspective, only 2,022,000 of the 2,367,000 Jews who were compelled to abandon Europe at the time built their homes in the US (Khalidi, 1991).

This, combined with other regional issues and the weakening of the global economy, played a role in the escalation of tensions in the region. Furthermore, as a direct result of the rapid increase in Jewish immigration to Germany in the immediate aftermath of the Holocaust, the number of Jews residing in Palestine more than doubled. The massive influx of Jewish immigrants was seen by Palestinian Arabs as a threat to their territory and sense of national identity. This was because Palestinian Arabs considered themselves to be native to the area (Lockman, 1996). Israeli policies, such as the expropriation of Palestinian land and the prohibition of Arabs from working in Jewish-owned businesses and farms, have fueled anti-Semitism among Palestinian Arabs. Protests by Palestinian Arabs against what they viewed as the British government's preferential treatment of Jewish immigrants in Palestine began not long before 1920. Several acts of anti-Semitic violence, as well as rioting, erupted as a result of this (Smith, 1993). Tensions between the Palestinian Arab community and the Israeli government began to build in 1936, resulting in the start of the Arab uprising, which lasted from 1936 to 1939. Officials working under the British Mandate severely limited

the number of Jews who moved to Palestine in response to Arab demands. These restrictions remained in place until the mandate expired, which also happened to coincide with the end of the Nazi Holocaust and the emigration of Jews from Europe to other countries.

The 1956 Suez Crisis

In 1956, Egypt outlawed Israeli trade in the Gulf of Aqaba and barred Israeli ships from traveling through the Tiran Straits, in violation of the Istanbul Convention of 1888. Many people believed that this was also a violation of the 1949 Armistice Agreements. The Canal was immediately closed to Israeli commerce after Egypt took control of the Suez Channel Company on July 26, 1956. This happened at the same time. The Sinai Peninsula was invaded by British, French, and Israeli soldiers on October 29, 1956. Israel's reaction was as follows. While the crisis centered on the Suez Canal, Israel was successful in reclaiming control of the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula. The situation between Iran and the US was quickly resolved as a result of pressure from both the UN and the US. Israel has expressed regret for its conduct and promised to leave the Egyptian land it currently holds. With Egypt's participation and cooperation, both the demilitarization of the Sinai Peninsula and the freedom of navigation in the surrounding region were agreed upon. In order to monitor the demilitarization process, the United Nations Emergency Force, often known as UNEF, had to be established. Only the Egyptian side of the border was allowed for the UN Emergency Force to operate. Israel's government has refused to allow the UNEF to operate within its borders.

Six Day War of 1967

The Sinai Peninsula was home to an Egyptian army of 100,000 men as of May 19, 1967. This happened during the second Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It returned the

region to the state it had been in during Israel's blockade of the Straits of Tiran in 1956, when ships from that country were unable to pass through (Dunstan, 2012). Jordan joined the mutual Defense Treaty that Egypt and Syria had already negotiated on May 30, 1967. Israeli aircraft launched a preemptive strike against Egypt on June 5, 1967, in direct response to the events of the previous day. Following the destruction of a substantial portion of the Egyptian Air Force, the Israeli Air Force (IAF) turned its attention to the east, defeating the air forces of Jordan, Syria, and Iraq. The success of Israel in the Six-Day War was largely due to this strike (also known as the Yom Kippur War). The Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, East Jerusalem, and the Golan Heights in Egypt were all rapidly taken over by Israel. The war's ramifications may still be seen in the region's geopolitics today (Dunstan, 2012).

Senior Arab officials convened in Khartoum in the summer of 1967 to discuss the Arab reaction to the conflict with Israel (Meital, 2000). They all arrived to the same conclusion: There will be:

- No recognition of the State of Israel.
- Israel's lack of peace, as well as
- With the Israelis, there will be no dialogue (Meital, 2000).

The geographical status quo of the Arab-Israeli conflict was drastically altered as a result of the war's conclusion in 1967. Egypt relinquished control of the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza Strip, while Jordan and Syria relinquished control of the West Bank and the Golan Heights, respectively. Israel's strategic depth has been increased as a result of these geographical achievements. There was no longer a clear path for Arab armies or irregular forces to take to reach the country's vital population centers, industrial assets, or military infrastructure. Both of these instances had never occurred before. As a result, despite having acquired a substantial amount of land, Israel was able to maintain the security of its borders. The Judean and Samaria highlands were particularly important from a military standpoint, despite the fact that these borders were

shorter in length. These borders also have to follow strategically vital geographical obstructions like the Suez Canal and the Jordan River.

Despite the fact that the status quo in the territories in 1967 had no impact on the IDF's operational or tactical principles, it did have an impact on Israeli military doctrine. Despite the fact that Israel was responsible for two of the three large-scale conflicts that have happened since 1967, the Arabs were responsible for two of the three large-scale conflicts that had occurred previous to 1967. There were two important battles fought in the course of these two wars. In truth, Israel's lone war occurred in 1967, and it took place on the country's sole border with Lebanon, which Lebanon shares with Israel. Terrorist incursions and rocket attacks along this border regularly put Israeli people in peril due to Israel's lack of strategic depth on this border. Because retaliation has been a key tool for dealing with low-intensity conflict since 1967, Israel's low-intensity conflict strategy has remained unchanged. This is because retribution has long been a useful tactic for resolving low-intensity conflict.

In the interim, Israel's national security has been protected by the borders established after the 1967 war, which have protected Israel from the risk of a catastrophic loss in a full-scale conventional confrontation. During the 1967 war, Israel's military forces relied heavily on the depth and defensibility provided by Sinai and the Golan Heights to recover from the conflict's early surprises and reverses. Each of Israel's current occupied territories—the Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Golan Heights—has provided its own unique set of obstacles (Meital, 2000). Both the War of Attrition and the War that erupted in 1973 were sparked by Israel's annexation of Sinai and the Golan Heights. Israelis and Arabs fought each other during these two wars.

Anwar Sadat Treaty in 1974-75

Meanwhile, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 242 on November 2, 1967, in the aftermath of the Six-Day War. In 1974, this resolution

initiated the process of ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and achieving a long-term peace between Israel and the Arab states. This resolution was passed in order to put an end to the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Arab states. The United Nations Security Council enacted Resolution 338 as a direct result of the Yom Kippur War, resulting in the organizing of an international conference on October 28, 1973. During this session, the beginnings of something resembling a normalization technique were also started.

When it came time to negotiate a peace agreement with Israel's neighbors, it was critical to have a firm grasp on the dynamics that exist between Israel's many bilateral and multilateral accords with the Arab governments. The establishing of appropriate borders for both countries was one of the primary foci of bilateral peace agreements. Aside from these multilateral peace agreements, efforts were undertaken to create long-term agreements that reflected a regional structure for peace and collaboration in order to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In response to Israel's continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the first Palestinian uprising, known as an intifada, began in 1987. Palestinians flung rocks at soldiers and tanks stationed near their homes and camps as a way of venting their rage. Following the incident, Palestinians began firing at Israeli motorists from the side of the road before attacking some settlers. When there was a high level of security concern, Israel set up a system of checkpoints and curfews in the West Bank to control the flow of people and goods across the region. During this time of increased tension, Israeli authorities detained a large number of Palestinian Israeli residents living in Israel.

The 1993 Oslo Peace Talks

The Oslo Peace Accords were without a doubt a big step forward in the effort of building or maintaining peace in the Middle East. Following the Oslo Peace Talks, the number of Israelis killed by Arab terrorist bombers and the frequency of terrorist attacks against Israel both increased to levels not seen since the 1948 War. The Palestinian

Authority has consistently broken every single one of the agreement's terms. Because it is written in the PLO's charter, the destruction of Israel remains a proclaimed goal of the organization. However, as a result of PLO promises, the PLO recognizes and respects Israel's right to exist in peace and security, as well as UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 (Rostow, 1992). Following the 1993 Oslo Peace Talks, Israel and the Palestinians reached an agreement that gave the Palestinians limited control over specific areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Oslo Peace Process resulted in this accord. As a result of this outcome, Yasser Arafat was chosen to lead the Palestinian Authority, which had been founded to administer the newly created independent areas. Pessimism, on the other side, grew in the following years as a direct result of the slow progress toward a long-term peace accord.

In the year 2000, a new Palestinian revolt erupted in response to Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon's visit to Jerusalem's *Al-Aqsa* site. The Israeli army has reoccupied cities in the West Bank and expanded its operations in the region as the number of Palestinian terrorist organizations such as Hamas carrying out suicide bombings against Israeli residents has increased. Thousands of Palestinians have been prohibited from entering Israel for the purpose of working or conducting business as a direct result of increased security measures in the Palestinian territories. This was done to ensure their safety.

In 2003, Israel announced the contentious decision to demolish all Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip, as well as other colonies in the West Bank. This move was met with a lot of backlash. In 2005, the Israeli army forcibly expelled 8,000 Palestinian settlers from Gaza and 500 Palestinian settlers from the West Bank. In the guise of housing assistance, the Israeli government offered these uprooted settlers new homes to call home. Many Israelis are alleged to have been misled by Israel's leadership, particularly those who believe Israel has a biblical claim to the West Bank and Gaza. This charge was made against Israel's leadership. While the EU monitors the *Rafah* border crossing into Egypt, Israeli officials routinely close the two Palestinian-run

crossing points on the Israeli side of Gaza. Erez and Karni are the names of the crossing locations (Peoples, 2012).

As a result, Palestinian economic life has been badly impacted, and humanitarian organizations have found it impossible to give supplies to the Palestinian populace as a result of these issues. The following chapter examines the long-term ramifications of the Deal of the Century, as well as how it will affect Jerusalem as a result of previous events. Defining the historical trajectory of the conflict between Israel and Palestine was crucial to the development of this theory since it focused attention on the basic reason responsible for the war's growth. This thesis attempts to comprehend the conflict's basic roots, which include preconceived notions and an inconsistent US foreign policy. These and other causes have contributed to the conflict's protracted nature, making it look as though it would never be resolved. It will be covered in-depth in the following chapter, which will cover a wide range of administrations and scenarios.

CHAPTER III

The US Role in the Conflict Prior to the Deal of the Century

Previous chapters of this thesis mainly dealt with this dispute between Israelis and Palestinians, which has been ongoing for decades and is based on conflicting rights to the Holy Land. Disagreements over borders, Jerusalem, safety, and Palestinian migrants are all part of this war. It also highlights pivotal moments, such as both communities' right to self-determination. This chapter three will explore US foreign policy toward the Israel-Palestine conflict and how the US has long sought a solution to the problem, which resulted in a “two-state solution” prior to the Trump administration's "Deal of the Century" that redirected US foreign policy-making.

US Foreign Policy towards the Middle East: An Overview

The manner in which a country's foreign policy is implemented is a critical part of its interactions with other nations. For the advancement of peaceful international relations, decision-makers in a country must have a thorough understanding of the trends in how other countries conduct their foreign policy. The study of international policy has grown increasingly important as a result of this growth. The state's foreign policy is defined as a collection of acts taken by a state's governing authorities in response to a set of circumstances with the goal of achieving particular objectives outside of its geographical authority. Certain features of a state's foreign policy can be explained by reference to a wide range of hypothetical components. Other potential factors that can influence a state's foreign policy include the structure of the government and the process by which decisions are made, the cultural characteristics of a society, the historical experience of the people derived from both their own and other states' previous behavior, the nature of the international system, and a state's military

capabilities, in addition to the personal characteristics of political leaders and decision makers.

