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The Jerusalem Union

**A Proposal for Peace, Equality, Freedom, Justice and
Reconciliation in the Land of Israel-Palestine**

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1- Introduction to the Israeli Palestinian Conflict

The Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples both have thousands of years of history and connection to the land of Israel-Palestine as attested to in history, archaeology, archaeogenetics and tradition. By the 1800's the Jewish population of the land had been reduced to a small minority following many centuries of wars, expulsions, and genocide. The majority of the population of Israel-Palestine was by then Arabic-speaking Muslims and Christians. Facing a growing tide of discrimination, ethnic cleansing, and genocide in European Christian States and to a lesser extent in the Muslim world, the Jewish people began a movement to return en masse to Israel-Palestine, the land of their ancestors, to seek refuge there. This movement would eventually become known as Zionism or 'Tzionut' which is based on a biblical term for Jerusalem 'Tzion'.

Early Zionism had many forms. Some early Zionists favored the creation of a Jewish cultural center in the land of Israel-Palestine as well as an educative center in the diaspora to work together to help preserve Jewish culture and the continued existence of the Jewish people; this was called Cultural Zionism. The Cultural Zionists later founded movements like Brit Shalom 'Covenant of Peace' and the political party Ihud or 'Union', which advocated for a shared Jewish-Arab society in Israel-Palestine. Other Zionist movements fell into the category of Political Zionism which advocated for the establishment of a Jewish Majority State within Israel-Palestine.

In response to the growing presence of Jews in Palestine, especially after the British captured Palestine from the Ottoman Empire in World War 2 and later declared the intent to allow the Jewish people to turn Palestine into their National Home, the Palestinian Arabs began to fear that the Jews were going to take over the country and perhaps even attempt to displace them. Despite efforts by both Jewish and Arab groups in favor of coexistence, the tension led to an increasingly violent series of confrontations between the two populations in Israel-Palestine during the period around the British Mandate for Palestine from 1920-1948 which ultimately led to massacres perpetrated by both groups and then eventually to an all-out confrontation with each group aiming at large scale displacement of the other.

The Israel-Palestine Conflict is an Ethno-National conflict that is one of the longest ongoing conflicts in the world. It has gone on for at least 100 years. The Palestinians would often put the date for the start of the conflict at the Balfour Declaration of 1917 when the British Empire made a formal declaration in favor of their intent to create a National Home for the Jewish people in Palestine. The Israeli Jewish people may place the date at the 1920 Battle of Tel Hai or the Massacre of Hebron, Safed, and Jerusalem of 1929 where over 130 Jews were killed and over 330 were injured. Overall, tens of thousands of people have died on both sides of this conflict and are still dying as of the day this is being written.

The major escalation in the early conflict took place during the Arab revolt of 1936-1939 in Mandatory Palestine when the local Arab forces fought against both British Authorities and the Jewish Militias, the Haganah and the Irgun as well as the 'Peace Bands'. The "Peace Bands" (fasa'il al-salam) or "Nashashibi units" were made up of disaffected Arab peasants recruited by the British administration and the Nashashibis in late 1938 to battle against Arab rebels during the revolt. The Nashashibi clan was a wealthy Jerusalem family that had founded the more moderate National Defense Party and was more in favor of finding a compromise with the Jewish Zionists than the Husayni clan which founded the more hard-line Palestinian Arab Party.

The escalation resulted in 5,000 Arabs, 500 Jews, and 262 British security forces killed. In 1937 the Jewish militia and terrorist organization the Irgun began a wave of attacks on Arab civilians and in 1939 they also

started to attack the British military in Palestine seeking to pressure the British to leave Palestine.

The State of Israel was established when the British Mandate for Palestine was formally ended and David Ben Gurion, the head of the Jewish Agency, declared the establishment of the state. U.S. President Harry S. Truman recognized the State of Israel on the same day. The State of Israel was declared to be the Jewish State and the assumption at the time was that there would also be an Arab State called Palestine declared in the remaining territory of the former Mandate.

This declaration had happened within the context of a civil war between the Jewish and Arab population of the Mandate that had already been going on for 6 months following the UN General Assembly's acceptance of Resolution 181 calling for a partition of the land into a Jewish and an Arab State. On the 15th of May 1948, the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States sent a message to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, that "the Arab states find themselves compelled to intervene to restore law and order and to check further bloodshed" Within a few days of this a major war began between the Newly established State of Israel and several Arab States including, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

During the war of 1948, approximately 750,000 Palestinians were made refugees as they fled or were expelled from the conflict zones. Also during the war of 1948, there were several massacres including the Deir Yassin Massacre where the Jewish militant group the Irgun killed somewhere between 100 and 250 Palestinians, the majority of which were civilians, and the Hadassah Medical Convoy Massacre where the Arab forces killed 79 people, 78 Jews and 1 British soldier, most of whom were civilians.

Following these events, Israel destroyed over 400 former Palestinian Arab villages and refused to allow the Palestinians who fled to return. Approximately 160,000 Palestinian Arabs remained in around 77.5% of the territory of the former Mandate of Palestine that became the State of Israel and their descendants are today the Arab Palestinian citizens of Israel. Some of the territories that had been part of the Mandate of Palestine, West Bank, and East Jerusalem were absorbed into the State of Jordan who formally annexed these territories and Egypt occupied the Gaza Strip but never formally annexed by Egypt.

Following the war of 1948 a large wave of migration of Jews who had been living in Arab and other Muslim countries, known as the Mizrahi or 'Eastern' Jews, came to the newfound State of Israel. They left mainly fleeing various discriminatory policies and expulsions but also because of a desire to be part of the Jewish National State. In most cases, they were required to leave all of their possessions behind and they arrived as refugees and many lived in refugee camps known as Ma'abarot. The last of these camps was dismantled in 1963 and by 1972 over 600,000 Mizrahi Jews had settled in Israel. An additional wave came to Israel after the Iranian Revolution and in total around 650,000 Mizrahi Jews migrated to Israel out of a population of around 900,000 Jews who left the Arab and Muslim States in the 20th century, roughly 72%. Today in Israel over 60% of the Israeli Jewish population is of Mizrahi or partial Mizrahi heritage.

In 1967 the State of Israel conquered the territories of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, Shebaa Farms, the Gaza Strip, and the Sinai Peninsula, in what was considered by Israel a war of defense. Even though it made a preemptive strike against the Egyptian Air Force, Israel claims this was in response to aggression from the neighboring countries of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, and Egypt. Particularly when Egypt blockaded the Gulf of Aqaba, mobilized forces in the Sinai, formally requested the UN troops leave the Sinai and signed mutual defense agreements with Syria, Jordan, and Iraq.

The war of 1967 was followed soon after by another major war between Israel, Egypt, and Syria in 1973. Following that war, the Sinai Peninsula was ultimately returned to Egypt as part of a peace agreement signed

in 1978. The Golan Heights (including the Shebaa Farms) and East Jerusalem were formally annexed by Israel. However, the annexation of the Golan Heights has only been recognized by the United States and no country has recognized the Israeli annexation of East Jerusalem. In East Jerusalem there currently live around 360,000 Palestinian Arabs; the vast majority do not hold Israeli citizenship, as well as around 220,000 Israeli Jewish citizens.

As part of a series of peace agreements with the Palestinian Authority known as the 'Oslo Accords' the territory of the Gaza Strip as well as the major population centers in the West Bank were transferred to the Palestinian Authority, though Israel still maintains a military occupation in the West Bank and in general a blockade in the Gaza Strip.

In the West Bank, for over 55 years since the conquest of 1967, Israel has settled around 500,000 Israeli civilians, while this territory is largely still under a formal military occupation and the international community considers this a violation of international law. United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 of 2016, which passed 14-0 with the United States abstaining, declared that Israel's settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem, "has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law", and demanded that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities".

As a part of the second round of the Oslo Accords, signed in Taba Egypt in 1995, the West Bank was divided into three regions Areas A, B, and C. Area A on around 20% of the territory consists of the largest Palestinian cities in the West Bank that were to be under full Palestinian control, Area B on around another 20% was the suburban communities surrounding these major cities with Palestinian civil control and Israeli security control, and Area C with around 60% of the territory of the West Bank including a perimeter around all the major population centers, as well as the control of all the major roadways in the West Bank and full control of the Jordan Valley, which is the natural border between Palestine as the State of Jordan to the East.

This agreement was meant to last only five years and to be a transition between full military occupation and the creation of an independent Palestinian State. However, this full agreement never materialized which as the Israelis would argue was because the Palestinian side failed to uphold their part of the agreement, renounce violence, and promote tolerance. The Palestinians would argue it was because the Israelis did not uphold their side of the agreement, continued to build settlements in the West Bank, and did not come to the negotiating table with a fair proposal for dividing the territory based on the pre-67 lines with only minor adjustments. Either way, around five years after the signing of the Second Oslo agreement a major round of violence erupted known as the Second Intifada which caused a serious deterioration in the situation since then no significant agreements between the sides have been signed and no progress has since been seen towards resolving this situation for over 23 years.

The situation currently in the West Bank is described by critics, which include both Israeli and international human rights organizations, as a type of de facto Apartheid, wherein the area under Israeli control has an Israeli population of around 500,000 as well as approximately 180,000 Palestinians. In the West Bank as a whole today there are around 2.5 million people, meaning that the current division of the territory of the West Bank is seen to be to the unfair benefit of a minority population of around 20% of the population that is ethnically Israeli Jewish as opposed to the majority of the Population which is ethnically Palestinian Arab. This situation is compounded by the military control of the encircling territory and all the major roadways making for a significant control on the freedom of movement of Palestinians within the West Bank and full control of all entry and exit to the territory.

The situation in the Gaza Strip has been one of a nearly total blockade of the densely populated coastal territory where approximately 2.1 million Palestinians live in approximately 6% of the total territory of the State of Palestine. This has been the case since the Hamas political organization took control of the Strip in a coup against the Palestinian Authority in 2008. As of the writing of this document, following the attack on Israel by Hamas on October the 7th 2023 where over 1,200 Israelis were killed, there is an ongoing ground invasion by Israel and so far over 20,000 Palestinians have been killed and nearly an additional 200 Israeli soldiers since the ground invasion in what will likely prove to be the most deadly escalation in the entire 100-year conflict.

Today within the boundaries of Israel and Palestine reside roughly 14.9 million people, around 7.7 Million of whom are Israeli Jews, broadly speaking, this includes Jews, their descendants, and spouses some of whom are considered non-Jews depending on the definition. Spouses and Descendants of Jews are around 535,000 people or about 7% of the "Extended Israeli Jewish Population".

In Israel-Palestine today there are also around 7.2 Million Palestinian Arabs, broadly speaking, this includes those who consider themselves Palestinian Arabs and those Arab populations in Israel including Druze, Bedouin, and others that may not, depending on the definition and situation. Druze and Bedouin Arabs are around 343,000 or around 4.8% of the "Extended Palestinian Arab Population". According to a poll conducted in 2017 around 40% of the Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel prefer to refer to themselves as Arab citizens of Israel a total of around 680,000 people which is around 9.5% of the "Extended Palestinian Arab Population". The total "Extended Palestinian Arab Population" residing in Israel-Palestine is distributed with 5.5 million in the territory of the State of Palestine and 1.7 million in the State of Israel (not including East Jerusalem).

