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## From the Editors

This special issue of the *Jewish Political Studies Review* brings together a number of articles examining the theme of “America, Israel, and the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process.” What gave rise to the focus on this theme were the disputes between Israel and the United States between 2009 and 2012 over the salience of the issue of Israeli settlements, the depth of the withdrawal expected from Israel in the event of a peace agreement, the status of the 1967 lines, and the impact of all these issues on the American Jewish community as the 2012 presidential elections approached.

Dr. Dore Gold sets the U.S.-Israeli dispute over whether Israel is expected to withdraw to the 1967 lines in a historical context. He demonstrates that past U.S. administrations did not expect a full withdrawal from Israel in the West Bank, beginning at the time of the Johnson administration and the drafting of UN Security Council Resolution 242. The traditional security considerations behind Israel’s position on “defensible borders” are presented by Maj. Gen. (res.) Uzi Dayan, who was not only deputy chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces and national security adviser, but also served as the officer responsible for Israel’s security contacts with Jordan, Syria, and the Palestinians for much of the 1990s.

Steven J. Rosen looks at the unfolding of the settlements dispute between the governments of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and of President Barack Obama. Rosen marshals detailed material to make his arguments about the complexities of U.S. policies toward Israeli settlements. The impact of the debate over these issues on American Jewry is the subject of Prof. Mervin Verbit, who looks at public opinion polls. Prof. Steven Cohen considers the attitudes of a leadership group, Conservative rabbis.

Finally, unrelated to these foreign policy issues, Dr. Avi Kay examines the economic ethos of Israel today in light of the “tent demonstrations” of 2011 that restored the socioeconomic agenda to the domestic Israeli political discourse. As usual the *Jewish Political Studies Review* has a rich book review section, some of which adds to the subject areas in this special thematic issue.