A state's decision-makers, who are operating on behalf of the state, are the ones who make decisions that lead to acts conducted as part of the state's foreign policy (Hermann & Hermann, 1989). It's feasible that the government's action is interchangeable with the state's action for all means and purposes. Given these considerations, it is critical to evaluate both the US government's Middle East foreign policy in general and its implications for the Israel-Palestinian conflict in particular. Since 1945, the United States' participation in the region has resulted in a revolutionary shift in the way the world community interacts with one another (Siegman, 1997). She has used her victory in WWII, among other things, to motivate herself to adopt a harsh position in her country's Middle East foreign policy. This is a direct effect of her success in the conflict. "The Middle East appears to be important to the US for several reasons, including its strategic geographic location at the confluence of Asia, Africa, and Europe; the fear of communist expansion in the region, which would result in military and political advantage for the Soviet Union and adversary status for the US; and the region's possession of the world's largest single reserve of oil, which accounts for more than half of the world's proven oil reserves; and the region's possession of the world's largest single reserve of oil. For a variety of reasons, the Middle East looks to be significant to the US (Avey, 2012;88). The US first made contact with the region that is now known as the Middle East in the seventeenth century, when most of the Middle East was still mostly dominated by the Ottoman Empire. In the year 1700, the Continental Congress of the US issued an order to the federal government, instructing it to recognize the validity of the superb port power in the region. In the year 1785, ships from the US set sail for the region in question in order to see if it would be possible to develop trade ties with places that were not under British rule.

The US signed a treaty with the administration of King Mohammed V of Morocco in 1792, when George Washington was President of the US (Roberts, 1999).

As a result of this arrangement, the US and a local authority in the Middle East signed a treaty for the first time in history. Following the conclusion of this treaty, the US formally recognized Morocco's position as a sovereign state. Morocco promised that it would not obstruct the passage of US naval vessels through the Strait of Gibraltar in exchange (Roberts, 1999). As an aside, a large number of Americans visited Palestine, the Jordan River, and Egypt for religious reasons. This is because many people had heard about the holy place in the Middle East mentioned in the Bible and were eager to visit the region. Furthermore, a huge number of people from the US came to the area for business. During the eighteenth century, Christian organizations based in the US, such as the Presbyterian Church's Boards of Missions, the Reformed Church of America's Boards of Missions, and the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions (now known as the American Board of Foreign Missions), dispatched a large number of American evangelists to the region (Leavelle, 2018). By the time the 18th century arrived, these later organizations had already established mission stations in Palestine. In the early years of their service, the US missionaries relied on the diplomatic security offered by the UK. The US Navy has been observed maintaining a continuous presence in the waters off the coast of the eastern Mediterranean, ostensibly to safeguard missionaries. Some historians feel that this decision reflected the growing weight of the missionary lobby in Washington, as a considerable number of evangelists were working in the area by the late 1800s, not only as consular personnel but also in other roles.

In fact, the US missions had already established a range of facilities throughout the region, including schools, hospitals, and other services. In addition to the American University of Beirut, they founded the Robert College in Istanbul in 1863, the Istanbul Women's College in 1871, the Syrian Protestant College in 1866 (which is now known as the American University of Beirut), and the American University of Cairo in 1919. Turkey is home to all of these educational institutions. Alexandria, Baghdad, and Teheran were the first cities to create schools, starting with basic school and going through secondary school (also known as colleges). Graduates of these schools did everything in their power to keep the relationship between their home countries and the

US positive and beneficial. The US established consulates in a number of locations around the Middle East in the years after, including Damascus, Alexandria, Beirut, Tripoli, Tunis, and Fez. These offices were primarily responsible for promoting increasing American business engagement in the Eastern Mediterranean and ensuring the safety of American missionaries serving in the region. In the years 1831, 1838, and 1857, the United States of America signed treaties of commerce and goodwill with the Ottoman Empire, Muscat, and Persia, respectively. Numerous American organizations, such as Near East Relief and the Near East Foundation, as well as other government institutions, were created in the Middle East during the first half of the eighteenth century. In 1826, Secretary of State Henry Clay highlighted the importance of young Americans learning Eastern languages like Arabic, Persian, and Turkish in order to serve as American consuls in the Middle East and other parts of the world. Despite the fact that the US interests in the Middle East had grown by the middle of the nineteenth century, the US' interest in the region as a missionary field remained distinct from any other American interest in the region. For a substantial percentage of their efforts, American merchants focused on expanding commerce with wealthy markets in the Far East, Europe, and Latin America. The number of commercial excursions to the Middle East by American firms increased dramatically in the second half of the twentieth century. The majority of these excursions were made with the intention of determining how to boost trade relations between the US and the region.

From 1774 through 1914, the US followed a policy of non-intervention in the region, which governed its interactions with it. There were numerous separatist movements in various parts of the Ottoman Empire; however, the US did not encourage these movements because it did not want to interfere with the Ottoman Empire's internal affairs. For the foreseeable future, the US appears to have retained its principal focus in the Middle East on a missionary interest due to expanding industrialization, new markets, new investment opportunities, and sources of raw materials for America's booming industry. This is true despite the fact that the US' major focus appears to have remained on missionary interests. Due to a range of corporate interests, including

petroleum geologists, ships, visitors, and lecturers from the US, the US and Middle Eastern countries developed advantageous relations. During this time, a significant number of people from the Middle East showed a strong desire to immigrate to the US for a variety of reasons, including their employment and religious convictions. During the Cold War, US foreign policy represented a bipolar world in which the key goals were to construct a world of free commerce supported by international economic institutions, limit communism by threatening nuclear war, and avert nuclear war by threatening nuclear war. Because the Soviet Union's fall in 1991 rendered the containment policy obsolete, the US has spent the last ten years revising its approach to international affairs. The US prioritizes national security, world peace, and a safe global environment, as well as maintaining the existing power dynamic among nations, collaborating with friends to address important international concerns, and advancing democratic values and civil rights. Increasing global membership in international trade groups while simultaneously encouraging worldwide cooperation in business deals despite the fact that "preserving the national security of the United States" may include rivalry and conflict, it is self-evident that achieving these goals requires collaboration with other countries.

World War II, the United States, and the Middle East

Commerce and energy issues in the region swelled American interest in the region during World War II. "The US had fundamental interests in the Middle East, whose peace and stability was of significance to the entire globe," Franklin D. Roosevelt said in his State of the Union address delivered on March 6, 1944. In spite of this, he did not establish a coherent foreign strategy for the region, although he acknowledged Britain as a major player. As early as 1940, it became clear that the US would need to acquire more sources of foreign oil in order to meet its expanding need for oil while also preserving its declining domestic oil stocks. Only the Middle East had the potential for enormous oil deposits. There were two camps in the US when it came to buying oil from

other countries. One cautioned the government against entering the international oil market, while the other urged it to promote and encourage private enterprises that are developing and refining petroleum imported from outside. The open-poor policy was implemented by the US government as early as the first months of World War II to ensure that American enterprises had equal access to Middle Eastern oil as other international corporations. The idea was to keep the oil out of the hands of the enemy so that the battle might be won faster and more efficiently (Churchill, 2013). The Arabian-American Oil Company, which was jointly owned by Standard Oil of California and Texas and had secured concessions in Saudi Arabia, was able to persuade the US government of the urgent need to protect the concessions in order to protect the US and its Middle East allies' national interests and security. Other oil corporations in the US have lobbied the US government to assist their operations in the area. At the same time, the expanding Zionist authority in the US elicited a strong response from Arab leaders. Those in the Middle East were concerned about the pro-Zionist climate in the US (O'Sullivan, 2012). The King of Saudi Arabia, Abdul Aziz Ibn Saudi, asked President Franklin D. Roosevelt not to invade Palestine without first consulting him. Lieutenant Colonel Harold B. Hoskins, a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was dispatched to the Middle East in the event of disturbance, and he believed that immediate steps should be taken to alleviate tensions between Arab and Jewish communities over the Palestine problem. President Franklin D. Roosevelt sought several times to arrange a meeting between Saudi Arabia's King Ibin and American Zionist leaders, but the King was unprepared for such a meeting since he believed he could not speak for the entire Arab world (Segev, 2006). Several Arab leaders have also refused to meet with Jewish leaders for the same reason. As a result, the US government was forced to make a difficult decision. Oil lobbyists, for example, pressed the administration to support the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine by maintaining cordial relations with local governments, while Zionist leaders urged the administration to support the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine as part of a broader policy of support for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine (Miller, 2013). The US administration

appears to have struggled to resist Zionist pressure and eventually gave in to Jewish demands by supporting the creation of the State of Israel. It was also thought that forming a US-friendly state in an area with the world's largest oil reserves would be in the best interests of the US. On the other hand, on February 14, 1945, President Roosevelt met with King Ibn of Saud and guaranteed him that the US would do nothing to aid Jews in their battle against the Nazis, while simultaneously acknowledging that he did not feel he could speak for the Arab world. Several Arab leaders have also refused to meet with Jewish leaders for the same reason. As a result, the US government was forced to make a difficult decision. Oil lobbyists, for example, pressed the administration for support in the region by maintaining friendly relations with local governments, while Zionist leaders urged the administration to support the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine as part of a broader policy of support for a Jewish state in Palestine. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was a fervent believer in the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine, as well as the right of Jews to immigrate to the US in whatever number. The US Department of State attempted to ease the issue by reiterating President Obama's promise to King Ibn Saud and other Arab leaders that the US would not take any action relating to Palestine without consulting the Arab world first, which sparked considerable public indignation. Roosevelt's death, on the other hand, on April 12, 1945, signaled the beginning of a new chapter in US Middle East strategy. President Roosevelt pursued the strategy of full engagement with both Arabs and Jews before making decisions on the Palestine issue until his death in 1945 (Hahn, 2005). In 1962, David Niles, a White House assistant on minority affairs at the time, argued that the State of Israel would almost probably not have existed if President Franklin D. Roosevelt had lived longer.

The United States and Palestine's Partition

The UN General Assembly formed a Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) with the aim of accumulating information on the conflict's various facets, as

outlined in Chapter 2. The committee presented its report to the UN General Assembly on September 3, 1947, recommending that Palestine be divided into two distinct states, one for Jews and one for Arabs. In any case, the US' aid was required for the partition resolution to gain triumph status in the General Assembly, which required a two-thirds majority. The resolution would not have passed if it hadn't been for this. In the end, 33 individuals voted in favor of the resolution, thirteen people voted against it, and two people did not vote (Hahn, 1999).

On the same day that the State of Israel was established, US President Harry Truman wrote a letter to the US delegation to the UN, in which he stated: "This Government has been informed that a Jewish state has been established in Palestine, and that the country's provisional government has requested recognition (Hahn, 1999). The US has acknowledged the interim administration as the de facto authority of the young State of Israel." The US' hasty recognition of Israel exacerbated already strained relations between the US and Arab countries. The Arabs saw the US' help as a clear violation of the country's long-stated policy of non-intervention and support for self-determination.