In the following proposal the "Extended Israeli Jewish Population" will be referred to as the Israeli Jewish People and the "Extended Palestinian Arab Population" will be referred to as the Palestinian Arab People, for the sake of convenience. We understand that this is a simplification and that the identity of the people of Israel-Palestine is in reality more complex than this.

Two Million Palestinian Arabs in Palestine are considered refugees, or descendants of those Palestinian Arabs who fled or were expelled from Palestine in 1948, around 750,000 of them are living in refugee camps in Palestine. In addition, there are around 750,000 Palestinians who are living in refugee camps throughout the region, particularly in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq. There are an additional 2.5 Million or more Palestinian Arabs who are considered refugees according to the UNRWA, the United Nations aid organization for Palestinian refugees. About two million of these are living as citizens of Jordan and several hundred thousand are living in various countries in the Middle East and around the world, some of whom are citizens of the countries they live in and some are just residents.

Beyond that several million Palestinians are living in the Diaspora who are not considered refugees who would like to have opportunities to easily travel to and visit as well as have the option to immigrate to Israel or Palestine just like their Jewish counterparts. In total today there are around 14 million Palestinians in the world, half living in Israel-Palestine and half living outside.

In addition, there are around 8 million Jews around the world outside the State of Israel, a total of around 15 million Jews worldwide, as well as several million more who are currently entitled to immigrate to Israel under its 'Law of Return'. The Palestinians claim that this is an unfair situation as they are not allowed to immigrate or return to either Israel or Palestine or even visit without significant difficulty, if at all.

UN General Assembly resolution 194(III), of 1948 calls for the Right of Return to be given to Palestinian refugees, which Israel has never allowed to return. Similarly, Israeli "Mizrahi" Jews who were expelled from

Arab countries post-1948 are denied entry from the countries where they once lived in. In contrast, in the past few decades, many European states granted hundreds of thousands of Israeli Jews citizenship (and at the time reparations), based on historical ancestry that dates to the pre-WWII or, in the case of Spain and Portugal as far back as the 15th century.

The UN Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 calls “for achieving a just settlement to the refugee problem”. The Arab Peace Initiative of 2002 calls for the “Achievement of a just solution to the Palestinian refugee problem to be agreed upon under U.N. General Assembly Resolution 194.” Israel for its part is concerned that the unlimited application of the Palestinian Right of Return would endanger a Jewish demographic majority in the State of Israel and subsequently, the Israeli Jewish people would lose their self-determination. Israel has also argued that the idea of the right of return does not in most cases apply to descendants of refugees and has not been enforced in other cases of mass population transfer as a result of war or political exchanges of territories, such as with the ethnic German population of Eastern Europe following World War II and other cases such as between Turkey and Greece or between India and Pakistan.

2 - The Jerusalem Union Proposal

The Jerusalem Union is a peace proposal for Israel-Palestine that has several key features that resolve issues neither the traditional two-state or one-state solutions address. Any agreed political solution is preferable to the status quo. The Jerusalem Union seeks to find a balance between the level of autonomy provided in a Confederal structure such as the European Union where each member state is still a sovereign independent State in control of its borders and a Federal State where a single sovereign State is comprised of two or more political entities, or sub-units, that have a certain level of autonomy but also a common Federal Government that provides security and protection of rights across the boundaries of the political sub-units.

This begins with the realization that the States of Israel and Palestine are entwined at a level beyond normal neighboring states and in some ways their relationship is more like States in a Federation. Israel and Palestine share a capital city, Jerusalem, and they have a single economy, with a common currency. Nearly 20% of Palestinians in the West Bank work in Israel and Israel is Palestine's largest trading partner. Over 18% of the population of Israel are ethnically Palestinian Arab (not including East Jerusalem) and currently nearly 12.5% of the population within the borders of Palestine (including East Jerusalem) are Israeli Jewish citizens.

The most common proposed solutions to the Israel-Palestine conflict are as follows: First, enforcing a one-state solution. Despite its popularity among those who envision either a Palestinian or an Israeli state across the entire territory of Israel and Palestine, it stands in contrast with international law and the broad consensus among the international community, about the legitimacy of both the State of Israel and the State of Palestine. The majority of countries in the world recognize both of these states (163 recognize Israel and 139 recognize the State of Palestine) and recognize their right to statehood based on the pre-1967 borders with a range of different opinions on the political status of Jerusalem.

There is no mechanism to force Israel and Palestine to unify their territories and given the reality of the politics, there is no way to get them to agree on such a thing. Many people on both sides believe in a one-state, based on the idea of ‘Total Victory’ whereby there would be a one-state “solution” that would be somehow dominated by only one of the two sides, accomplished either through conquest, apartheid, ethnic cleansing or some combination thereof. This is a completely unrealistic fantasy that is fueling the conflict. There is no ‘Total Victory’ that can happen, only unending conflict or compromise and peace.

Second, there is the one-state solution by choice. This solution is on the one hand a very attractive option to both sides. Both people have a strong historical and cultural attachment to the entire land of Israel-Palestine, the economies of both States are highly interconnected and the territory united would be a much more defensible geographic entity. However, given the history of the conflict and the fact that both peoples have a relatively even population between the two states. In a one-state solution it would not be clear which side would be the politically dominant one and both sides would believe that they have the right to and the necessity of self-determination. Even though the one-state may seem like an ideal solution, it does not seem like it is one that both sides would willingly accept, at least not for now.

Thirdly, there is the two-state solution. The two-state solution is the only solution to ever receive majority support by both sides in scientific polling, albeit never by a very large majority. It does allow for the self-determination and political assurances that both sides are looking for. However, the 'traditional' model of the two-state solution generally envisions a 'Hard Border' that would sever the connection between the two sides, both culturally and in many practical ways. It would require a withdrawal of a large number of Israeli civilians that even with minor border adjustments would still number around 220,000 and it would generally mean that only a very limited number of Palestinian Refugees or their descendants would be allowed to travel to or live in the State of Israel. It would also mean that both states do not have very easily defensible territories and it would limit the access that Palestine has to the much stronger Israeli economy. For all these drawbacks and more, it has never been fully implemented and likely never will in its traditional 'Hard Border' format.

The Jerusalem Union proposal detailed below is a form of the two-state solution, only with 'Soft Borders', that will allow for free movement between the two states as well as freedom of residency in either state, for all citizens. This will also allow the Israeli Jewish civilians living in the Palestinian State to remain where they are, a significant amount of Right of Return for Palestinians, as well as allow for a shared defense of the whole territory and full economic integration. While this proposal is certainly not without its compromises, we believe that with this format, the Two-state Cooperative Union will prove to be a proposal capable of winning popular support on both sides. This Two-state Union could someday in the future be converted, by the choice of the citizens of the Union, into a full-fledged Federal State, but that will have to wait for a very warm peace to develop over a long time.

3- Summary Description of the Jerusalem Union Proposal

3.1 The Jerusalem Union is a proposed cooperative union between the Constituent States of Israel and Palestine, representing the national aspirations of the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples respectively for maximized cooperation, autonomy, and security. These states will allow for the preservation of Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab cultural heritage as integral parts of the fabric of Middle Eastern and world culture.

3.2 This Union will combine elements of confederation and federation, allowing for both states to govern their peoples independently while enabling local regional Semi-Autonomous Electoral Districts to practice a level of self-governance for the various Ethno-cultural communities of Israel-Palestine.

3.3 The State of Israel will come to an agreement with the State of Palestine for partition into two states based on the pre-1967 borders with minor border adjustments and special arrangements for Jerusalem based on the US understanding of UN Resolution 242 and the Clinton Parameters with the Israeli Jewish neighborhoods of Jerusalem being Israeli territory, the Palestinian Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem being Palestinian territory and the greater old city of Jerusalem region, the 'Holy Basin' being a shared federal territory.

3.4 The State of Palestine Territory will be on around 23.5% of the territory of the former Mandate for Palestine, slightly higher than in the traditional two-state Solution. Within each state's jurisdiction, it will have the power of law enforcement and governance for its citizens and residents and will be bound by the mutual agreements embodied in federal law. The external Borders of each state will be under the control of the State authorities in cooperation with the Federal Government.

3.5 The Union Customs Office will be responsible for import and export laws while each state will be responsible for entrance and exit laws. Entrance and exit laws will be subject to agreements between the States and the Union under the signed agreements at the formation of the Union. No citizen can be barred from entering their state of citizenship.

3.6 The greater Jerusalem area will become an expanded semi-autonomous Federal District and Capital of both States and the Union. The region of the city of Hebron including the old city of Hebron previously known as 'H2' will also become a shared federal District. There will also be two Federal Economic Districts, one between Israel and Gaza and the other Between Israel and the West Bank.

3.7 Each State will be divided into several Semi-Autonomous Districts that will also serve as electoral districts, both on the State level as well as for a Shared Federal Government. The Districts will be distributed such that there will be an even number of Israeli Jewish Majority and Palestinian Arab Majority Districts across the Union as a whole. The purpose of this is to create a Federal Parliament with a roughly even number of representatives from the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab Majority Districts.

3.8 The Jerusalem Union addresses land distribution from both a collective and individual perspective. Collectively, although Israel has a larger area than Palestine, much of that land is in the south, which is predominantly an unpopulated desert, whereas the population centers in the northern part of the country are relatively equally divided between the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab Majority Districts.

3.9 Each state will have a bicameral Parliament of its own, with the same number of representatives from each District in the upper parliamentary house and a lower parliamentary house with representatives from the Districts based on the population in that District. The State of Israel will have 15 parliamentary Electoral Districts, with three of them being from The Palestinian Arab Majority Districts and the State of Palestine will have 11 parliamentary Electoral Districts with one of them from the Israeli Jewish Majority District of Palestine.

3.10 The Israeli Jewish settlers living within Palestine at the founding of the Union will be permitted to remain and given the option of Palestinian citizenship and will be subject to Palestinian law (with recourse to the Union Supreme Court for protection of fundamental rights). The Israeli Jewish minority living in Palestine will pay Palestinian taxes and contribute to developing the Palestinian economy. Israel for its part will confer citizenship to an agreed number of Palestinian refugees who will come from outside of the Union.

3.11 To reduce demographic tensions, representation in the Union parliament will be based on a bicameral parliamentary system with the same number of representatives from each District in the upper parliamentary house and a lower parliamentary house with representatives from the Districts based on the population in that District. There will also be options for redistricting in the future if needed. A central organizing principle of the Union is that each of the main Ethno-National groups, the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples will have equal representation in the Union.

3.12 This 50:50 Shared Federal Parliament will ensure the protection of human rights, freedom of movement, flexibility of residency, and solutions to common issues in Israel-Palestine.

3.13 At the head of the Federal Government will sit the Federal Council which will be elected by the Joint Federal Legislature which is the combined legislature of the Upper and Lower Houses of the Federal Government. The Federal Council will act as the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.

3.14 The Judicial Branch of the Federal Government will consist of a Federal Supreme Court which will have judicial authority over cases dealing with Federal Laws, the Constitution, Treaties made by the Federal Government, and in such cases of arbitration between the States and citizens thereof.

