Annual Report
2019–2020
Report on Jerusalem Center Projects, Social Media Campaigns, Analyses, Reports, and Conferences – in Israel and Internationally
Amb. Dore Gold, President
The Jerusalem Center’s Path-breaking Impact on U.S. and Israel’s Foreign Policy

*Israel’s Critical Security Requirements for Defensible Borders*, the Jerusalem Center’s flagship project over the years, has borne demonstrable fruit. Amb. Dore Gold was invited to the East Room of the White House on January 28 when President Trump unveiled the *Vision for Peace to Prosperity* plan. At a press conference held at the Jerusalem Center two weeks later, Ambassador David M. Friedman expressed thanks to Amb. Gold on behalf of the United States for his time and expertise in the plan’s preparation.

While much work remains ahead, and whether the issue is defensible borders for Israel or legislation to outlaw payments to Palestinian terrorists, the Jerusalem Center takes pride in its measurable impact on foreign policy in Israel, the U.S. and Europe.

The Trump Plan: A Changing Diplomatic Paradigm for the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The Jerusalem Center held a special briefing on Feb. 9, 2020, on the U.S. peace plan with U.S. Amb. David Friedman, Amb. Dore Gold, and Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser, former head of the Research Division of IDF Military Intelligence. The *Jerusalem Post* reported on January 31, 2020:

For the past two years, Gold said, he was fielding “dual invitations” from the U.S. and Israel to help hammer out the details of the latest proposal.... He worked with his former boss Netanyahu many times, when he said “help the Americans,” and [Gold said] “I advised and gave my opinions to the American team on many occasions, almost on a constant basis.”

The Palestinian leadership has reacted to the U.S. peace plan with a diplomatic offensive claiming that the plan violates international law. Institute for Contemporary Affairs Director Amb. Alan Baker, former legal adviser and deputy director-general of Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will continue to lead the Jerusalem Center’s efforts to defend against charges that the U.S. peace plan violates international law.
Upon hearing of a breakthrough in the relationship between Israel and Sudan, Israelis will undoubtedly have a sense that their country has come full circle. It was on September 1, 1967, just after Israel’s lightening victory in the Six Day War, that an Arab League Summit convened in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, and issued what became known as the Khartoum Declaration, or simply the three no’s: “No peace with Israel, no recognition of Israel, no negotiations with Israel.” Today, that declaration has been reversed, symbolizing the beginning of the end to the Arab-Israeli wars that raged for decades in the past.
The Cyrus Debate Ironically Confirms the Truth of Jewish History in Jerusalem

Cyrus the Great, who ruled the Persian Empire in the 6th century BCE, allowed the Judeans deported and exiled following the ravages of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar II to return to their homeland. The story of Cyrus reminds the world that the Temple was in Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, and acknowledges the Jewish presence here long before Islam and the Palestinians.

Hamas Obtains New Weaponry Any Way It Can

Hamas has home-grown rocket production lines in Gaza, as well as a drone workshop to produce Iranian knockoff surveillance, weapons-bearing, and kamikaze unmanned vehicles. They continually test models, firing them into the Mediterranean, to improve accuracy and distance.
On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Jerusalem’s unification – and in response to UN resolutions that sought to deny the Jewish connection to Jerusalem – Amb. Dore Gold, President of the Jerusalem Center, created an original, sweeping survey of 3,000 years of Jewish history. This live and exciting sensory experience brings sacred sites and ancient documents to life while telling the story of the Jewish people’s unbreakable connection to Israel and Jerusalem through the ages.

In the presentation, Gold offers compelling visuals of archaeological treasures, rare documents, vintage photos, and clandestine film footage that brings the historical record to life, offering irrefutable evidence of the Jewish people’s persistent ties to Jerusalem.

The “Protecting the Freedom of Jerusalem” presentation has been staged in Washington (Capitol Hill), New York City, Los Angeles, London, Cambridge University, at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, at the 2019 CPAC Annual Conference, and most recently at the CUFI Annual Summit in July 2019 in Washington, D.C.

Over 5,000 cheered Amb. Gold at the CUFI Annual Summit in Washington, D.C., for his sweeping historical presentation on the Jewish people’s connection to its ancient capital Jerusalem and the need to fight “fake history.”
BDS is commonly misunderstood in the West. Many believe it is a progressive, nonviolent boycott movement to establish a Palestinian state in the disputed West Bank. This is a deception. The BDS leadership’s publicly stated goal is to delegitimize and isolate Israel internationally with the strategic objective of causing its implosion.

There is a sharp point of intersection between anti-Semitism, BDS, and the delegitimization phenomenon. Whereas historically anti-Semitism was based on religious and later racial arguments against individual Jews that are now proscribed, today’s anti-Semitism is based on national arguments against the existence of the Jewish state.

BDS activists accuse Israel of practicing apartheid, a charge fiercely rejected by South Africans who are helping Israel in the war against BDS in South Africa. The Jerusalem Center works closely with these activists. Dan Diker leads this research project.
Beyond Iran's threatening nuclear program, its behavior in the Middle East has become far more dangerous. Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its auxiliary “local” forces, Hizbullah and the Houthis, for instance, are dominating Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Lebanon and expanding Iranian hegemony with no clear end point.

Jerusalem Center studies by Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Dr. Shimon Shapira have exposed the scale of Iran’s Shiite networks. In 2014–15, his research first disclosed “Hizbullah Syria,” and the goal of Iran to deploy the IRGC near the Golan Heights.

Iran is testing new generations of missiles, despite the fact that the UN Security Council prohibited this type of activity. The Iranian navy is regularly moving throughout the Middle East region, from the Persian Gulf to the Red Sea, and has even visited the Mediterranean. Lt.-Col. (ret.) Michael Segall monitors Iran’s growing naval role.