President Eisenhower and the Baghdad Pact, 1955

US policymakers noticed the growing Pan-Arab sentiment in the Middle East near the conclusion of Eisenhower's presidency. The US approach in the region was reevaluated after President John F. Kennedy was inaugurated in 1961. The new administration nominated John Badean as Ambassador to Egypt because he had a high reputation among Arabs and had previously served as President of the American University of Cairo. President John F. Kennedy expressed a strong desire to improve US relations with both Israel and the rising nationalist Arab states, especially Nasser's Egypt (Ashton, 1993). During Kennedy's early years, new thought in the US was that the US should have a good relationship with Third World forces that would have a decisive say

in regional and global affairs in the future. In the case of the Arab world, this meant that the US should take steps to enlist the support of progressive forces like Egypt. The US government was unconcerned about Iraqi control over Kuwait since Kuwait was considerably more important to the British than it was to the US at the time. Because British forces were stationed in Kuwait, the country's independence was meant to be safeguarded (Ashton, 1993). Kuwait was able to quickly replace the British forces with a mixed Arab contingent due to good relations between Kuwait and the other Arab states, avoiding internal and Arab public criticism. However, while the new image of US-Arab ties was still developing, the Yemen civil war and Egyptian forces' later intervention added additional elements.

When Crown Prince Al-Badr was announced as Yemen's new Imam on September 20, 1962, after Iman Ahmad was alleged to have died of natural causes on September 19, 1962, the Yemen crisis began. A rebellion against the Imamate was organized a few days later by the Free Yemen Party and other liberal army organizations, with Abdullah Al-Sallal, a former army officer, emerging as the leader of the ultimately triumphant revolution. The new Imam, Al-Badr, as well as other royal family members and numerous tribe supporters, had fled to the northern highlands near the Saudi border as well as inside Saudi Arabia. King Saud, who was hostile to Abdullah Al-Authority, began to lend support to the Imam in the northern highlands in recovering the Imamate. It was also antagonistic to the incoming US administration, which had previously had cordial relations with Saudi Arabia. The US, which had strained ties with Egypt's president, opposed Nasser's rule. Between the British protectorate of Eden and Yemen, which was located to the south, a series of border skirmishes occurred. Furthermore, the new authorities refused to recognize the British enclaves built in the early nineteenth century in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula by the British. Following these occurrences, the UK began to worry about its ability to maintain a colonial presence in the region. As a result, the UK supported the Imam and Saudi Arabia while opposing the new government in power. Following that, President Nasser had to choose between accepting the strangling of Yemen's pro-Nasser

republic or offering aid to the newly founded Republic of Yemen. Nasser, on the other hand, chose the second choice. The Royalists launched an onslaught on republican strongholds in Yemen's northern area after the revolution. On October 4, 1962, President Al-Sallal ordered a huge deployment of troops to combat the rebel forces. Republican forces were fighting Saudi Arabian soldiers at Yemen's northern border three days later. The United States' failure to recognize the new Yemen has been warned that postponing recognition of the country could undermine the country's interests in the region. Meanwhile, with the help of the Saudi army, the Royalists took nearly entire control of the northern region and began marching southward. After receiving a request for aid from Yemeni President Abdullah Al-Sallal, Egyptian President Nasser dispatched 30,000 troops to the country to assist President Al-Sallal. Egypt's military troops were unable to bring the war to a close. Yemen descended into civil war as the Egyptian army used air power, tanks, and other sophisticated weapons to destabilize the Yemeni government. In the meantime, the Yemen civil war became a part of the cold war both inside and outside UN institutions, with Arab progressive governments led by Egypt and backed by the Soviet Union on one side and Arab conservative governments led by Saudi Arabia and backed by the US and Britain on the other. On October 4, 1962, President Al-Sallal ordered a mass mobilization of forces to combat the insurgents, and three days later, Republican forces were fighting Saudi Arabian forces on Yemen's northern border. Yemen's Deputy Premier cautioned that the United States' failure to recognize the new Yemen could harm American interests in the country (Ashton, 1993). Meanwhile, with the support of the Saudi army, the Royalists took nearly complete control of the north and began advancing south. When Abdullah Al-Sallal requested assistance from Egypt, President Nasser dispatched 30,000 troops to Yemen to assist him. The Egyptian troops, however, were insufficient to put an end to the conflict. Yemen then descended into civil war, with the Egyptian army employing air power, tanks, and other sophisticated weapons. The civil war in Yemen started as a result of Egypt's progressive government and the Soviet bloc's backing for the Soviet Union, as well as Saudi Arabia's conservative government and the US and UK's support for Saudi

Arabia. On October 25, 1962, US President John F. Kennedy told Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince that the US was completely committed to maintaining the country's geographic integrity. President Nasser was fully aware that no strike on the Saudi regime would be tolerated by the US, no matter how successful his clients were in Yemen (Ashton, 1993). Indeed, the US assurance to Saudi Arabia came after the failure of the US to broker a truce between Egypt and Saudi Arabia and their Yemeni customers. Despite his intention to enhance relations with progressive Arab nations, Kennedy was unable to overlook Saudi Arabia's pro-American stance and US interest in Saudi oil.

Soon after, the US became involved in the Yemen issue, fearing that the pro-Nasser regime's victory would lead to instability in Saudi Arabia, where the US had significant oil interests. Any instability in Saudi Arabia may bring down King Hussein's pro-Western regime, and the US would lose control of the whole Middle East. After three months of deliberation, the US finally recognized Yemen's republican authority on December 19, 1962, in circumstances that were criticized as being too late to make allies and too early to be safe. Before the US would recognize the new regime, it had to meet certain criteria. According to a piece of the recognition statement, the US government is pleased by the Yemen Arab Republic's statesmanlike appeal to Yemenis in bordering areas to be law-abiding citizens and acknowledges its understanding to honor all treaties established by previous Yemeni administrations. This includes reciprocal pledges in the Treaty of Sana that neither party will meddle in the internal affairs of the other party across the existing international border dividing Yemen from territories under British protection (Ashton, 1993).

As external forces backing Yemen, to demonstrate its willingness to engage in a mutual disengagement and phased withdrawal of military from Yemen. The royalists depart the border and receive no external support; Washington provides a hearty welcome to the United Arab Republic (UAR). Because of these pronouncements, the US has chosen to recognize the government of the Yemen Arab Republic today. They believe that this will bring the Yemen conflict to an end. In fact, the US appeared to be explicitly

protecting the interests of both the UK and Saudi Arabia as grounds for recognizing the new regime (Ashton, 1993).

Kennedy's Policy in The Middle East

US policymakers began to take notice of the increasing Pan-Arab enthusiasm in the Arab world as the Eisenhower administration came to a close in 1961. In 1961, with the start of the Kennedy administration, the US' foreign policy in the area was reevaluated and revised. Since John Badean had a solid reputation among Arabs and had previously served as president of the American University of Cairo, the new government chose him to be the ambassador to Egypt. While in office, President Kennedy expressed a strong desire to improve the US' relations with Israel as well as with the emerging nationalist Arab nations, especially Egypt under Nasser. Developing tight ties with those elements in the Third World that would have a decisive say in regional and global politics in the future was a new way of thinking in the US during the early years of Kennedy's presidency. This was widely accepted during Kennedy's first term. Specifically, this meant that the US should operate in such a manner that progressive powers such as Egypt would come to its side in the Arab world. It was not a major worry for the American administration that Iraq had gained control over Kuwait at the time, since Kuwait was at the time much more important to the UK than it was to the US. Because British forces were stationed in Kuwait, it was expected that the country would make the first moves to maintain the country's independence. Kuwait was able to replace the British soldiers with a mixed Arab contingent in a relatively short amount of time due to favorable ties between Kuwait and the other Arab states. As a result, Kuwait was able to escape internal and Arab public criticism. As a result of the civil war in Yemen and the following Egyptian military involvement in the country added fresh dimensions to a new picture of US-Arab ties that was only beginning to take hold. At a meeting with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia on October 25, 1962, President Kennedy informed him that the US would provide unwavering support for the country's geographical integrity. With Washington's support for Saudi Arabia, President Nasser

received a clear warning from Washington that no attack on the Saudi government would be tolerated, even if his clients were successful in Yemen. In actuality, the US' pledge to Saudi Arabia stemmed from the US' inability to arrange a cease-fire between Egyptian forces and Saudi forces and their Yemeni allies. While President John F. Kennedy wished to improve relations with progressive Arab countries, he could not ignore Saudi Arabia's pro-American posture and the US' interest in Saudi Arabian oil. Soon after, the US became involved in the Yemen conflict, anticipating that a win for the pro-Nasser government in Yemen would cause instability in Saudi Arabia, where the US has large oil and natural resource interests. Any instability in Saudi Arabia has the potential to topple King Hussein's pro-Western government and, with it, the US' hegemony over the Middle East. On December 19, 1962, after three months of consideration, the US eventually recognized republican rule in Yemen, despite the fact that it was too late to gain allies and too soon to be safe. A number of conditions had to be met before the US would recognize the new administration. A section of the recognition statement is as follows: "It is with delight that the US government recognizes the Yemen Arab Republic's statesmanlike call for law-abiding individuals in bordering regions, as well as its understanding to honor all previous Yemeni governments' agreements with the US" (Bass, 2004). The Treaty of Sanaa, agreed with the British government in 1934, ensures that neither party will engage in the affairs of the other beyond the existing international line separating Yemen from British-protected territory. Foreign troops supporting Yemen's royalists have been evacuated from the border, and the US administration welcomes the United Arab Republic's announcement that it is willing to engage in a reciprocal disengagement and a phased withdrawal of troops from Yemen. The US has ratified its recognition of the Yemeni government as of today (December 19), thinking that these pronouncements will lay the groundwork for ending the crisis in Yemen. When it came to the requirements for recognizing the new government, the US was plainly keeping an eye on both the UK and Saudi Arabia.

President Johnson and The Stabilization of the Middle East

During his first term as president, Lyndon B. Johnson made it a mission to keep the region's political tranquility to the maximum extent possible. He was ecstatic that he was able to retain cordial relations with traditionally conservative countries such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan while simultaneously working with traditionally progressive countries such as Egypt, Syria, and Iraq. In addition, he provided Israel with continuous financial and military backing on a regular basis in order to maintain the region's power dynamic. President Lyndon B. Johnson stated during a visit to the US capital by Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in February 1964 that the US supported "the territorial integrity and political independence of all countries in the Middle East, as well as firm opposition to aggression and the use of force or the threat of force against any country." While Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol was in the US, Johnson made this statement (Shelby, 2021.) Israel's President Shazar delivered a speech that was quite similar to this one during his visit to the US capital.

The United States and Its Foreign Policy in Relation to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The conflict between Israelis and Palestinians over the holy land has been one of the most difficult to resolve in any place in the world since its inception. Despite the fact that it has always been a firm supporter of Israel, the US has long sought a diplomatic solution to the conflict. A two-state solution has been called for by a number of prior US administrations as a viable method to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The US has made achieving a wide range of interconnected goals in the Middle East a priority since the dawn of time. Securing key energy resources, blocking the development of Soviet and Iranian influence, protecting Israel and its Arab allies, battling terrorism, and advancing democracy are among these objectives. The US did

not recognize Israel as an independent entity until 1948, making it the first country in the world to do so. As a result, the US government has been working to find a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian issue, which has played a major role in influencing the dynamics of the area, in order to achieve these strategic goals while continuing to support Israel. The US has attempted to act as a mediator between Israel's and Palestinians' clashing interests. As a result of its role as an intermediary, the US has been able to exert influence and facilitate conversation between the two parties. Both Israelis and Palestinians desire two independent states separated by internationally recognized borders. The establishment of a two-state solution is the cornerstone of these talks. The US has been a proponent of a two-state solution since 1948, which Coen (2010) believes is both necessary for the warring parties and promotes the US's regional interests in terms of long-term peace and security. Nonetheless, the US' diplomatic efforts under Donald Trump's administration to broker a peaceful conclusion and advance a two-state solution have been rebuffed. This trend may be seen in the move of the US embassy to Jerusalem and the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The two-state solution has been jeopardized as a result of President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as both Israel's and Palestinians' capital. This move flies in the face of decades of international agreement and diplomatic attempts to keep Jerusalem neutral. As a result of its occurrence, this action shattered any pretense of objectivity and harmed the US' function as a mediator.