3.15 The Union will have a democratic Constitution and Bill of Rights that will ensure freedom of speech, Freedom of Religion, the right to education, the right to be free of unwarranted search and seizures and many more individual and collective rights. The Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, will be based on secular democratic law and ensure that the Union is operating at the political standard of a modern liberal democracy.

3.16 Each District of the States of Israel or Palestine will have its constitution created by the people of that District under State and Federal Law. They will have a government consisting of a legislature, an executive, police, and courts.

3.17 In addition there will be local and regional Community Councils for cultural autonomy and protection of the needs and rights of the various minority cultural communities in regions across the Union.

3.18 Any citizen who is a citizen or resident of Israel or Palestine at the founding of the Union or has immigrated to the Union and lived there for at least five years is considered a Union Citizen. A Union Citizen may move to any region or state in the Union and will vote in regional, municipal, and Federal elections from their new residency. They will maintain their Israeli or Palestinian State Citizenship which will enable them to vote for their respective State Parliaments.

3.19 Overall Immigration to the Union will be coordinated by the Federal Ministry of Absorption and by agreement with the constituent states such that a roughly equal number of persons of Jewish and Palestinian Arab origin be permitted to immigrate to the Union as a whole on an annual basis. We are suggesting 100,000 per year from each group for the first five years followed by 70,000 per year from each group for each year after that.

3.20 New Immigrants of Jewish Origin will immigrate to Israel and receive Israeli citizenship and new immigrants of Palestinian Arab origin will immigrate to Palestine and receive Palestinian citizenship. A New Immigrant may only reside in their state or one of the Federal Districts until they receive Union Citizenship and then they may reside in either State.

3.21 There will be an Economic Common Market with the boundary between both states being open for the free movement of people and goods. This will allow for the Israeli Jewish population that is living in what will be the State of Palestine to remain as well as allow for practical solutions to the issue of the Palestinian right of Return. There will also be a common Federal Police Force to maintain security across borders while ending the military occupation of Palestine

3.22 There will be three main police forces, the Israeli, the Palestinian, and the Union Police. The Israeli police force will enforce Israeli laws within Israel's borders, the Palestinian police force will enforce Palestinian laws within Palestinian borders and the Union police force will enforce Union laws over both Israel and Palestine

and will have jurisdiction over both states. The Jerusalem Federal District will be the Capital of the Union and will be governed by Union police and State Police.

3.23 The Israeli and Palestinian Police Forces will each be divided into local District Police forces made up of members of the Police from a local district so that each local population may police itself and enforce local District ordinances. There will also be statewide Israel and Palestinian Police Departments responsible for enforcing state law throughout the State.

3.24 Israel will be allowed to maintain and develop the IDF and maintain a presence in the territory of Palestine on the very strict condition that no IDF soldier is allowed to interact with any Palestinian citizen without permission from the Palestinian government. In the very limited situations in which Palestine gives the IDF soldiers permission to operate within Palestine, they must wear a bodycam which is subject to review by a special Union Domestic Military Review Board

3.25 The integration of the IDF into the Union will happen in three phases. In the first phase, Israel will be allowed to keep their current military based in the Palestinian territories and agree to pay rent to Palestine for the usage of Palestinian territory for this purpose. The Union and the State of Palestine will have observer status on the security council of the State of Israel.

3.26 During a second phase; the State of Palestine will be required to pay for the IDF a predefined percentage of the Palestinian GDP as a condition to protect Palestinian international security interests. These interests will be protected by the Union which will have oversight over the IDF for this interim period. During this period the IDF will begin to enlist Palestinian citizens as recruits for military service at an agreed number annually. Moving from the first to the second phase will require among other things that the Union sign a peace agreement with all neighboring states, including Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia, as well as a statewide referendum in both States.

3.27 The third and final phase will be the full integration of the IDF into the Union as the Israel-Palestine Defense Force, or IPDF. The condition for moving to this phase will require among other things that the Union sign peace agreements with all regional states that were previously hostile to Israel, including Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Yemen, as well as a statewide referendum in both States.

3.28 This agreement may be implemented first in the form of a Renewed Interim Agreement or upgrade to the five-year interim agreement. The parties first need to accept the general outline of terms as described in this document for the framework of an outcome after the five-year period. They may also choose to conclude the full agreement as described in this document before the conclusion of the five years, in which case that agreement will supersede the Renewed Interim Agreement.

3.29 The Right of Return for Palestinians will be provided both via the exchange of the returning Palestinian refugees to the State of Israel for the allowing to remain of the Israeli Jewish settler population as well as the overall immigration agreements described in the above section on immigration. In addition, visitor visas for Palestinians who live outside of the Union will be provided upon request and based on agreements.

3.30 All Palestinian refugees in Palestine will automatically be provided Palestinian citizenship as part of this agreement. Palestinian Refugees currently living in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq in refugee camps and without citizenship, estimated as approximately 750,000 persons, plus their children born during the implementation of that agreement, will be granted a Right of Return to be implemented within the first 5 years of this agreement.

3.31 An agreed number of Palestinian refugees, we suggest 250,000 from abroad will be granted dual Israel and Palestinian citizenship and the immediate right to live in Israel, as Palestine agrees to give Palestinian citizenship to an equal number of Israeli Jews including settlers who choose to remain in Palestine (currently estimated at 220,000) as part of this agreement. As Israeli citizens, these refugees will be afforded all the rights of an Israeli citizen.

3.32 In addition, at the rate of approximately 100,000 persons per year for the first five years and then 70,000 for each year after, Palestinian Refugees will be able to immigrate to Palestine and receive Palestinian as well as Union citizenship. Those Palestinian refugees who would prefer to move to a third country or remain where they are will also have such options provided upon request as part of this agreement. As a result of this agreement over these 5 years, all refugee camps in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq can be dismantled or converted into normal residential areas and UNRWA (the UN organization for the support of Palestinian Refugees) will be disbanded.

3.33 As a gesture of reconciliation, the state of Israel will rebuild a symbolic number of depopulated pre-1948 Palestinian Arab villages in Israeli territory, allowing many refugees or their descendants the opportunity to achieve the dream of returning to the area of their ancestral homes. This number can be in the range of 20-40 villages being rebuilt with the carrying capacity of around 2,000 people each. The location of these villages will be determined by polling of those Palestinians who are taking the option of the around 250,000 Palestinians to move to Israel at the beginning of the implementation of the agreement. The villages will be located in what are now nature reserves in Israel and a list of possible options will be provided, the most popular options based on the polling will be rebuilt. In addition, a memorial will be placed at the site of every depopulated pre-1948 Palestinian village to honor the memory of those communities.

3.34 Third-party countries supporting this agreement, such as the US, Canada, the UK, and Australia, will provide citizenship to a limited number of Palestinian Refugees as well they will provide education opportunities, including University scholarships, which will provide opportunities for a large portion of the refugees.

3.35 Those Palestinians currently living in countries where they are not citizens but prefer to stay in these countries will be assisted in doing so and the Union will work with these countries to provide citizenship and support for those Refugees who prefer to stay in their current country.

3.36 In addition to the Palestinian Refugees living in Refugee camps, there are many Palestinians throughout the world who do not have citizenship in any country and are living as residents only. Particularly many of those living in Saudi Arabia and those who were living in Syria and Lebanon but have since left to seek asylum in other countries. These Palestinians will also be prioritized, following those who are living in refugee camps, for immigration to Palestine if they should choose to do so as well as prioritized to be given options in the coalition of supporting Third Party countries.

3.37 All Palestinians, refugees or otherwise, will have the right to return to Palestine and receive Palestinian and Union citizenship as part of the continual immigration program for Palestinians that will continue at the rate of at least 70,000 per year.

3.38 Regarding land and property that was lost as a result of either the war of 1948 or 1967, in cases where the land/property is not currently in use or owned under Israeli or Palestinian law and is within the limits of a modern municipality, then the property will be returned to the original owner. In cases where this property is

within the limits of a modern municipality and is available for sale, the Union government may be able to purchase this property and return it to the original owners. In all other cases, either if the property is currently owned or inhabited or otherwise in use as public infrastructure, then financial compensation will be given. In cases where the land or property is currently zoned as a nature reserve and not part of a municipality financial compensation will be given to the owners.

3.39 The Union will assist in getting the Arab and Muslim countries that expelled the Jewish populations to provide reasonable compensation to those families that lost property in those events. As these expulsions affected the majority of Israeli Jewish families in Israel, for those countries in which this is relevant, making proper restitution either with financial compensation or with return of property, will be a requirement for these countries to open relations with the Union. This would include Lebanon, Syria, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Yemen.

3.40 The Union will establish a Federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission which will organize media and workshops in communities and educational institutions that will promote the understanding of the narratives of the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples to each other. This Commission will work to help build a Shared Collective Memory about the conflict and promote mutual understanding and peace.

3.41 The Israelis and Palestinians will each recognize their part in the Jewish-Arab conflict from 1920-1948. As well they must take responsibility for all mistreatment and violence carried out by their side towards the other during the entire history of the conflict from 1920 until the current day.

3.42 The Union will criminalize purposeful acts of violence against civilians and any citizen of the Union or lawful resident therein. Acts of violence against either military before the 5-year interim agreement immediately preceding the formation of the Union will be pardoned, however, as long as these acts were under the laws of war and did not constitute a war crime.

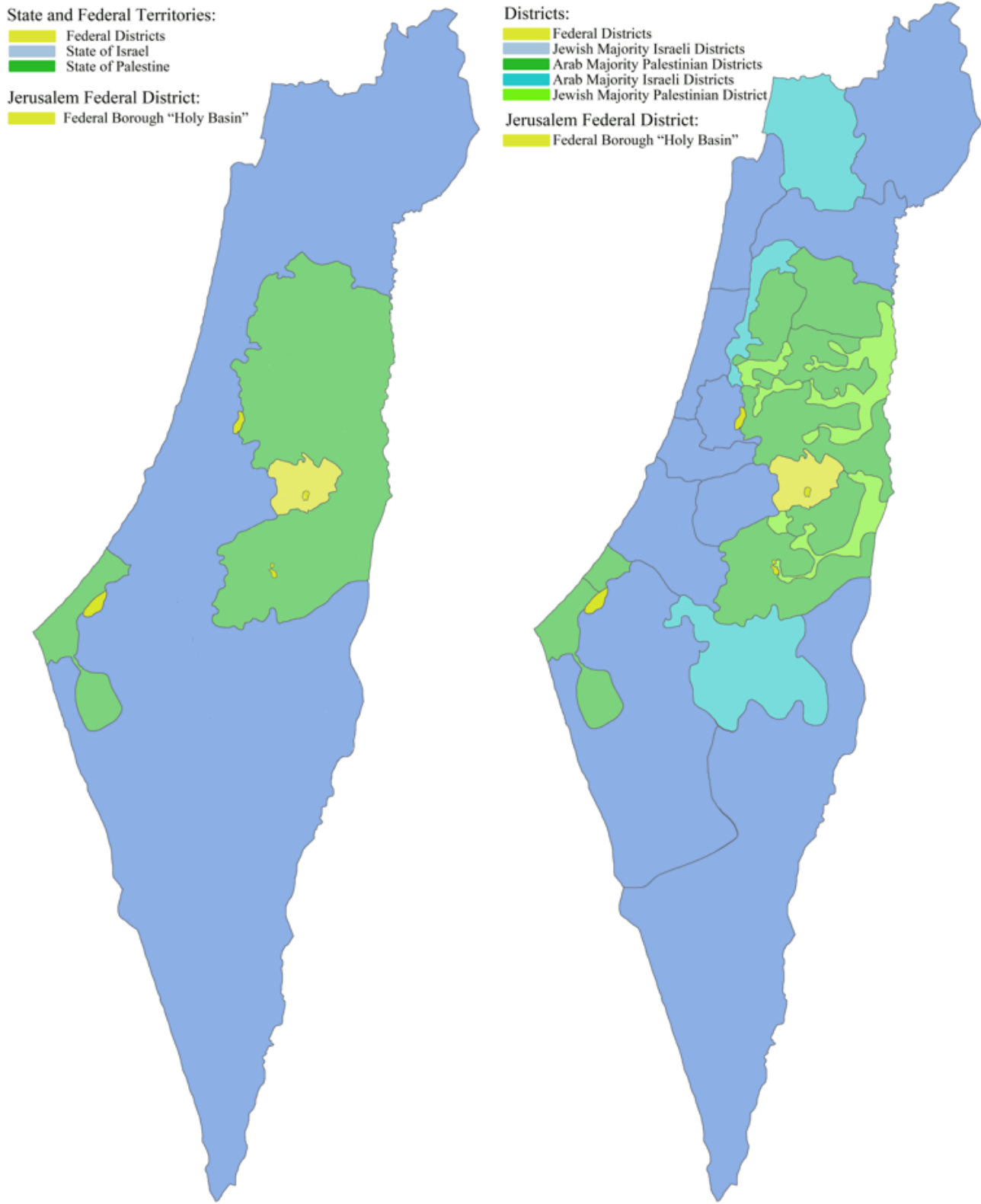
3.43 The Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people will each recognize the historic connection that both people have to the land of Israel-Palestine.