Iran’s long-range ballistic missiles have ranges that could hit anywhere in the Middle East and Israel, even parts of Europe.

Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Dr. Shimon Shapira’s upcoming exposé on a long-standing mystery (below) illuminates the intrigue and violence that followed the 1979 Islamic revolution in Iran.

Maj.-Gen. Qassem Soleimani, a senior commander of Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), receives the blessing of Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei after the defeat of ISIS in Syria and Iraq.
Dore Gold faces off against Palestinian politician Hanan Ashrawi on CNN with Fareed Zakariah.


Jerusalem Center President Dore Gold and Amb. John Bolton (left) testified before the House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in November 2017 on moving the American Embassy to Jerusalem.
Col. (ret.) Dr. Jacques Neriah, author of *Between Rabin and Arafat: A Political Diary*, served as Foreign Policy Advisor to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Deputy Head for Assessment of Israeli Military Intelligence. He explains to *Israel Public Television* historic decisions made in Rabin’s office.

Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser, former head of the IDF Intelligence Research Division, explains to *Israel Public Television* how Israel successfully captured the *Karine-A* ship, which was smuggling a huge cache of weapons to the Palestinian Authority at the height of the second intifada.

Amb. Dore Gold and Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser testifying before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee (left) on the Palestinian Authority’s “pay to slay” policy of payments to convicted terrorists or family members, as a means of inciting further terrorism.
At the February 2018 Moscow conference of the Valdai Discussion Club (established by President Putin), Dore Gold presents how Israel views the future of Syria when the fighting comes to an end.

BBC interviews Dan Diker, Director of the Center’s Political Warfare Project, on President Trump’s announcement on December 6, 2017, to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and move the U.S. Embassy.

Amb. Dore Gold discusses a terrorist attack in the Sarona Market in Tel Aviv with Sean Hannity of Fox News.

At the February 2018 Moscow conference of the Valdai Discussion Club (established by President Putin), Dore Gold presents how Israel views the future of Syria when the fighting comes to an end.
Refuting Balfour’s Detractors

A conference convened at the House of Commons in London to mark the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. Amb. Dore Gold, joined by Amb. Alan Baker, Prof. Andrew Roberts, Dr. Yair Hirshfeld, former UK Minster of Justice Michael Gove and Israeli Ambassador Mark Regev defended the document which set the stage for the restoration of the Jewish people’s national homeland.

Trilateral Meeting of Indian-Israeli-American Think Tanks

The Jerusalem Center hosted the first trilateral meeting bringing together representatives of three prominent think tanks – the Heritage Foundation of Washington, D.C., the Vivekananda International Foundation of New Delhi, and the Jerusalem Center – to discuss issues of mutual interest. The delegations will convene next in Washington in November 2019.

Discussion on the changes in Washington after the 2016 elections between Professor Alan Dershowitz and Dore Gold.
The Thin Line: Between Anti-Semitism and “Legitimate” Criticism of Israel – a Roundtable Discussion

In a response to intensifying anti-Semitism in Europe and the United States, the Jerusalem Center convened a roundtable of leading experts to assess the unprecedented challenges and develop a strategic policy response. Pictured (left to right) Natan Sharansky, Prof. Asa Kasher, and Prof. Shmuel Trigano.

At the launch of the publication, *The Migration Wave into Europe: An Existential Dilemma*, edited by Fiamma Nirenstein, with a discussion between authors and European ambassadors, in July 2019.

Amb. Dore Gold and Fiamma Nirenstein brief the Italian Parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee on the Iranian threats to our region as well as to Europe, in December 2018.
P.M. David Ben Gurion has his first meeting with General Charles de Gaulle, Pres. of France at the Palais de L’Élysée in Paris, during his official visit to France in 1960.

On March 27, 2018, a group of officials, politicians, and intellectuals from Europe and Israel met at the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs for a day-long discussion on relations between Israel and Europe. Readers will find herein essays written by the participants. They provide a detailed and complete examination of the mistakes, wrongdoings, and basic reasons why Europe sometimes cannot or does not want to understand Israel. This publication represents the fruits of a first-time initiative. Under the expert eye of our senior fellow Fiamma Nirenstein, the Jerusalem Center convened an exceptional and distinguished group to explore the issues where disagreements exist. In a spirit of trust and good will, discussants offered diverse perspectives on the essence of these issues and their opinions on how they may be bridged. These essays are presented in the hope that, notwithstanding the complexities of the Europe-Israel relationship, we may develop the route to move these private expressions of understanding into the public sphere.
The Jerusalem Center’s Experts

Ambassador Dore Gold, President
Chaya Herskovic, Director General
Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser, Director of the Project on Regional Middle East Developments

Ambassador Alan Baker, Director of the Institute for Contemporary Affairs
Col. Dani Tirza
Lenny Ben-David, Director of Publications
Ambassador Freddy Eytan
Brig.-Gen. (ret.) Dr. Shimon Shapira

Fiamma Nirenstein
Col. (ret.) Dr. Jacques Neriah
Nadav Shragai
Dan Diker, Director of the Political Warfare Project
Lt.-Col. (ret.) Jonathan D. Halevi

Yoni Ben Menachem
Pinhas Inbari
Lt.-Col. (ret.) Michael Segall
Ambassador Zvi Mazel
The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs is a leading independent research institute specializing in public diplomacy and foreign policy. Founded in 1976, the Center has produced hundreds of studies and initiatives by leading experts on a wide range of strategic topics. Dr. Dore Gold, Israel’s former Ambassador to the UN and Director-General of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has headed the Jerusalem Center since 2000.

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