CHAPTER IV

The Deal of the Century and its Ramifications on Palestine

The previous chapter of this thesis looked at the United States (US)' foreign policy towards the Middle East region, with a focus on the Israeli-Palestinian issue. Before Trump's "Deal of the Century," the US had spent years trying to find a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian problem, which eventually led to the creation of two states as a realistic solution to the impasse. The following is the thesis's principal research issue, which will be discussed in this chapter: What are the repercussions of the Trump administration's decision to move the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem on US foreign policy in the future with relation to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? What impact will the "Deal of the Century" (2021) have on the two countries' strategy for resolving their differences or reaching an agreement? Why does Jerusalem hold such a particular place in the hearts of Israelis and Palestinians alike? This chapter argues that the US has been rendered practically incapable of negotiating as a natural party in the Israel-Palestine conflict as a result of a fundamental shift in US foreign policy toward the conflict. This transition occurred in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Trump's Administration: A Shift in US Foreign Policy

Immediately after World War II, the Middle East was elevated to a position of paramount importance in US foreign policy, with the primary focus being on the design of the most effective tactics for restraining the Soviet Union's aggressive expansionism. The US used all of its efforts to prevent Russia from filling the power vacuum produced by the disappearance of the former colonial powers as a direct result of the slow decline of the former colonial powers. The US has amassed a significant amount of global influence over the course of several decades by using its unequaled diplomatic, military, economic, and ideological might. The goal of American foreign policy is to actively

defend democratic ideals, and the country's leaders have used their power to achieve this goal. The US also created international organizations and alliances to aid in the management of ties with other major economies, the maintenance of home and global security, and the mobilization of political support for key foreign policy objectives. These are only a few of the objectives that the US has set for itself in terms of foreign policy. In the end, these efforts enabled the US to establish itself as a global power with the unique ability to influence and direct the course of events on a global scale. In light of these factors, each prior US government has taken a more cautious stance and carefully positioned the country's foreign policy. Nonetheless, in stark contrast to previous administrations' practices, President Donald Trump's administration chose a course of action that was wildly different from the norm. The Trump administration's policies and actions have damaged the foundation of the US' strength and influence around the world. As a direct result of President Trump's refusal to address or willfully choosing to ignore key foreign crises, the US has been reduced to the role of a spectator in world events. President Trump's personal conduct, domestic political concerns, and relationships with other international leaders have a greater impact on national security decisions in the US than the country's basic interests. The US had been striving for a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian dispute for years before Trump's "Deal of the Century," and the two-state solution was the pinnacle of their efforts (Newman & Yacobi, 2004). Significant issues that affect the US have been ignored and dismissed by President Trump because they do not fit into his limited understanding of how the world operates. As a result, he has missed opportunities to address these concerns. In contrast to earlier global disasters, such as the outbreak of Ebola, the US, led by President Donald Trump, played a little part in the global response.

Despite the fact that North Korea's nuclear and missile programs are larger and more capable than they were before Trump took office, President Trump has stated that the country is no longer a nuclear threat. Following his declaration that his government would withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), President Donald Trump said he would work to find a "true, comprehensive, and long-lasting

solution to the Iranian nuclear threat" (Newman and Yacobi, 2004, pp; 24) Iran is now much closer to obtaining a nuclear weapon than it was before Trump took office, and as a result of his behavior, the US has been left alone with no credible strategy or solution in sight. Former US presidents have attempted in the past to portray their country as a model of what can be accomplished when a society is founded on democratic ideals and offers its inhabitants the right to freedom of expression. When it comes to topics like civil liberties and the rule of law, there is a clear divide between those who support President Trump and those who oppose him. Many allies of the US have questioned the values of the US and the legitimacy of his presidency as a result of domestic policies such as separating families, reducing the number of refugees admitted to the US, attacking the rule of law and press freedom, and failing to stand up for racial equality. Taking into account all of these factors, authoritarian leaders regarded the rejection of these ideals as an opportunity to strengthen their grip on power, therefore they exploited the situation by doing everything they could to profit from it.

In light of these factors, Trump's move not only affected the US' internal capabilities, but it also weakened its support for or influence toward democracy across the world. UN diplomats have complained that their foreign counterparts haven't taken their concerns about human rights and rule of law seriously under Trump's administration. Diplomats didn't often hold this view. Others reminisced about the discomfort of trying to promote journalistic freedom abroad while being constrained by "baggage" in Washington. They concluded that there was no "Trump ideology," but rather "malign disdain of relationships, indifference to values," and an "insidious thematic message" because of the inability of American diplomats to properly promote "America First" around the world (Donald, 2015). For both the US and the global community, President Trump's foreign policy has resulted in short-term and long-term harm to national security. America's global standing is delicately poised. American diplomacy struggled to defend the values that the US has been preaching throughout the world for decades when Trump was president. Trump's rejection of democracy has contributed to the rise of authoritarian tendencies in other countries, such as ISIS.

Trump adopted a foreign policy in line with his election campaign promise to prioritize American interests above everything else. He withdraws from important international accords on climate change, weapons control, and Iran while renegotiating US trade agreements, quarrelling with US allies, enacting new immigration restrictions, and starting a tariff war with China. Trump was a skeptic of international institutions. Trump has made an effort to attack China over what he claims to be a number of economic abuses, including export subsidies, currency manipulation, theft of intellectual property, and economic espionage. According to Trump, swift action was necessary to safeguard American workers, close the country's enormous bilateral trade imbalance, and hold China responsible as the coronavirus epidemic has shown. Additionally, Trump expressed concerns about whether human activity is to blame for climate change and constantly questioned the science behind it. He pushed for increased domestic production of fossil fuels and accelerated the repeal of environmental laws put in place by his predecessors. Additionally, Trump opposed leading a significant government effort to combat the rare coronavirus illness COVID-19 and often minimized its danger. He first claimed that the virus's propagation in the country was under control, despite intelligence services and health professionals having warned of a pandemic that would start in January 2020. Since March, Trump has presided over a piecemeal national response, handing off several critical initiatives to state governors. This has included travel restrictions, unheard-of attempts to produce vaccines, and support for trillion-dollar economic stimulus programs. However, experts claim that despite Trump's disputes with national health authorities and pressure on states and communities to speed up reopening timetables, the administration has continuously failed to advocate for vital public health safeguards. By the summer, the United States was the least effective developed nation, and fresh outbreaks throughout the country once again threatened to overwhelm regional health systems. Trump has advocated for a strategy that includes stepped-up domestic surveillance, more drone usage in the Middle East and Africa, and stricter restrictions on immigration and refugee admissions. All of these policies, in Trump's opinion, were intended to reestablish America as the world's

preeminent power, guarantee American interests abroad, and safeguard American national security.

US Foreign Policy Toward the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

An issue that has divided successive American administrations for decades is Israel's occupation of Palestinian territory (the "Israeli-Palestinian conflict"). The US' foreign policy is based on two fundamental pillars: denying Palestinian statehood and focusing solely on the Palestinian refugee crisis, as well as political, economic, and military assistance for Israel and its Jewish heritage.

Bringing the Palestinian side to the table and encouraging them to begin discussions with Israel on the issues that were murky and ambiguous and could therefore be readily exploited in the future was the American approach to peace talks. However, although not really acknowledging or supporting the Palestinian stance on any of those problems, prior US administrations did at least rhetorically accept them, nod symbolically in agreement, and attempt to convince the PNA to reach an agreement with Israel. The pro-Israel policies of the Trump administration have undone earlier peace initiatives that had used a more balanced strategy. The Trump Administration attempted to impose its own model for a peace accord rather than guiding the two sides to a compromise under American auspices. Trump's approach to the lengthy political impasse between Israel and the Palestinians would suggest if there has been continuity or change. In contrast to the UN and the EU, Trump declared the "deal of the century," and the majority of the international community also embraced a view of conflict resolution that may find a compromise between the Israeli and Palestinian interests. Another issue was that Trump gave the job of creating the peace plan to his son-in-law, Jared Kushner. Another barrier to peace is Kushner's tight links to Jewish groups in the Knesset and the United States.

The US Denial of a Palestinian State

As per widespread opinion, classical realism places a strong emphasis on human nature. This idea is laid out rather explicitly in the first principle of political realism, which states that "politics, like society in general, is regulated by objective rules that have their origins in human nature" (Morgenthau, 1956: 4). According to Morgenthau, the struggle for power on the international level is largely the result of *animus dominandi*, which is the urge of 'political men' to dominate others. This concept was influenced by Nietzsche's metaphysics on the 'will to power,' and it is referred to as the 'political man's urge to dominate others (Peterson, 1999: 100-101). He sees the state as a collective mirror of political man's hunger for power and the unit that carries out its impulses on the world arena. He also sees the state as a collective reflection of political man's lust for power. This highlights Morgenthau's reliance on the unit level since the state is both the referent object of Morgenthau's theory and the actor that pursues power in international politics. The third picture appears in Morgenthau's portrayal of the fight for power as well. Competition for power is not the root cause of anarchy; rather, it is one of the most important permissive forces. Due to the lack of a global governing body, there are no limits placed on man's innate urge to exercise dominance over other people, which is mirrored in the actions of states (Shimko, 1992: 290-293). In consideration of the ideas put forward by these realists, the fundamental interests of the US are the foundation upon which its strategic interests in the Middle East are built. The most essential of which is to improve its status in the globe and maintain its leading position in the international community. US attempts to retain its military dominance by creating defensive and military systems that guarantee control and negate the military capabilities of other major countries are part of the country's endeavor to preserve its leadership position in international politics and the world economy.

When we examine previous US administrations' policies on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we see that they have shown strong support for the Israeli state while rejecting Palestinian rights, most notably the right to self-determination. The

failure of successive US administrations to acknowledge that occupation, the displacement of millions of refugees, and the expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank are to blame for the majority of the events that have occurred in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has resulted in a fundamental flaw in US foreign policy. This fault is at the heart of a major flaw in US foreign policy. Official White House publications, such as President Richard Nixon's foreign policy paper, portray Palestinians as refugees rather than a country deserving of the status of a state when it comes to the US-Palestinian relationship. Even as the US was in talks with Palestinian refugees, it was clear that the administration's support for the refugees' right to return to their homeland was more verbal than substantive. Instead, they advocated for the construction of Palestinian settlements in countries bordering Arab countries. After the PLO was established as the sole legal representative of the Palestinian people, the US developed a hostile attitude toward it. The PLO is seen by the US as a terrorist group that poses a threat to regional peace. Following that, US governments adopted the same hostile stance toward the PLO as their predecessors, cutting off all lines of communication with the organization and shutting down its offices in an attempt to completely obliterate it. Despite this, as a result of the Palestinian uprising and the PLO's changing diplomatic approach, the Reagan administration chose to commence direct negotiations with the PLO. The Reagan administration's discussion channel yielded no results that could be considered important, therefore it was shut down just eight months after George H. W. Bush assumed office. However, because former President George H.W. Bush did not act until 1991, the PLO was not prevented from attending the International Peace Conference. In a nutshell, the Bush administration did everything it could to impede the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, statehood, and international recognition.