3.44 The future status of the Golan Heights and Shebaa Farms will be resolved in negotiations between the Union, Syria, and Lebanon. The creation of the Union will enable real regional integration and cooperation and help create stability throughout the Middle East.

3.45 The Union may someday choose to move to a single citizenship system and to convert into a full-fledged Federal State and may choose to rename itself the United States of Israel-Palestine, or Israel-Palestine for short. But that is a decision for a future generation.

3.46 The Jerusalem Union can be the future headquarters of a new Middle Eastern Union. This can include the countries that have already signed peace agreements with Israel, such as Egypt, Jordan, The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco, as well as other regional countries such as Saudi Arabia, Oman, Syria, and Lebanon. This would lead to greater prosperity and peace in the region.

Figure 1. Diagram of the Basic Structure of the Jerusalem Union



State and Federal Territories

Semi-Autonomous Electoral Districts

The maps presented in this document do not represent finalized negotiated borders but are meant to fully illustrate the principles of the proposal, for a link to the Google Maps version ([click here](#)).

4 - The Partition into Two States and Federal Districts

4.0.1 The States of Israel and Palestine will agree to partition into two states based on the pre-1967 borders with minor border adjustments and special arrangements for Jerusalem based on the “Clinton Parameters” with the Israeli Jewish neighborhoods of Jerusalem being Israeli territory, the Palestinian Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem being Palestinian territory and the greater old city of Jerusalem region, the ‘Holy Basin’ being a shared federal territory.

4.0.2 The State of Palestine Territory will be on around 23.5% of the territory of the former Mandate for Palestine, slightly higher than in the traditional two-state Solution. This will include a significant additional territory added onto the Gaza Strip for additional housing as well as for infrastructure projects such as an airport and an industrial zone.

4.0.3 Much of the territory going to Israel in the minor border adjustments will be in the greater Jerusalem area and this will be incorporated into the Federal District of Jerusalem. This will include the Israeli Jewish neighborhoods of East Jerusalem as well as some of the surrounding Israeli Jewish settlements such as Maale Adumim and Givat Ze’ev. The Federal District of Jerusalem will incorporate a new expanded municipal boundary and be devised so that the population of this District is close to 50:50 in terms of Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab population.

4.0.4 In the minor border adjustments Israel will annex some of the largest settlements near the Green Line including the Haredi (Ultra-Orthodox) cities of Beitar Illit and Modi’in Illit. With these border adjustments roughly 500,000 of the approximately 720,000 Israelis living over the Green Line today, about 70%, will be incorporated into the new boundaries of the State of Israel.

4.0.5 This will leave approximately 220,000 Israeli Jewish settlers in the Palestinian State who will be allowed to stay as citizens of Palestine in exchange for a similar number of Palestinian refugees from abroad being allowed to return to the State of Israel and receive Israeli citizenship. Beyond that, the Right of Return for Palestinians and the ability for Israeli Jews to live in the State of Palestine will be enabled by allowing citizens of either state the right of residency in the other state.

4.0.6 In exchange the territory that will be transferred from the State of Israel to the State of Palestine will mainly be uninhabited regions of equal value to build new housing and infrastructure for the Palestinians in line with other proposals such as the Geneva Initiative.

4.0.7 In addition three other federal regions will be under the direct control of the Federal Government. One of these regions will be in Hebron, in the region near the old city of Hebron, and another two will be in currently unused regions along the border between the States that will be used for joint economic development. One between the Gaza Strip and Israel and the other between the West Bank and Israel.

4.0.8 Each State will have Border Autonomy. Border Autonomy consists of the import and export of goods and the entrance and exit of individuals. The Union Customs Office will be responsible for import and export laws which will be standardized across the Union, while each State will be responsible for entrance and exit laws. Entrance and exit laws will be subject to agreements between the States and the Union under the signed agreements at the formation of the Union. No citizen can be barred from entering their state of citizenship.

Figure 2. Map Image of the Partition Plan for the States of Israel and Palestine based on pre-1967 boundaries with minor adjustments and 'Clinton Parameters' in the Greater Jerusalem Region.

State and Federal Territories:

- Federal Territories
- Israeli State Territories
- Palestinian State Territories

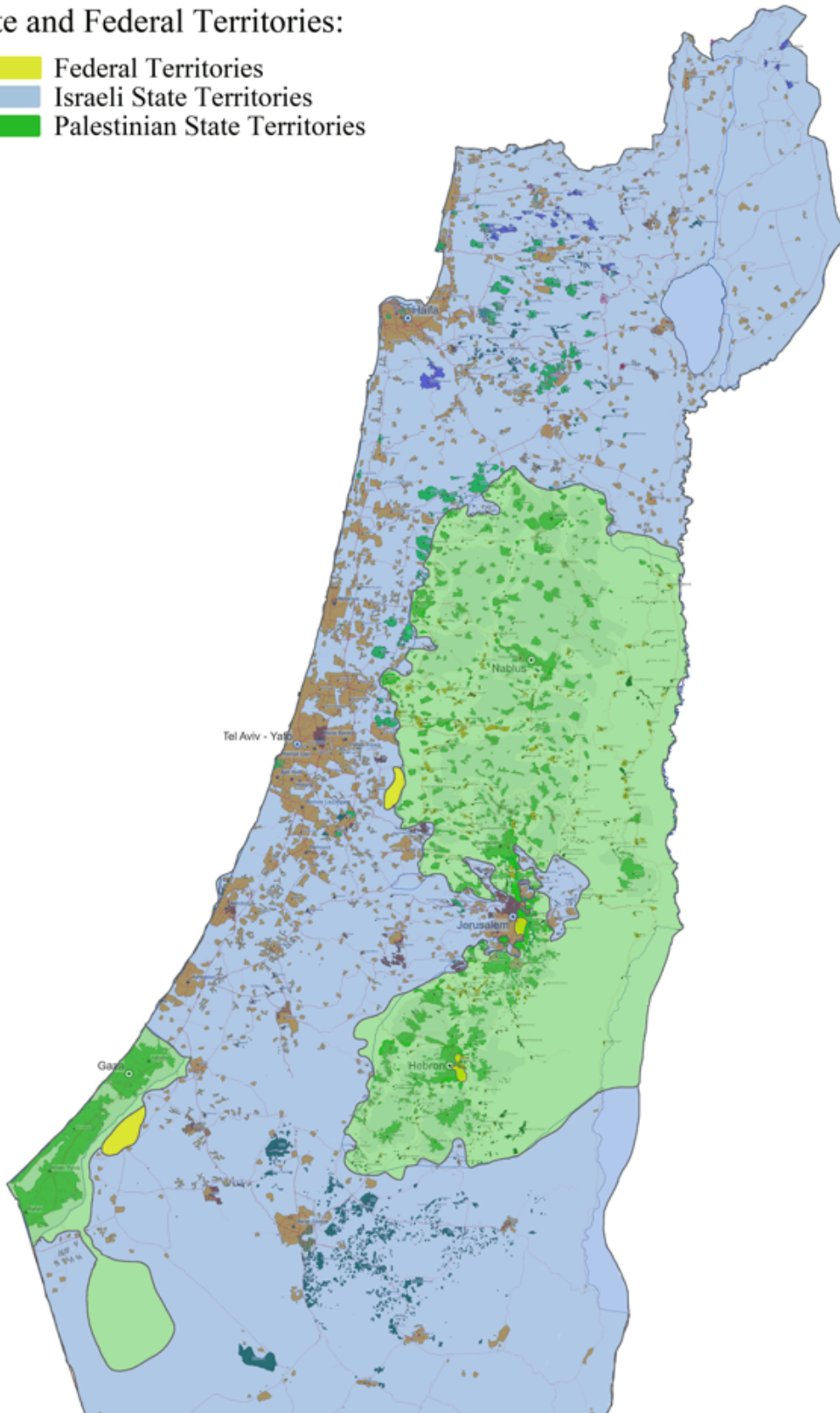


Fig 2. State and Federal Territories

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))




4.1 - The Jerusalem Federal District

4.1.1 The Jerusalem Federal District will comprise nine Boroughs, or subdivisions. four Israeli Boroughs, four Palestinian Boroughs and one shared Borough in the 'Holy Basin Region'. The Israeli and Palestinian Boroughs will be territory of their respective states, however it will be under the autonomous administration of the Jerusalem Federal District. The 'Holy Basin Region' will be a shared federal territory.

4.1.2 Residents of the Jerusalem Federal District will vote in their own respective State elections as well as for the government of the Federal District and the Federal Government. For the Purpose of State Elections the Jerusalem Federal District will be considered as one District in the Upper House of each State Legislature.

4.1.3 The State of Israel will continue to have its Parliament, the Knesset, in the Borough of West Jerusalem. The State of Palestine will have its Parliament, the Majlis, in the Borough of East Jerusalem and the Union will have the Federal Parliament in the Binational Borough of the Holy Basin.

