

Swiss Jews for Two States



>>> www.Swiss-Jews-for-Two-States.ch <<<

We, the undersigned Jewish men and women in Switzerland have believed privately and, to some extent, publicly that the best hope for Israel's survival, security and social wellbeing would be to live side by side within recognized borders (according to the UN Resolutions 242 and 338) with what we hope will become a democratically structured and internationally recognized Palestinian state. The negotiations, which time and again in the past seemed so promising, have come to a standstill. With no serious bilateral negotiations offering a „roadmap“ in this direction, it appears that the Palestinian side is planning to apply for membership to the United Nations in September.

Although we would have preferred a bilateral agreement, we believe that this is the moment for us to express our solidarity for the rights of the Palestinian residents of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza and for the safety and survival of Israel to give the two-state solution our full support, both as Swiss citizens and as Jews. Not to do so would be disingenuous and not credible.

For this reason, we call upon the organizations representing Swiss Jews as well as the Swiss foreign ministry and government to put their support behind the Palestinian initiative in the United Nations as well as to encourage the Israeli government to do the same. We would like to see Israel and the Palestinians negotiating mutual recognition of each other's sovereignty and mutual security and safety from violent attack -- before it's too late.

We propose to conduct a process of inner-Jewish dialogue in the coming months in order to do our part here in the Jewish community in Switzerland to contribute toward making the peaceful resolution of the two-state solution a reality. We are writing in English so that all language regions of Switzerland may be represented without having to translate into each language, risking that something might get "lost in translation."

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