The Oslo Accords, which were hailed as a historic victory at the time, instilled hope in the Palestinian people. The Palestinian people's aspiration to form their own sovereign governments was recognized in the accords. The Agreements, on the other hand, have not been completely implemented since Israel has failed to fulfill its duties. One of these three fundamental variables can be related to one of the crucial elements

that led to Oslo's demise: To begin with, the Accords were fraught with ambiguity and lacked a firm legal foundation in international law theory. The documentation has a severe error in this area. Because openness and equity were critical to achieving the aims of the Accords, it was important to choose a neutral third party to oversee the peace process while also implementing specific monitoring and accountability measures. Because it coordinated its position with Israel's and enabled Israel to set the pace for the discussions, the US was unable to establish itself as a credible mediator. Second, at no point during the process was a timetable for implementing the various phases of the Accords established. The end result was a series of failed attempts to keep the parties in communication during the negotiation process. Israeli military, on the other hand, has never actually left the West Bank. Furthermore, the Israeli government lacked the political will to see that the agreement was implemented in accordance with its terms. For example, the Likud Party's leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, went to great lengths to sabotage the Oslo peace process. Ehud Barak, the previous head of Israel's Labor Party and its prime minister, was equally vehement about the need to stop the construction of illegal settlements, which he saw as a major roadblock to peace. Israel and the Palestinians have a significant power imbalance, which may have led to Israel's unwillingness to make concessions to the Palestinians. Some analysts believe that both sides' leaders share some of the blame for the failure since they were unable to persuade a large portion of the general public to support the Oslo process. Israeli-Palestinian security cooperation has been one of the most sensitive and controversial issues in the Middle East and North Africa region since the start of the Oslo peace process in 1993. Despite the fact that the peace process and discussions have been put on pause, security coordination continues despite the lack of a cease-fire agreement. Despite Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas's assertion that security coordination is "sacred" and in keeping with "Palestinian national interests," many other Palestinians oppose the PNA's ongoing existence for a variety of reasons (Migdalovitz, 2007). The most crucial of these reasons is that the PNA runs counter to Palestinian national interests, and Palestinians want it to disappear. They regard security coordination as the first step

toward cooperation because it allows them to legitimize their occupation. As a result, they place a great value on this phase. In regards to the second point, Israel has violated every single requirement of the Oslo Accords and continues to use lethal force against civilians, which is a clear violation of the Oslo process. Furthermore, Israel continues to construct settlements in occupied Palestinian territory. The PNA has threatened to end security cooperation in the past, but has never followed through. Many Palestinians believe that this political attitude undermines the legitimacy of the Palestinian National Authority, which many Palestinians regard as a barrier to resistance. In truth, the US government's participation went beyond the requirements of the Oslo Accords. President Bill Clinton made a concerted effort to revive the Camp David II Peace Process during his presidency, but the endeavor was ultimately unsuccessful. The PNA stated unequivocally that Israel must adhere to international agreements, including evacuating from occupied territory and allowing refugees to return home. Clinton blamed Arafat for the failure of the peace talks while praising Barak. This was despite Israel's withdrawal from the agreement and its refusal to comply with nearly every obligation. The US' ostensible support for a Palestinian state hasn't translated into any serious progress toward peace because the US hasn't made a genuine commitment to a two-state solution. Furthermore, George W. Bush's administration was hostile to any Israeli-Palestinian solution that required Israeli concessions, as well as the idea of establishing a Palestinian state on Israeli-occupied land in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Bush administration's all suggested peace proposals were ineffective because they were only symbolic and lacked a practical strategy for putting them into action. In a similar vein, President Obama's foreign policy included refraining from applying political pressure to Israel, rejecting Palestinian UN membership, and backing Israeli demands for Palestinian acknowledgement of Israel's Jewish identity. It is critical that the nation of Israel receives any and all assistance possible. The US has been a staunch backer of the Zionist cause since Woodrow Wilson assumed office as President of the United States in 1919. Despite the fact that fourteen of Wilson's principles support the right to self-determination, Wilson backed the Zionist movement, which denied

Palestinians the right. Wilson's own opinions are contradicted by this. This was demonstrated by his support for the Balfour Declaration even before it was made official (Levene, 1992). In terms of their foreign policy, successive American administrations have taken a hard line towards the Palestinian cause. In response to the catastrophic calamity that resulted in the displacement of thousands of Jews, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said in 1944 that the people of the US and the administration of that country support the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. By founding the Anglo-American Committee, Harry S. Truman, continued the administration's antagonistic approach toward the Zionist cause. This committee pushed for the creation of a Jewish state and urged other countries to follow suit. President Truman, died in December 1972. The White House formally recognized Israel only eleven minutes after the Truman Administration announced its decision. This happened during Truman's presidency. During their speeches, US officials also avoided mentioning Israel's withdrawal from the occupied West Bank. President Lyndon B. Johnson, for example, swore solemnly that Israel would not be forced to withdraw from any of the countries it had just won as a result of the war unless it was compensated with peace. Israel's principal source of support has been the US' assistance in the realms of politics, money, and the military. The UN considers the political and military partnership between the US and Israel to be among the most powerful in the world. The US' political support for Israel stems in part from worries about the region's geopolitics, as well as those over Palestine. The fact that the US and Israel share comparable principles, interests, and general objectives in the Middle East is one of the most important aspects of the alliance. Furthermore, both the US and Israel are committed to maintaining regional peace. According to the prevailing political paradigm in the US, Israel is the sole democracy in the Middle East. In a region rife with failed or failing regimes, as well as ideologies hostile to American hegemony, Israel functions as an ideologically crucial ally. Furthermore, the US and Israel share a strategic perspective based on a shared understanding of the region's challenges and threats.

During the Cold War, Israel was a crucial ally for the US in its effort to contain the Soviet menace. Since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Israel and the US have collaborated in the battle against terrorism. The perceived threat presented by Iran is currently pulling the two countries closer together in order to collaborate in this area. Second, one of the most significant aspects of the working relationship between the two governments has always been the flow of information. In terms of the Middle East, Israel is a vital source of human intelligence for the US. The National Security Agency of the US and Israel's Unit 8200, both widely considered as key intelligence agencies around the world, work on a range of subjects, including weapon proliferation, terrorism, and Iran's nuclear program. The headquarters of each of these organizations are in the United States. Since Richard Nixon's inauguration as President of the US in 1969, the US has used its veto power in the United Nations Security Council to oppose any resolution condemning Israel's treatment of Palestinians (UNSC). The Reagan Administration used its right to veto resolutions before the United Nations Security Council on at least eighteen occasions to protect Israel from criticism from other countries. The Carter administration declared the settlements to be unlawful since they were in violation of international law; however, the Reagan administration upheld the settlements' legality and rejected the Carter resolution (Reich, 1984). In a similar vein, George H.W. Bush prioritized deterring threats against Israel and used his veto authority to prevent any resolution condemning Israel's treatment of Palestinians from becoming law. Until 2019, the US used its veto power 44 times to block draft resolutions relating to Israel that were being considered for approval by the UN Security Council. The UN Security Council was unable to approve resolutions denouncing Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights as a result of these vetoes. Only under Barack Obama's presidency did the United States withdraw its support for United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334, which denounced Israeli settlements on the West Bank. The historical relations between the US and Israel, which extend back to the US's backing for Israel's founding, have been greatly enhanced, thanks in large part to the US's providing of financial aid to Israel in the form of foreign aid. The US gives significant

economic support to Israel; nevertheless, the great majority of bilateral assistance provided to Israel comes in the form of military assistance. Since 2011, the US has given out around \$3 billion in grants to various groups on a yearly basis. Since 2017, the US has boosted the amount of foreign aid it provides to Israel to more than \$3.8 billion, demonstrating its commitment to Israel's defense and security. For a long time, Israel has been reliant on financial aid from the US in order to purchase pricey weapon systems made in the US. Israel was able to develop its own domestic defense sector with the assistance of the US military, resulting in Israel being one of the world's leading weapons exporters.

The Camp David Accords and US Policy Shifts

As a result of Israel's stubbornness and Henry Kissinger's failed peace efforts, relations between the US and Israel deteriorated in the early 1970s, particularly during Gerald Ford's presidency. This enraged President Ford, whose country's interests were at odds with Israel's at the time. President Ford was enraged. Ford sent a letter to the Israeli government in 1975 to persuade them to reconsider US policies. The US government has called off talks about providing financial and military assistance to Israel. According to President Obama's directives, he also urged his administration's top Middle Eastern diplomats and military commanders to find a new way to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Carter stood out when it came to resolving the conflict. Prior to his presidency, there was no official American plan to build a Palestinian homeland. This attitude, however, would be quickly replaced by another. Following the signing of the "Sinai agreement," US policy shifted to favoring Israel. To begin, the US promised Israel \$2 billion in annual funding, access to the most advanced American weapons, and fulfillment of its oil import requirements. Furthermore, the US stated unequivocally that it would not negotiate with or recognize the PLO as long as the organization refused to acknowledge

Israel's right to exist and refused to recognize UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. To create a comprehensive peace, more than merely ending the war at the time was required. For peace to be accomplished in the future, Arabs must recognize not just the existence of Israel, but also the fact that normal ties between the countries, such as trade and peaceful contacts between citizens, are required. In exchange for peace, Israel would be compelled to return to the borders it held prior to 1967, with some minor boundary revisions allowed to protect Israel's safety. The construction of demilitarized zones and the stationing of Israeli military soldiers in Arab lands outside of Israel's political borders are two possible alternatives. In this regard, President Jimmy Carter followed in the footsteps of his predecessors. Instead, he conducted a campaign centered on staunch support for Israel and anti-Palestinian sentiment. This was the foundation of his campaign. Throughout Carter's campaign, Kissinger declared repeatedly that "no discussions with the PLO until it accepts UN Resolution 242 and Israel's right to exist." (Asseburg, 2019) Carter visited Israel while serving as governor of Georgia. Despite being politically active, a devoted Christian, and an enthusiastic defender of the Jewish state, he has never wavered in his unshakable support for the Jewish state. While Carter was president of the US, they attempted to negotiate a peace deal between Israel and the Arab world, which culminated in the Camp David Accords, which were signed as a result of their efforts. Between Egypt and Israel, as well as Egypt and the rest of the Arab world, there was a tentative agreement for a peace treaty. The only item that came out of the so-called "Framework for Peace" was an Egyptian-Israeli peace accord. Due to the lack of Palestinian representation in the writing process, this pact was designed with ambiguities and a significant degree of uncertainty. The deal clearly shows that Carter's claim that Palestinian national rights were incorporated into it was incorrect. At the Camp David meeting, none of the three parties there were willing to make any concessions on Palestinian issues. The Palestinian people's fundamental right to self-determination is not mentioned at all in this "Framework for Peace." According to Carter, Palestine has been suffering from adversity for a long time. Palestinian refugees were entitled to their own country. "The establishment and resolution of a Palestinian

homeland, as well as the refugee situation, are vital," he said during a press conference. He also noted that finding a solution to the Palestinian issue is critical. Carter recognized the importance of Palestinian participation in the US's continuous attempts to achieve peace. On the one hand, Israel's obstinacy and, on the other, the demands of Zionism impeded his thoughts and perspectives. As a result of this, the US policy towards the Palestinians changed dramatically during Carter's presidency. Carter, as President of the United States, made the most efforts to bring the conflict to a close. Prior to his presidency, the US had no clear strategy to establish a Palestinian state. The Geneva Conference, on the other hand, failed to create any agreements that would bring the war to a conclusion. Carter left office without making any progress in resolving the issue between Israel and the Arab states. Ronald Reagan, the former president, had a distinct perspective on the battle. Ronald Reagan expressed his opposition to both the establishment of a Palestinian state and Israel's annexation of territory it had previously seized in his inaugural address on September 1, 1982. Reagan stated unequivocally that the US government supports a link between the West Bank, Gaza, and Jordan. Both Jordan's King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu declined to negotiate, leaving the Palestinians without a representative in the discussions. Despite this, the US' foreign policy remained unchanged until 1988 (Bagley, 1988).