Jerusalem Federal District:

-  Federal Borough "Holy Basin"
-  Israeli Borough
-  Palestinian Borough

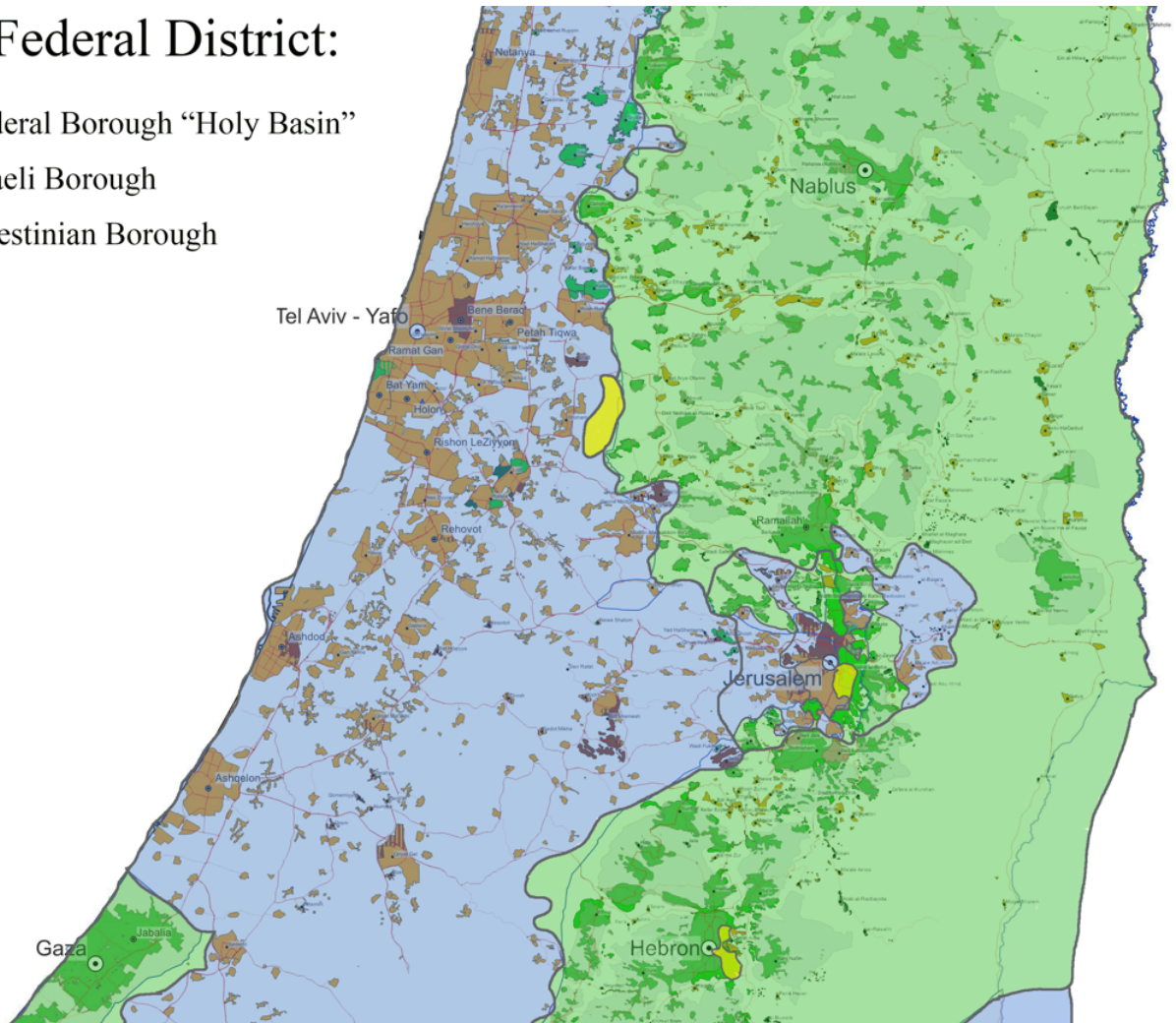


Fig 3. Jerusalem Federal District Region

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#). Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

4.2 - Boroughs of the Jerusalem Federal District

4.2.1 The Jerusalem Federal District Council will have a Bicameral Parliament with an even number of representatives per Borough in the Upper House of the Legislature. The Binational 'Holy Basin' Borough, will send an even number of Israeli and Palestinian representatives to the Upper House of the Jerusalem Federal District Legislature. This will make a total of nine divisions in the Jerusalem Federal District Legislature. The Lower House of Parliament will have the number of representatives per Borough based on the population residing in that Borough.

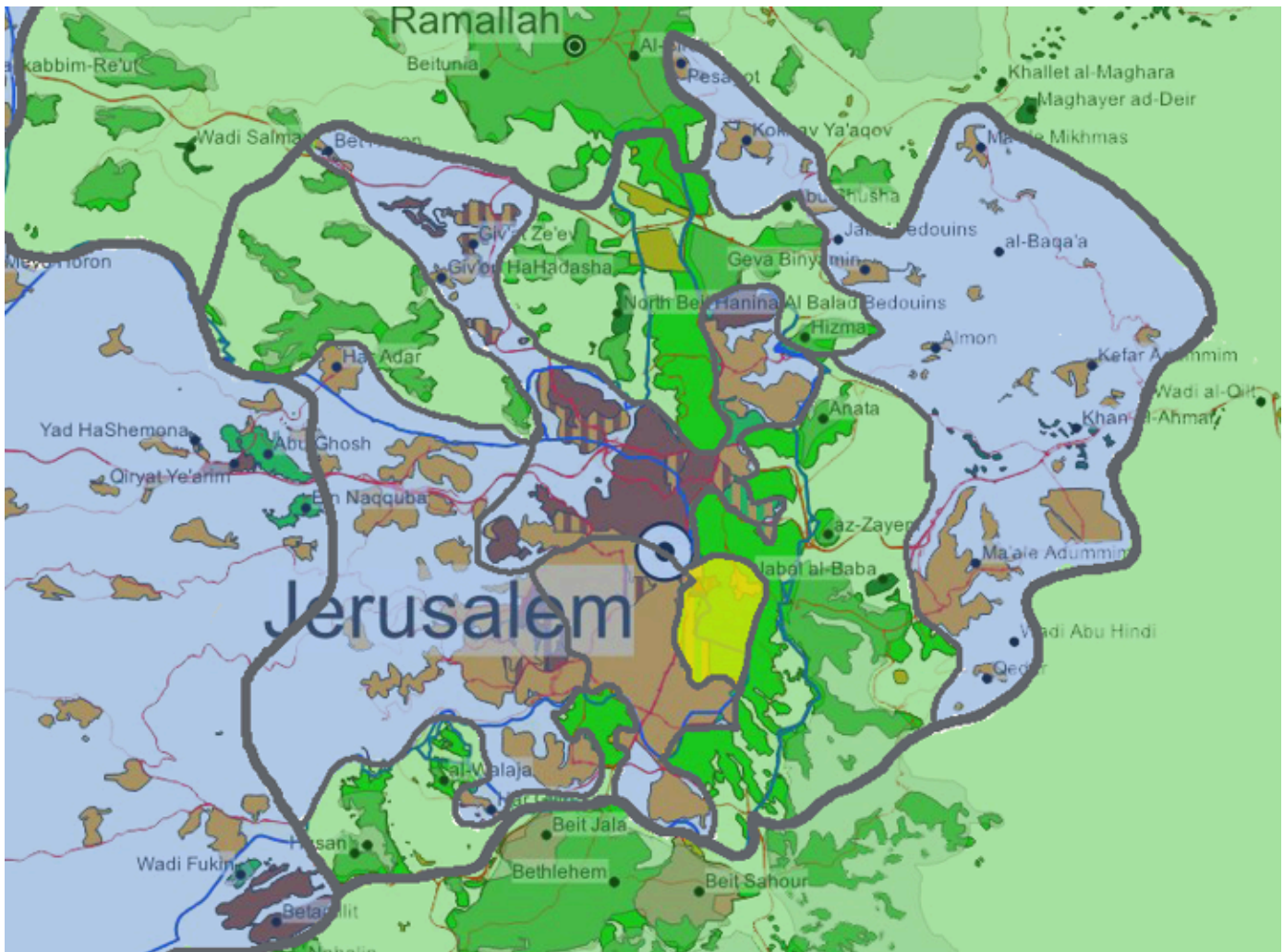


Fig 4. Jerusalem Federal District - Boroughs

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#). Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

Blue: Four Israeli Boroughs

Green: Four Palestinian Boroughs

Yellow: One Binational Borough of the 'Holy Basin'

4.2.2 Security for the Federal District will be maintained by a District Police force under the Authority of the Federal District Government as well as a federal Police force directed by the Federal Government. All military infrastructure that had been meant to police civilians within the Federal territory will be removed, such as military checkpoints and barriers. Civilians will only interact with civilian police and not soldiers in military uniforms.

4.2.3 The Rachel's Tomb Holy site as well as Nabi Samwil will be shared Federal Locations. Sacred sites will be overseen by a federal authority that will ensure safe access to all people to the places that are important to them as well as proper preservation and respect for the sanctity of the sites

4.2.4 The new expanded boundaries of the Jerusalem Federal District will be approximately 374 km², this is three times the size of the current Jerusalem Municipal Boundaries of 125.1 km². The population will also increase by around an additional 30% from the current 980,000 to around 1,275,000 people with a similar number of Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs. The expanded boundaries will allow the city to grow into a large metropolitan Federal Capital District for the Jerusalem Union.