According to statements made by US Secretary of State George Schultz, the federal government would begin serious talks with PLO representatives by the end of the year. Once Yasser Arafat had agreed to the terms laid forth by the United States, which included recognizing UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and renouncing terrorism, the Organization's envoy in Tunisia would lead the discussion. According to the Schultz Initiative, Israeli and Palestinian-Jordanian negotiators should meet to discuss the Palestinian question as follows:

- Holding an international conference in April 1988 to lay the groundwork for negotiations;

- Negotiating a six-month period of autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including elections; and
- Negotiating the final status of the territories with the Arabs, Israel, and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

The PLO issued a statement supporting UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognizing Israel's right to exist, both of which were rejected by Israel (Rabie, 1992). During the 48 PLO negotiations, there was no intention of finding a fair solution to the Israeli-Palestinian problem. Instead, to avert further escalation, the PLO was urged to put a stop to the revolt and renounce its status as the sole legitimate representative of Palestinians. As a result, the US played a key role in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict that erupted after the October 1973 war. However, it is unclear whether the US' effort toward a peaceful conclusion was driven by a real desire for peace. The success of Egypt in the October war, the start of the Palestinian intifada, and the difficulties of putting an end to it were all factors that contributed to its occurrence. Israel's interests, security, and basic survival were secured as a result of a shift in US policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict and a real desire for peace in the region. This was given precedence above the goal for a just and comprehensive Middle East peace. The US government's activities include, but are not limited to, withdrawing from Ronald Reagan's proposal, pressuring the PLO to recognize Israel as a precondition for talks, and refusing to establish a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Trump Administration's Foreign Policy towards the Israel-Palestinian Conflict

Trump maintained a promise he made during his presidential campaign in 2016 to arbitrate a comprehensive peace agreement to end one of the world's longest and most intractable wars. There were differing views, both within and outside the US, on whether Donald Trump's stance on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict would signal a

continuance of current policies or a change of direction. Despite the fact that the details of the agreement were kept secret, Trump referred to it as the "bargain of the century." "Does the US have the political will to deliver peace?" and "Can the US' Middle East peace plan serve as the framework for an agreeable agreement between Israel and Palestine?" are two questions raised by these words. An approach to conflict resolution that sought a middle ground between Israel's and Palestine's different interests garnered widespread international backing. Not only the UN, but also the EU, lent their support. The vast majority of individuals deemed to be part of the mainstream believe that Israel should be forced to return to its borders from before 1967, or at least come very near to them, with only minor changes to accommodate Israeli concerns (Cavari, 2021). The most practical solution to the problem would be the creation of a Palestinian state, with East Jerusalem as its future capital. It is widely acknowledged that in order to reach an agreement with the Palestinians, Israel must first recognize the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland within Israel's pre- 1967 boundaries. This is a requirement for peace. This is considered as a critical step in reaching an agreement with the Palestinians, and it is being pursued accordingly. Despite repeated claims to the contrary, the contents of a Middle East peace pact have been a source of contention among the several administrations that have held power in the United States for a long time. Several delicate issues, such as Israel's border with the Palestinian National Authority, the boundaries of East Jerusalem's prospective role as the Palestinian Authority's capital, and the fate of refugees, were kept hidden from public view throughout that time period. Israel's border with the PNA-controlled area (Cavari, 2021). The American peace policy entailed getting the Palestinians to the negotiating table and pushing them to start talking to Israel about problems that were unknown and ambiguous at the time, but could be easily managed in the future. This was accomplished by encouraging and bringing the Palestinians to the table. This was accomplished by inviting Palestinians to the table and encouraging them to engage in dialogue with Israel on issues that were both unknown and unclear.

Former US administrations were successful in striking a peace agreement with Israel by openly addressing Palestinian concerns and showing support for the PNA's positions on a variety of controversial issues. As a result, the parties were able to go forward with their negotiations. On the other hand, this has not been the case during the current administration's tenure in office in the US. When Donald Trump was president, the US government decided to discard previous peace initiatives that had taken a more cautious approach in order to embrace a more pro-Israel stance. The Israeli Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, was the one who came up with Trump's peace proposal; the US administration, which had been responsible for guiding the two parties toward an equitable conclusion through the negotiation process, was not involved. The President of the United States has given Jared Kushner, a member of the Trump family and the President's son-in-law, the task of creating a peace plan. Jared Kushner poses yet another stumbling block in the Middle East peace process, because of his ties to Jewish lobbying groups in both the United States and Israel. As a direct result of Israel's recent political rightward shift, any plan submitted by the Knesset that puts an end to Palestinian national aspirations will be rejected by the Palestinian National Authority (Cavari, 2021). The implementation of numerous of Trump's programs has shown that these operations have the ability to worsen the situation on the ground while also increasing the likelihood of a long-term peace accord between the warring parties. The US Embassy in Israel was transferred from its original location in Tel Aviv to its new location in Jerusalem near the end of 2017, just a few months after President Trump took office (Spector, 2019). The decision outraged many in the US, as well as people in other countries around the world. Trump claims that previous US presidents' views, especially that relocating the US embassy to Jerusalem and refusing to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital would help the peace process, have stymied progress. Trump holds a different viewpoint than previous US presidents, who all believed that such actions would help the peace process (Cavari, 2021). President Trump made his official statement on Jerusalem during a reception for international guests that he was entertaining. Despite the president's description of it as a "long-overdue gesture," it was

unclear how proclaiming Jerusalem as Israel's capital would help advance the peace process or achieve a long-term deal in the Middle East (Cavari, 2021). The Trump administration came through for Palestinian refugees who had to rebuild their lives after their houses were destroyed as a direct result of Israel's 1948 occupation of Palestine. Nikki Haley, the former US Ambassador to the UN, stated in September 2018 that it is impossible for Palestinian refugees and their descendants to return to homes within Israel's borders prior to 1967. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) has been responsible with providing basic social services to about five million Palestinian refugees living in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon since 1948.

All of these locations are found in the Middle East (Yahaya, 2020). In an official statement, the US administration revealed that one of its agencies was in charge of putting pressure to the Palestinians in order to persuade them to resume peace talks with Israel. For a long time, the right of return of Palestinian refugees has been a major impediment to peace talks, and now the US has decided to stop funding UNRWA. Some academics believe that the present administration is actively working to undermine the legitimacy of Palestinian refugees' status, which they believe is a grave error. It has also been determined to stop providing assistance to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by the US (Spector, 2019). These actions have been widely seen as an attempt to put more pressure on the Palestinian Authority to join in negotiations with Israel and the White House ahead of the formal unveiling of the Middle East peace plan in September. Before the official introduction of the peace plan in September, this viewpoint already existed. In September 2018, the Trump administration made a similar move, claiming that the PLO had taken no significant steps to advance direct Israeli-PLO negotiations, that the PLO leadership had rejected the US peace plan and refused to participate in peace efforts, and that the PLO leadership had refused to engage in any way with the US government. This was done in response to Trump's accusation that the PLO leadership had rejected the US peace plan and refused to participate in peace talks. These accusations were made in the context of the Trump administration's assertion that the

PLO leadership had rejected the US peace plan and refused to participate in negotiations. It was "consistent with Administration and Congressional concerns regarding Palestinian efforts to push Israel to submit to an investigation by the International Criminal Court," according to a statement released by the US Department of State. It appears that the US government is retaliating against the PLO leadership for their attempt to have Israel investigated by the International Criminal Court (ICC). The PLO leadership attempted to have Israel investigated by the International Criminal Court (ICC). Representatives from the US have made it clear that the PNA will face consequences if it refuses to support the US position in any future peace agreement. As a result of increased Israeli settlement expansion in the West Bank, the peace process has been significantly hampered, and there is widespread doubt that it will ever succeed in reaching its aims. The Carter administration issued a legal opinion in 1978, claiming that Israeli settlements in the West Bank were illegal under international law because they were constructed without sufficient authority. This happened during Carter's tenure as president. Furthermore, in order to avoid a deadlock in the ongoing negotiations, the administration opposed the continuation of civilian settlement construction in the West Bank. When President Ronald Reagan took office after President Jimmy Carter, he did not declare Israeli settlement development "illegal," but rather "unnecessarily forceful." This came after President Jimmy Carter called settlements "illegal." In his remarks, Reagan made no mention of unlawful settlements. An occupying power is not allowed to "expel or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the zone it occupies," according to international law. This is a violation of the non-aggression principle. Regardless of these shifts, it cannot be overstated that the construction of new settlements in the West Bank is a flagrant violation of international law. This point cannot be overstated. Despite not explicitly rejecting the legal view established by the State Department in 1978, the US has kept its silence over the years, in contrast to the UN as well as other governments in Europe and the Arab world. The Trump administration effectively reversed the US position on Israeli settlements in the West Bank for the past four decades by announcing that the US would no longer adhere to the

legal opinion issued in 1978 and stating that Israeli civilian settlements in the West Bank were not inherently inconsistent with international law. As a result, the US has virtually become a supporter of Israeli settlements in the West Bank. This comment was issued in response to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's threat to seize the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the election campaign. By making this announcement, the US has not only made it easier for Israel to build new settlements, but it has also removed a fundamental roadblock to the Jewish state's annexation of Palestinian land. Following Israel's victory in the 1967 Six-Day War, the Golan Heights, which had previously been part of Syria, were seized by Israel and later incorporated into Israel in 1981. The UN Security Council (UNSC) declared in 1981 that "Israel's decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction, and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan Heights is null and illegal and lacks international legal legitimacy." 2015 (Ade-Ibijola). Previous administrations of the US believed the Golan Heights to be occupied land that legitimately belonged to Syria, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions. President Trump, on the other hand, is disobeying thirty years of US foreign policy by breaking international law. Trump's announcement that Israel has complete sovereignty over the Golan Heights set a precedent for future territorial claims by Israel as well as expansionist strategies in the region. If Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's current Prime Minister, is re-elected, he has made it plain that if he is re-elected, he plans to grab control of the Jordan Valley and the northern Dead Sea area, as well as Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. During a recent political campaign, he made this statement (Asseburg, 2019)).

At a news conference held on January 28, 2020 in the White House, President Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu revealed their "peace plan" (Asseburg, 2019). On the other hand, no official representative of the Palestinian authority was asked to attend the event. The plan can be dissected into its political, economic, and security aspects in order to establish how it can best assist Israel in achieving its objectives. It is possible to do this in order to determine how the plan may most effectively support Israeli aims. According to the political vision presented by the plan, in order for the Palestinians to be able to build a state, they will need to satisfy a

detailed list of prerequisites over the period of four years. Embargoes on Palestinian Islamic Jihad and Hamas arms sales, recognition of Israel as a Jewish state, refusal to join any international organization without Israel's consent, no legal action against Israel or the United States before the ICC or other tribunals, and suspension of welfare payments to the families of political prisoners are just a few of the demands made by the PA. Other demands include: recognition of Israel as a Jewish state; refusal to join any international organization without Israel's consent; and recognition of Israel (Ghanem, 2020). In addition, it is anticipated that the administration of the future Palestinian state will be devoid of corruption and will adhere to the greatest human rights standards that can be found anywhere in the world. Even in the event that all of the provisions mentioned in this agreement are completely implemented by the Palestinians, the Palestinian state that is being considered here would still be subject to international law and would only have limited and conditional sovereignty, if any at all. Jerusalem will undoubtedly continue to serve as Israel's capital notwithstanding whatever that may occur in the years to come. According to the plan, the Palestinian people will be given the choice of moving their capital to either Kafr Akab, which is located in East Jerusalem, or Abu Dis, which is located in the West Bank. According to the Palestinian Authority, Jerusalem is one of the top choices for the capital of any conceivable future Palestinian state and should be considered seriously. After the agreement has been implemented, responsibility for UNRWA will be handed to the appropriate countries, and once the deal is in place, only a select few refugees will be allowed to return to their homes in Palestine. As a direct result of the recent "Deal of the century," Israel will not be obliged to withdraw from any of the territory that it captured in 1967 (Ghanem, 2020).). This is a huge win for Israel. The signature of the agreement, which would allow Israel to annex 97 percent of West Bank settlements, might result in Israel acquiring control of the Jordan Valley. The annexation of these settlements would give Israel complete sovereignty over the territory. This would make it possible for Israel to annex all of the settlements in the West Bank (Ghanem, 2020).

"According to the basic concept of the agreement, approximately 70 percent of the West Bank and Gaza Strip would be given to the Palestinian state, and Israel would retain authority over the remaining 30 percent of the land" (Ade-Ibijola, 2015; 19). Consequently, despite the fact that the agreement appears to be aimed at terminating the two-state solution, it appears to be aimed, instead, at establishing a Greater Israel and a greatly weakened Palestinian entity. This is despite the fact that the agreement appears to be aimed at terminating the two-state solution (Ade-Ibijola, 2015). In accordance with the terms of the agreement, over the course of the next ten years, there will be investments totaling more than fifty billion dollars invested in the Palestinian economy, society, and government. In addition, the plan entails the implementation of low-tariff policies as well as significant infrastructure projects, both of which would contribute to the reduction of the existing rate of unemployment. In addition, the deal stipulates the development of a corridor through Israeli land that will link the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. If it does not present a threat to Israel's national security, then a port could be constructed for the future state of Palestine.

In accordance with the parameters of the agreement, the Palestinian state must first be demilitarized in order for the plan to be able to be put into action. Only the security forces of the State of Palestine would be capable of ensuring domestic security, delaying terrorist attacks both within Palestine and against Israel, and maintaining state security and public safety in Palestine. Those goals can only be accomplished by the security forces of the State of Palestine. This is due to the fact that Israel's only land border is shared by the State of Palestine and no other country. Israel will have full sovereignty over all roadways that go out of the Palestinian state, all the way from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, as outlined in the deal. This instruction would go in the other direction, from east to west. It would be possible for Israel to exert full authority over its entire border, encompassing the West Bank and extending all the way to the Mediterranean Sea. Additionally, the unilateral peace plan that has been suggested by the administration of Donald Trump provides legitimacy to the decades-long war that Israel has been having with the Palestinians. Israel would have full autonomy over its

borders thanks to its comprehensive control over the West Bank all the way to the Mediterranean Sea. This control would extend all the way to the sea. The one-sided approach to peacemaking taken by the Trump administration lends legitimacy to the decades-long unlawful occupation of Palestinian territory by Israel. Unlike the Oslo peace process, the so-called "deadline of the century" requested that Israel withdraw from all occupied regions in exchange for the foundation of a Palestinian state. This was done in exchange for the creation of a Palestinian state. Israel gets all it wants as part of the so-called "Deal of the Century," including the annexation of illegal settlements in the West Bank and Jordan Valley. This is one of the main points of contention between Israel and the Palestinians (Ghanem, 2020). This may all be done with no further requirements being necessary. In order for Palestinians to be granted the right to construct a non-sovereign, demilitarized state on less than 15 percent of ancient Palestine, which is littered with fortress-like Israeli settlements, they are required to meet a number of conditions. These conditions include: One of these conditions is that with regard to Palestinian political and national concerns, it appears that Trump is shifting the focus away from these fears and toward their economic concerns; to put this another way, it appears that Trump is implementing Netanyahu's "economic peace" approach. Other conditions include: With regard to Israeli political and national concerns, it appears that Trump is shifting the focus away from these fears and toward their economic concerns. These individuals are of the opinion that Palestinians would be willing to trade their aspiration for self-determination within the context of a sovereign state in exchange for measurable advantages such as unrestricted business activity and investments. In fact, that statement couldn't be further from the truth. This so-called "peace plan," which attempts to abolish the PNA in order to achieve peace, is doomed to fail from the start since peace cannot be reached without the participation of all parties in the form of concessions. To recapitulate, the policy that Trump and his staff have devised will only help to make the power imbalance between the two parties even wider, further isolate the Palestinian people, and make the region's continuous instability even worse. Because the government has taken a biased and one-sided stance toward the

Palestinian issue, its credibility has been damaged, and it is no longer in a position to act as a mediator in any future negotiations on the matter.

The Gulf States Endorsement of the Plan

The Trump Administration disclosed the economic component of the accord, nicknamed "the deal of the century," at the "Peace to Prosperity Workshop" held in Bahrain in June 2019. It was evident that the Gulf states would be the principal beneficiaries of the agreement's implementation. President Trump gave a presentation to the leaders of the UAE, Oman, and Bahrain in January 2020 on his peace plan (Dana, T., & People, 2020). Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Adel al-Jubeir, lauded the concept and said it has attributes that will be useful in future negotiations. The majority of the cash for the economic component of the agreement is likely to come from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries. Several people have expressed interest in contributing to the project's funding. The fact that they see Iran as a "common enemy" appears to be helping Iran's relations with Gulf governments to improve. Iran is viewed as a severe danger to the national security of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Bahrain. Iran's aggressive intentions toward Saudi Arabia have been shown by recent Iranian strikes on oil facilities, pipeline infrastructure, and Gulf shipping. Oil pipelines, oil infrastructure, and Gulf ships were all targeted in these attacks. Two of their main goals are to strengthen security cooperation with the EU and to solicit President Trump's help in the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran. Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, Mohammad bin Salman, has offered to recognize Israel and resume commercial relations with the country in exchange for US backing in his quest to destroy Iran and position himself as a major player in the Middle East. One thing is certain about the Middle East situation: the rise to power of Saudi Arabia's King Salman, as well as Iran's emergence as a threat to the Gulf States, has reduced the likelihood that these strategic Arab powers, which were once outspoken critics of Israel, will fight for the Palestinian cause (Dana, T., & People, 2020).

Why Does Jerusalem Matters?

Jerusalem is the epicenter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict due to its religious significance. There are several sacred sites in the area for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. For thousands of years, the city has been ruled by one or more of these religions. In 1000 B.C., King David established Jewish dominion over Jerusalem. During the Crusades, Christian and Muslim forces struggled for control of the city, which passed through various hands over the next two millennia. The Ottoman Caliphate ruled over the city from 1517 to 1917. The city of Jerusalem plays an important role in the Hebrew Bible. According to Jewish tradition, Abraham, the first Jewish patriarch, offered up his son Isaac as a burnt offering to God here. It was the capital of King David's Israel, and it was here that Solomon, David's son, built the first of Jerusalem's many temples (Chapman, 2004).

Jerusalem is revered by Muslims. The Qur'an uses the terms Sacred Land and Blessed Precincts to describe Palestine and the surrounding area (Qur'an: 5:21; Qur'an: 17:1). The area is considered sacred because it is associated with many Prophets. The names of all of God's Prophets and Messengers are mentioned throughout the Qur'an. Their stories and teachings are spread out over a wide range of lengths in the Quran. Abraham, Moses, David, Solomon, Zechariah, and Jesus Christ are among the most revered prophets in Judaism. In Jerusalem, the greatest prophets and God's messengers lived and worked. The Islamic holy cities of Makkah and Madinah, as well as the cities of Abraham, Ishmael, and Muhammad, have been blessed because of their ties to the Prophets. In Islam, Jerusalem is considered blessed and noteworthy due to its ties to other prophets such as David, Solomon, and Jesus. Because they do not recognize Ishmael and Muhammad as prophets and messengers, Jews and Christians do not regard Makkah and Madinah as sacred (Chapman, 2004). Muslims revere the holy prophets Moses, David, Solomon, and Jesus, so Jerusalem holds special significance for them.

Arabs and Muslims have ruled over Jerusalem longer than any other religious group. Muslims regard Jerusalem as a holy city. Prior to the establishment of Makkah, it

was the qiblah, or initial direction of prayer. According to the Qur'an, Muhammad (s.a.w.) traveled by night from Mecca to Jerusalem via Isra. In Jerusalem, Muhammad began his Mi'raj, or pilgrimage to heaven. In the late seventh century, the Umayyad Caliph built the Dome of the Rock and al-Aqsa Mosques in Jerusalem to commemorate the Isra and Mi'raj. The Dome, as the oldest surviving Muslim structure, contains some of the earliest Qur'an verses with dates, which are preserved in its inscriptions. Muslim donors built several hospitals and religious centers in and around the city. They bought land in the city and declared it a Waqf for religious purposes (bequest). Waqf land makes up the vast majority of the city and cannot be transferred or sold. Other Muslim cemeteries and study centers can be found in Jerusalem, in addition to the Al-Aqsa Masjid. Muslim monarchs accepted the religious rights of Christians and Jews who revered the city as sacred to their faiths. When the city was under Muslim rule, some Jewish and Christian sects had some influence. Karen Armstrong has described Islam as the most tolerant of all religions (Armstrong 1996, pp. 228-232).

It wasn't until the late 1800s that Palestine became a contentious political issue. The 1917 Balfour Declaration divided Jews and Arabs as a result of the British government's support for "a Jewish national home in Palestine" and "civil and political rights for existing non-Jewish communities." The Jewish population grew in size and scope as Zionist institutions expanded. There were violent uprisings in 1929 and 1936 (Chapman, 2004).

Resolution 181 of the UN (November 29, 1947) divided Palestine into two states: Arab and Jewish, with the latter holding 56 percent of the land. Because of its religious significance to Muslims, Christians, and Jews, Resolution 181 also advocated for Jerusalem to become a corpus separatum. The Zionist leadership supported the UN partition proposal in order to expand the Jewish state's borders. In 1948 and 1949, United Nations Resolutions 194 and 303 confirmed Jerusalem's international status (Mark, 1999). An unexpected series of events quickly shattered their future plans. The Zionists' goal was Israel's "war of independence" in 1948, which established the state of

Israel. Three examples of Israeli success are an Israeli identity, the right to return, and the construction of absorption centers. During this battle, Israel gained control of approximately 78 percent of the territory. The West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza were taken over by Egypt and Jordan. In just ten days, Israel invaded and annexed East Jerusalem, a territory that has never been officially recognized by the international community. Resolution 242 of the Security Council emphasized "the inadmissibility of taking territory by force" and demanded that Israel return captured lands to the Palestinians. This resolution demanded Palestinian recognition of Israel but did not recognize Palestinian national rights. Israel, on the other hand, increased its annexation efforts in 1981 (Chapman, 2004).