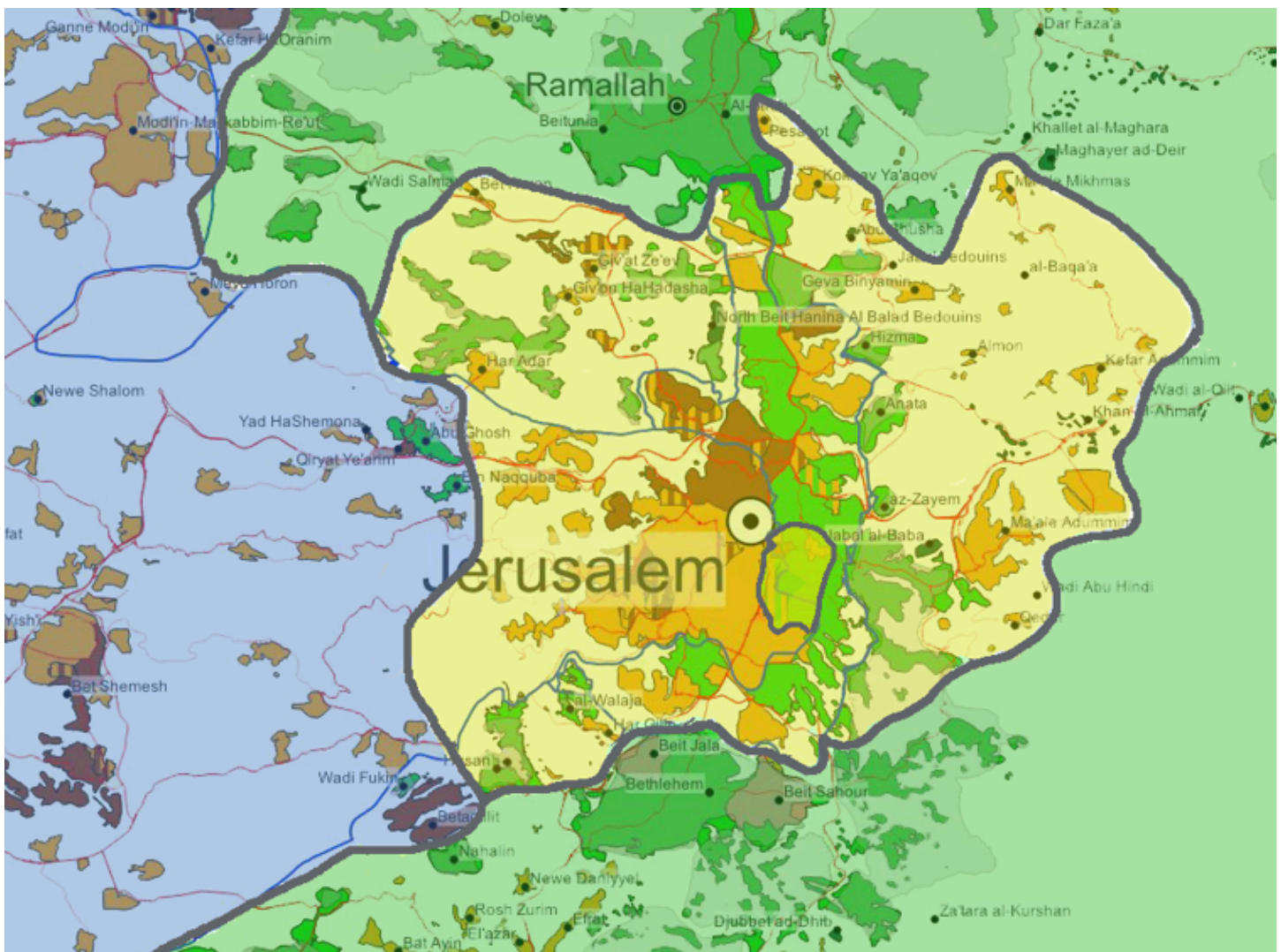


Fig 5. Jerusalem Federal District

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#). Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

4.3 - The Hebron Federal District (H2)

4.3.1 The Hebron Federal District, what used to be called H2 will be a federal district and open to citizens of Israel and Palestine. The military infrastructure in the region will be replaced with a civilian police force under the direction of the Federal Government. The shops will be open and civilian activity will return to normal. The Holy Site will be managed by a federal body taking into account the needs of Jews, Christians, and Muslims in connection with the site.

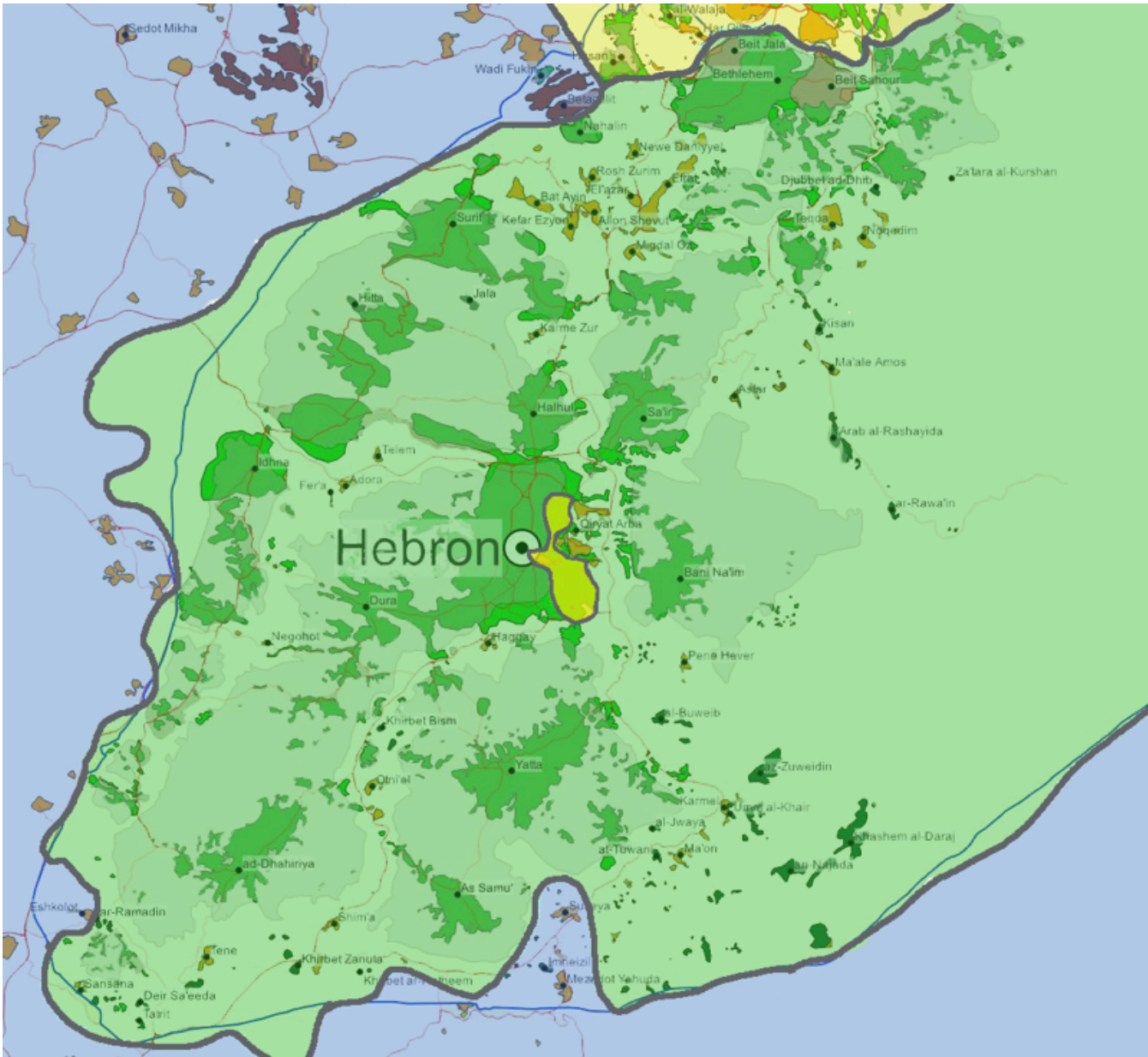


Fig 6. Hebron Federal District

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

Blue: The State of Israel

Green: The State of Palestine

Yellow: Hebron Federal District

5- The State of Israel - Districts

5.1 The State of Israel will be divided into 13 Districts, three of which, illustrated in the [Light Blue](#), will be the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of the State of Israel.

Districts:

- Federal Districts
- Jewish Majority Israeli Districts
- Palestinian Districts
- Arab Majority Israeli Districts

Jerusalem Federal District:

- Federal Borough "Holy Basin"

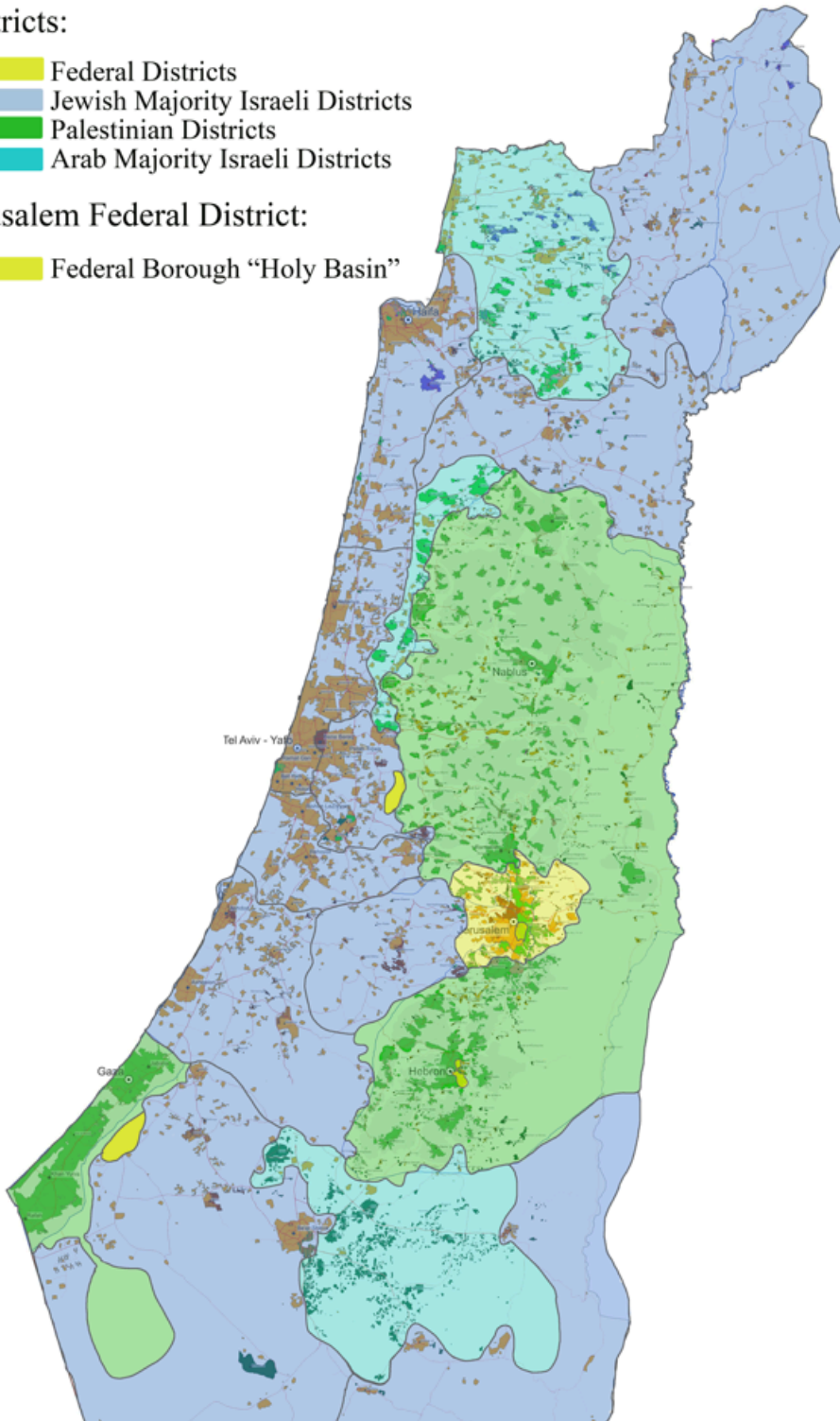


Fig 7. State of Israel Districts

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

5.2 The State of Israel will have a Bicameral Parliament with an even number of representatives per District in the Upper House of the Legislature. The Israeli Boroughs of Jerusalem will count as one Electoral District for this State Legislature as well as the Israeli citizens living in the State of Palestine whose votes will also count as one Electoral District for the State Legislature. This will make for a total of 15 Electoral Districts in the Israeli State Legislature with three of them or 20% being from the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts. The Lower House of the Parliament will have the number of representatives per Electoral District based on the population residing in that Electoral District.

5.3 The Districts will also provide local autonomy for the different ethno-cultural groups. For example, in the State of Israel, the Districts of Petah Tiqwa and Bet Shemesh will have a religious Israeli Jewish majority containing among them the cities of Bene Brak, Elad, Rosh Haayin, Modin Ilit, Bet Shemesh and Beitar Ilit, which contain the largest populations of Ultra-Orthodox Haredi Jews in the State of Israel, outside of Jerusalem. This will leave much of the other Israeli Jewish Districts with a strong secular Israeli Jewish majority.

5.4 Each District will have its own democratically elected government and local District constitution that will manage local education, police, fire, building regulation, roads, transportation, and local ordinances. The Provincial Government will be able to collect local taxes and provide incentives for economic development.

5.5 Israel can even begin to implement the federalization of the State of Israel prior to the agreement with the State of Palestine. They can create a second house of Parliament and add that to the Knesset with an additional 60 Knesset members for the upper house and elect four representatives per Electoral District from the 15 Electoral Districts.

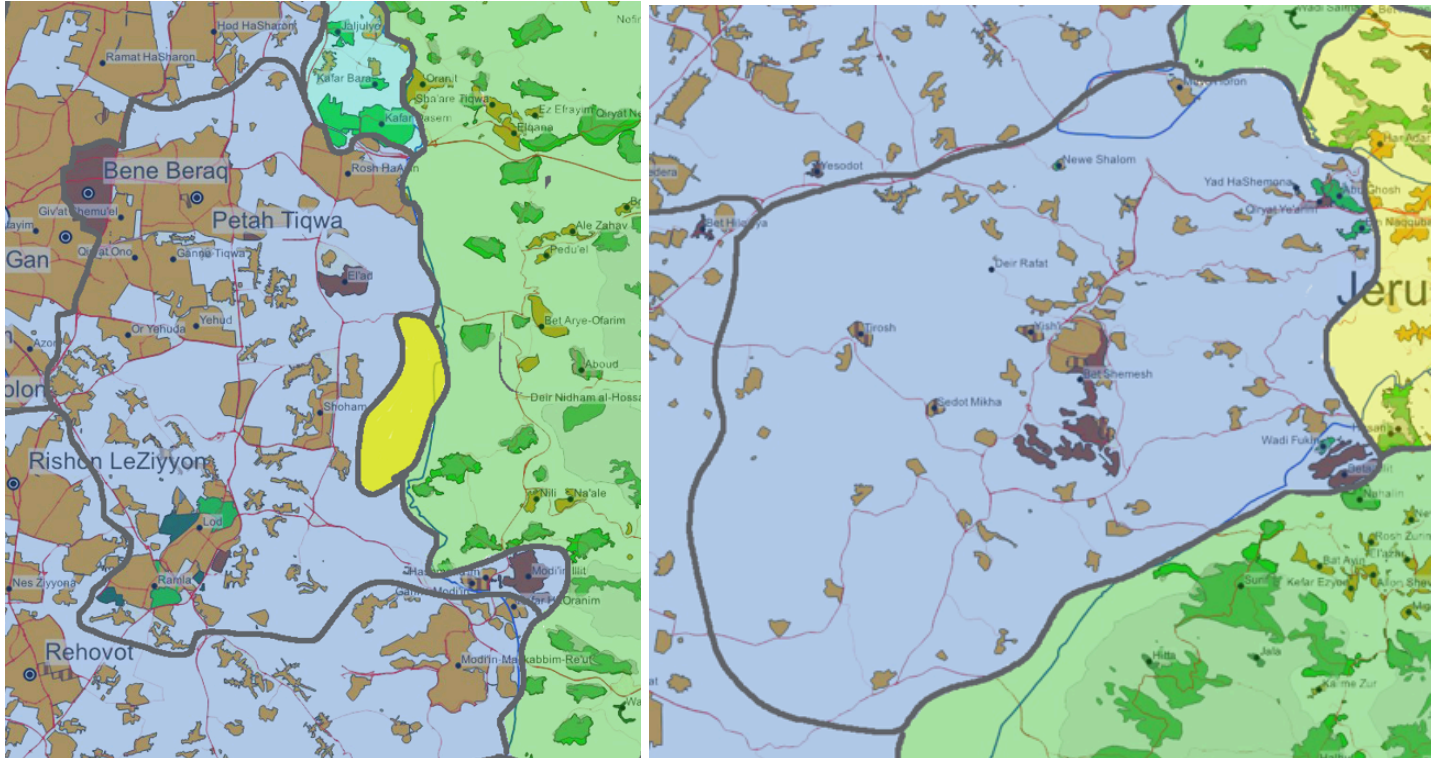


Fig 8. Religious Israeli Jewish Majority Districts of Israel - Petah Tiqwa and Beit Shemesh

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, [Sergey Kondrashov](#), CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

5.6 The State of Israel can begin by granting the Districts additional powers of autonomy and taxation and initiate local District elections for representative bodies in the Districts even before a full agreement with the Palestinians. This will help pave the way and serve as a proof of concept for the effectiveness of Federalism in the context of Israel-Palestine politics.

5.7 The Palestinian Arab Majority Israeli Districts of Nazareth, Um El Fahim, and Rahat will contain the majority of the Palestinian Arab population of Israel allowing for a level of autonomy for these groups within the state of Israel, illustrated in the [Light Blue](#). The Palestinian Arab Majority Districts in the State of Israel will be situated on roughly 14.5% of the territory of the State of Israel (not including the Golan Heights).

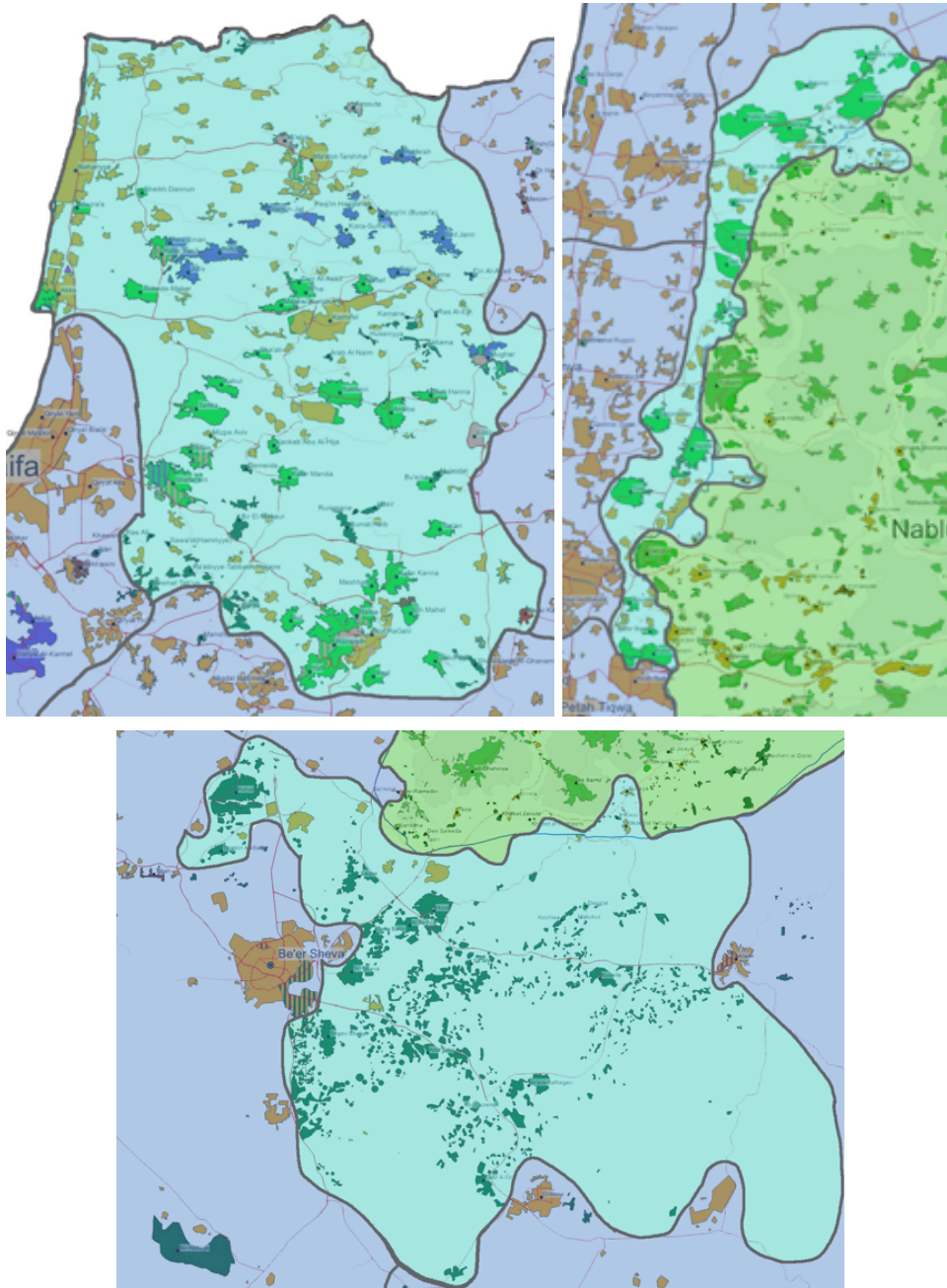


Fig 9. Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of Israel - Nazareth, Um El Fahim and Rahat

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over base map by, [Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

6 - The State of Palestine - Districts

6.1.1 The State of Palestine will be divided into nine Districts, one of which, illustrated in the **Light Green**, will be the Israeli Jewish Majority District of the State of Palestine, consisting of four subdistricts.