Over the course of several years, the Israeli government steadily consolidated its control over the Old City and East Jerusalem. The "Jerusalem Law," passed by Israel in 1980, officially recognized East Jerusalem as Israel's "complete and unified" capital. The UN Security Council declared the legislation null and void in 1980 with Resolution 478. Except for Russia, which has designated West Jerusalem as Israel's capital, no other country recognizes any part of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Between 1967 and 2017, various UN committees passed 25 resolutions condemning Israel's occupation of East Jerusalem (Chapman, 2004). Most Israelis consider Jerusalem to be their "eternal and undivided capital." Because of the Palestinians' desire for East Jerusalem as their capital, the "two-state solution," a long-standing international peace formula, was born. Pre-WWII borders would be ideal for establishing a Palestinian state alongside Israel. Only a negotiated peace treaty can change Jerusalem's status. There has been no agreement, and the conflict is still ongoing. International allies, in particular, have frequently expressed their displeasure with their government leaders' failure to recognize Israel's complete sovereignty over Jerusalem. Israel's diplomatic missions are concentrated in Tel Aviv and its environs. There is no doubt that the US considers Jerusalem to be part of Israeli territory, as evidenced by the relocation of its embassy there. As a result, Israel gains specific international legal authority and responsibilities that it can use to seize land (Chapman, 2004).

An Analysis of the Deal of the Century: US Foreign Policy towards the Conflict – Between Change and Stability

US foreign policy has been analyzed since the founding of Israel until the current day, and it is feasible to detect a movement in tactics while preserving a strategic perspective of the war in each administration. Israel's security, according to this viewpoint, is more vital than any other concern. As a result, even though US presidents have engaged in sporadic discussions regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, they have remained firm defenders of Israel. In the early years of Israel's existence, America, a staunch opponent of Soviet expansion and defender of American interests in the Middle East, made every effort to support it. To preserve US interests in the region, Israel was an easy choice. This administration's strategy to ending the conflict has been consistent, as we have seen. The Arab-Israeli dispute has been framed in the context of a stable power balance, with the US and Israel working together in harmony. To avoid reaching an agreement on the political and economic conditions that would exist in a future Palestinian state, attempts to find a remedy to the dispute have included specific concessions. With this evidence, it is clear that the US position on a two-state solution was false, with the ultimate goal of undermining Palestinian national rights and preserving Israel's stability by substituting the peace process's foundation with a commitment to the perpetuation of Palestinian sovereignty. One could argue that US administrations' efforts to implement workable solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict have been ineffective, depending on one's political beliefs. The US' stance changes have mostly been spur-of-the-moment, in order to keep the peace process moving forward and prevent other countries from engaging in armed conflict (Ghanem, 2020). This is the primary driving force behind the majority of the recent modifications and movements.

To put it another way, the US has taken a lot of steps to assist Palestinians, despite the fact that it does not support their cause politically. As a result, we are in a

position to state categorically that the US government does not support the Palestinian political struggle. Israel's security, as well as the country's control over the peace process and the development of a Palestinian state, were given top importance. Since Trump's "Deal of the Century" proposal, the US has constantly expressed its support for Israel's refusal to become a state, as well as the Palestinian people's freedom to select their own destiny. The Trump administration has revealed the dishonesty of its foreign policy and displayed its full disrespect for official and popular responses from Arab and Islamic countries with its historic decision to proclaim Jerusalem as Israel's capital city in a resolution. This was the latest in a long line of provocations by the US that have enraged Arabs (Khader, 2020).

The shifts in U.S. foreign policy toward the Palestinian cause that have occurred during the Trump administration demonstrate how this policy shifts from one era to the next and from one administration to the next. They also demonstrate how much influence the US has on the conflict and how much their involvement in it moves the peace process forward. The impressions that Arabs have of the US have become more negative as a result of President Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel during his only time in office. The Trump administration took the position that it was unnecessary to focus on addressing the many problems that continue to painfully affect the Middle East since the interests of the US were already protected with Israel. Trump's decision to withdraw American backing for the Palestinian cause drew criticism from both friends and opponents alike. Inconsistencies in Trump's policy on the Israel-Palestine issue give the impression that politics in the Middle East are becoming more complicated while simultaneously becoming more chaotic. Trump's strategy was a complete failure, despite the fact that the US works to maintain its military supremacy by developing defensive and military systems that guarantee control and neutralize the military capabilities of other major countries in order to maintain its dominance in international politics and the economy. Therefore, the conflict between Israel and Palestine, as well as its development on both sides, has always demanded attention from the US. The US' approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has remained mostly

unchanged during the course of many different administrations. The US' aspirations to control the region were severely hampered by Trump's policy. After the Trump administration ended, Washington had the sense that it needed to be liberated and to re-establish a political and security system in the Middle East that will strongly Palestinians right to self-determination. In this regard, Trump's goal to "make America great again" by revitalizing the country's economy and bringing attention to the country's military might but instead undermine all previous US policy in the Middle East.

CHAPTER V

Conclusion

This thesis' major goal was to look at the importance of Jerusalem and the effects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict's "Deal of the Century". The US's persistently biased foreign policy in favor of Israel and its refusal to recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination have contributed to the conflict's interminability, even though the US is currently working to find a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

This is one of the thesis' most significant findings. The thesis also looked at how US foreign policy has always put Israeli interests ahead of Palestinian ones precisely during the former US President Trump era. With the start of the Arab Uprisings and the announcement of the Deal of the Century by the former US President Trump, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one of the world's perennial problems, has once again received the most attention in the previous ten years.

This thesis' first chapter examines the thesis' importance. The thesis provided an overview of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and the research methodology in this chapter. It considers Israel's founding in the past. It offers thorough analysis of the Deal's nullifying effects on the "two-state solution." Additionally, it described the root causes of the conflict between Israel and Palestine as well as how its continuation and intensification hindered the viability of the proposed solutions. Included was an analysis of Jerusalem's importance to both Israel and the PA and the reasons why it continues to be a source of conflict even after the announcement of the Deal of the Century.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is examined historically in the second chapter from a variety of perspectives. It conveyed the impression that the Israel-Palestine dispute had been one of the most intensely debated issues in the world for decades. As a consequence, it provided insight into some of the conflicts' most significant elements as well as key turning moments from both the Israeli and Palestinian viewpoints.

This second chapter tries to examine the many factors that led to the escalation of the conflict between Israeli communities and Palestinian Arab communities as well as the effects that US activities have had on Palestine since 2017. The history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is provided. It also takes a look at earlier works on the war. It describes how the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis—as well as between them and their Arab neighbors—began when a lot of Jews started moving to Palestine, which was then governed by the Ottoman Empire. The nature and characteristics of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the conflicts with Arab nations, two protracted Palestinian uprisings, and waves of Palestinian refugees were all discussed in chapter two. The conflict's complexities were examined, and it is certainly important to comprehend how the notion of Zionism has permeated history and politics as well as the post-World War I settlement by the victorious nations from 1919 to 1922.

This chapter three examined US foreign policy toward the Israel-Palestine issue and how the country has long sought a settlement, leading to a “two-state solution” until the Trump administration's “Deal of the Century,” which changed the course of US international policy. It looked at how US foreign policy has always placed Israeli interests ahead of Palestinian ones. It brought attention to the Middle East's importance to the US during World War II. And spoke about how the Middle East was important for the world's peace and stability because the US has core interests there. The most important issues raised in this study are addressed in Chapter IV.

This study argues that the Middle East was given top priority in US foreign policy soon after World War II, with the main emphasis being on developing the best strategies for containing the Soviet Union's aggressive expansionism. It stressed that due to the former colonial powers' gradual fall, the US made every effort to prevent Russia from assuming the position of power left vacant by their removal. The US has accumulated a significant amount of worldwide influence over the course of many decades by employing its unmatched diplomatic, military, economic, and ideological strength, according to this concept.

In order to maintain domestic and international security, manage relationships with other major economies, and mobilize political support for important foreign policy goals, the US also established international institutions and alliances. These are only a handful of the foreign policy goals that the US has set for itself. The US was ultimately able to establish itself as a worldwide power with the unique capacity to shape and steer the course of events on a global scale thanks to these efforts. Each previous US administration has adopted a more circumspect attitude and carefully positioned the nation's foreign policy in light of these concerns. However, President Donald Trump's administration made a decision that was totally out of the ordinary compared to the methods used by other administrations. The basis of American power and influence across the globe has been weakened by the Trump administration's policies and actions.

The US has been relegated to the status of a bystander in global affairs as a direct consequence of President Trump's failure to address or deliberate decision to ignore important international problems. Decisions regarding national security in the US are influenced more by President Trump's behavior, domestic political considerations, and connections with other world leaders than by the nation's fundamental interests. Trump's "Deal of the Century," which established a new paradigm, also exposed a long-standing anti-Israel prejudice in favor of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which would lay the foundation for a new Middle East.

This conflict would provide the basis for a new region in the Middle East. The outcome of this conflict will determine the foundation for future peace in the area. There is a plan that recognizes Israel's extensive security needs and grants it sovereignty over settlement blocs, the Jordan Valley, and isolated settlements; it prevents the uprooting and evacuation of Jews and keeps Jerusalem united under Israeli control; however, the plan does not allow Palestinian refugees the "right of return" to Israeli territory while simultaneously giving Israel the upper hand in the region. There is a plan that recognizes Israel's extensive security needs and grants it sovereignty over settlement blocs, the Jordan Valley, and isolated settlements; it The Palestinian people have explicitly said

that they do not support the notion because of the practical ramifications that it would have for Palestinians, which would amount to submission.

The US maintains that Israel is an important strategic basis for American interests, and the primary impetus for the US' support for Israel is the nations' shared interests. This indicates that the policies implemented by the US and Israel are intricately intertwined and cannot be separated in any manner. The US regards ensuring the safety and security of Israel as a method of preserving peace in the area and protecting the nation's own interests at the same time. As a direct consequence of this, the issue of what new policies the government of the US has decided to implement in connection to the Israeli-Arab Conflict emerges. Regardless of who is in control of the administration in the US at any given time, the fact that the US has taken these actions demonstrates that it will not budge on any matters connected to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is especially true with regard to the establishment of a Palestinian state, the status of Jerusalem, and the expansion of Israeli settlements.

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Appendix A

22.06.2022

Dear Meekie J. Reeves

Your project "Why Does Jerusalem Matters? The Implications Of The Deal Of The Century On Israel-Palestine Conflict" has been evaluated. Since only secondary data will be used the project it does not need to go through the ethics committee. You can start your research on the condition that you will use only secondary data.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Direnç Kanol

Rapporteur of the Scientific Research Ethics Committee



Note: If you need to provide an official letter to an institution with the signature of the Head of NEU Scientific Research Ethics Committee, please apply to the secretariat of the ethics committee by showing this document.

Appendix B

WHY DOES JERUSALEM
MATTERS? THE IMPLICATIONS
OF THE DEAL OF THE CENTURY
ON ISRAEL-PALESTINE
CONFLICT

Yazar Meekie Jonathan Reeves

Gönderim Tarihi: 06-Haz-2022 09:04PM (UTC+0300)

Gönderim Numarası: 1851714141

Dosya adı: Meekie_J_Revees_Thesis.doc (278K)

Kelime sayısı: 28528

Karakter sayısı: 151763

WHY DOES JERUSALEM MATTERS? THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEAL OF THE CENTURY ON ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT

ORJİNALLİK RAPORU

% 15	% 12	% 8	% 3
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4	epdf.pub İnternet Kaynağı	<% 1
5	Osama Anter Hamdi. "American Foreign Policy toward the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Strategic Transformations", Insight Turkey, 2018 Yayın	<% 1
6	dokumen.pub İnternet Kaynağı	<% 1
7	"A Companion to U.S. Foreign Relations", Wiley, 2020 Yayın	<% 1

8	encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net İnternet Kaynağı	<% 1
9	www.religion-science-peace.org İnternet Kaynağı	<% 1