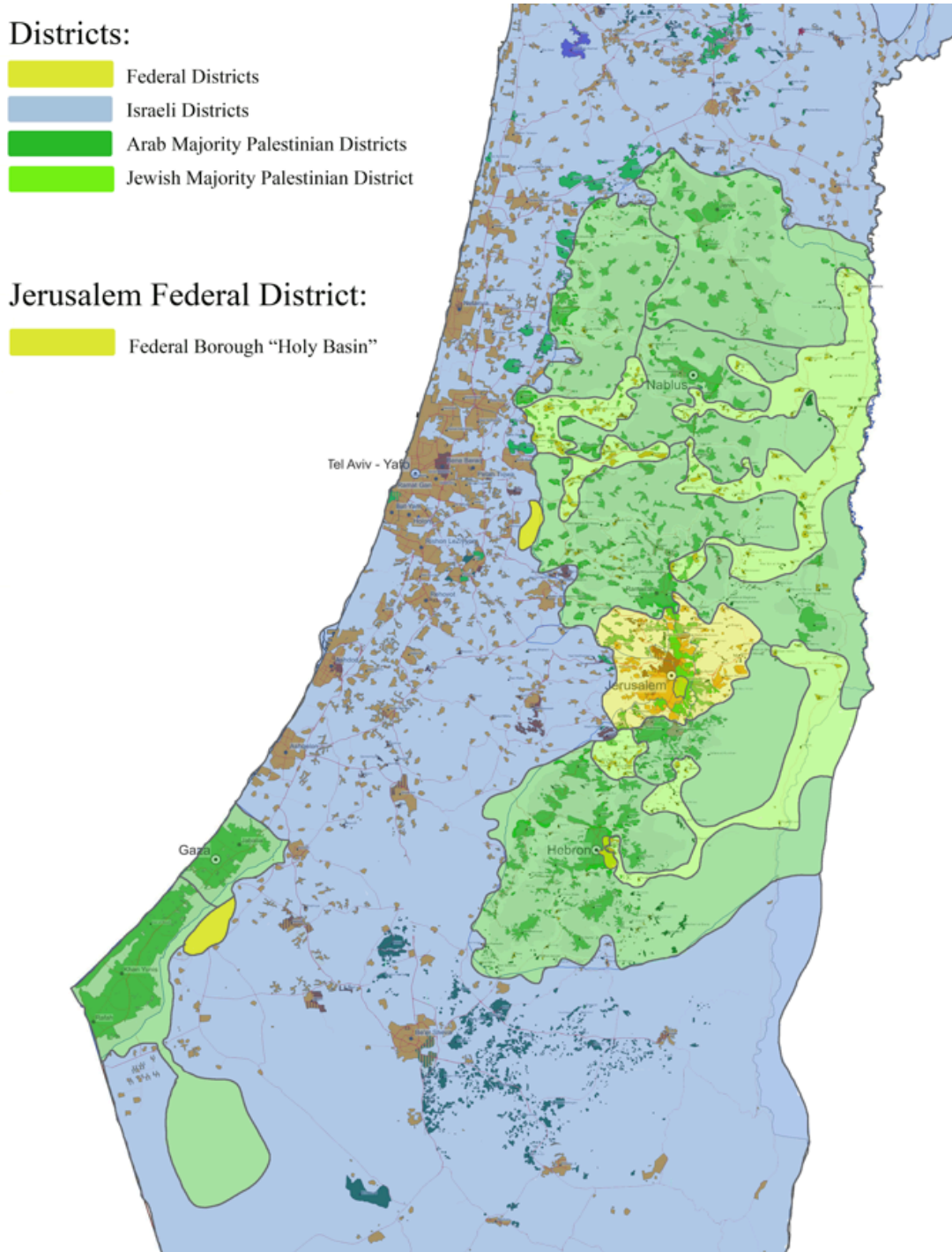


Fig 10. State of Palestine Districts

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

6.1.2 The State of Palestine will have a Bicameral Parliament with an even number of representatives per District in the Upper House of the Legislature. The Palestinian Boroughs of Jerusalem will count as one Electoral District for this legislature as well as the Palestinian citizens living in the State of Israel whose votes will also count as one Electoral District for the State Legislature. This will make for a total of 11 Electoral Districts in the Palestinian Legislature with one of them or 9% being from the Israeli Jewish Majority District. The Lower House of the Palestinian State Parliament will have a number of representatives per Electoral District based on the population residing in that Electoral District.

6.2 - The Israeli Jewish Settlements in the West Bank

The Idea of an Israeli Jewish minority presence in the Palestinian state will be in line with the ideas and beliefs of the late [Rabbi Menachem Froman](#) who was one of the founders of the settler movement who later in life became a well-known peace activist and met with Palestinian leaders such as Yasser Arafat and Sheik Yasin. He believed that for there to be peace there would have to be an Israeli Jewish minority in the State of Palestine just like there was a Palestinian Arab minority in the State of Israel. Yasser Arafat reportedly offered him the position of the Chief Rabbi of Palestine and he had made much effort in an attempt to create a peace agreement between Israel and Hamas to open the borders with Gaza in exchange for secession of hostilities. He was known and respected by Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab leaders alike, especially within the peace activist community.

He was known to refer to the settlements as “the fingers of Israel's outstretched hand in peace.” since it was his wish that the Israeli Jewish population of Palestine would act as ambassadors of peace forming the bonds between the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people much in the same way that the Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel help to form a positive connection with the Israeli Jewish society. As well he is also quoted as saying that in the event of a two-state solution, he would prefer to stay in his hometown in the West Bank settlement of Tekoa, "I prefer to live on the land, not in the state - to live on the land of Israel, not in the state of Israel," he said, "and I can do that if I follow the essence of my belief that I must love my neighbors, and the Palestinians are my neighbors."

6.2.1 The Israeli Jewish Majority District in the State of Palestine, comprised of 4 subdistricts, will be organized on roughly 14.5% of the territory of the State of Palestine in reflection of the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts in the State of Israel which will be organized on roughly 14.5% of the territory of the State of Israel (not including the Golan Heights). This will leave around 32% of the territory of the former Mandate of Palestine as part of the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts in both the States of Israel and Palestine.

6.2.2 The Judea and Samaria District with its Capital in Ariel will be the political home for most of the National Religious Israeli Jewish settler population, but will also have a Palestinian Arab minority population living in the District. Each District will have its own police force that will be a part of the State Police consisting of individuals living in that local district so that the local communities can police themselves, with oversight from state authorities. The local District police will also have to wear body cameras at all times dealing with the public just as any police officers, Federal and State Police throughout the Union. The population living in the Judea and Samaria District will be able to provide for the security of its residents and not be reliant on the Israeli military.

6.2.3 Upon the initiation of the Union all the current Israeli residents of the West Bank will be allowed to remain and have the opportunity to gain Palestinian citizenship while retaining their Israeli citizenship. In exchange, the state of Israel will allow an agreed number of Palestinian refugees or their descendants from outside of





Israel-Palestine to move to the State of Israel over a five-year period and immediately receive Israeli and Palestinian citizenship upon arrival. For more details on that see section [16 - Refugees and Compensation](#).

6.2.4 The State of Israel will agree to assist in developing the economy of this West Bank region which will become a much-needed boost of tax money and job opportunities to jump-start the Palestinian State economy. Israelis living in the State of Palestine, whether as citizens or residents will have to follow local Palestinian laws and pay Palestinian taxes.

6.2.5 Those Israeli citizens who are living in isolated settlements that are not included in the Judea and Samaria District will receive educational and religious services from the Judea and Samaria District but other local services from the Palestinian District they reside in. Appropriate security for these isolated settlements will be provided by Federal Police forces in cooperation with the Palestinian State Police.

6.2.6 Regarding Israelis living in Palestine who may have Israeli-issued firearm permits, they will need to gain Palestinian firearm permits to continue to legally carry firearms in Palestine or be members of the Palestinian or Federal Police Forces. A grace period may be given to allow such people to apply for a Palestinian firearm owner's permit once the agreement takes place. Israelis who have in the past may have committed violent acts against Palestinians, not in self-defense, may be rejected for such permits.

Districts:

-  Federal Districts
-  Israeli Districts
-  Arab Majority Palestinian Districts
-  Jewish Majority Palestinian District

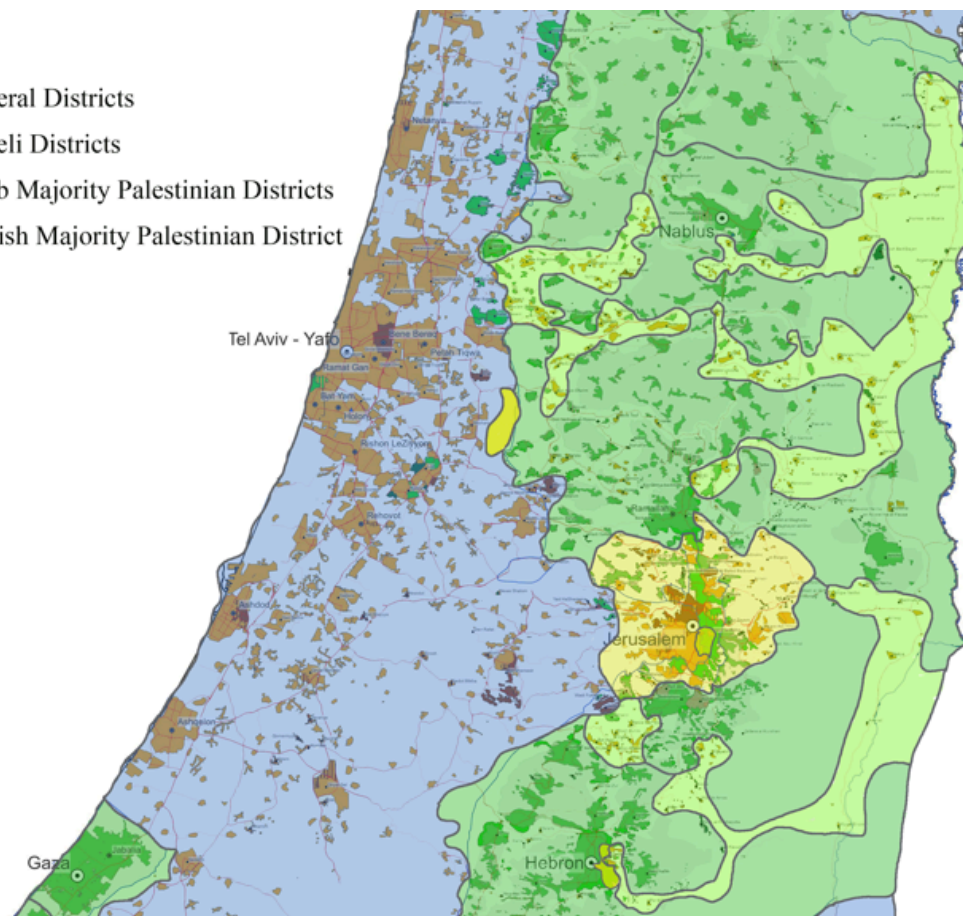


Fig 11. The District of Judea and Samaria in Palestine

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#). Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

6.3 - The Gaza Strip

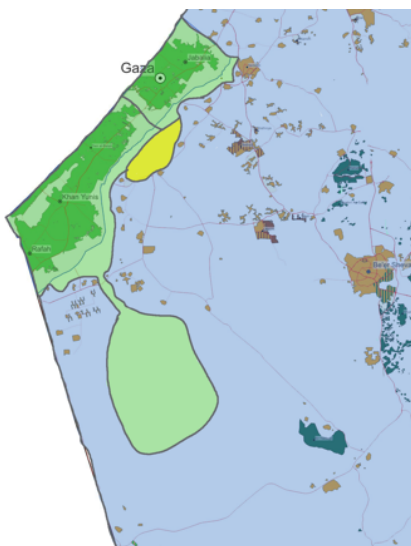
6.3.1 The Gaza Strip will gain a considerable amount of territory in the land-swap border adjustments. The land allocated to Gaza will enable additional housing for Gaza residents as well as considerable territory in the Halutza desert region to build an airport, industrial District, and transportation hub. A port will also be built off the coast of Gaza making Gaza an ideal region for international shipping and transportation of goods. There can also be a rail station built in the additional territory to connect the Gaza port of goods coming from the Arabian Peninsula.

6.3.2 In addition there will be a Federal Economic District created between Gaza and Israel to attract international investment and develop the Gaza and Gaza border region in Israel as well as fostering cooperation.

6.3.3 Gaza will be a part of the State of Palestine and send representatives from its two Districts to the Palestinian and Federal Parliaments. There will be no need for a special tunnel or other direct secured connections connecting the Gaza Strip to the rest of the West Bank, the borders will be fully open for travel between the two regions. However, there will be transit infrastructure improvements made to connect Gaza quickly and efficiently to both Israel and the West Bank via new highways and railways.

6.3.4 A special program managed by the Federal Government in cooperation with the State of Palestine will be put in place to rebuild Gaza, infrastructure, educational system, healthcare and governance to create a standard of living in Gaza at the same level as other places in the Union.

6.3.5 Additional funding for the rebuilding of Gaza with a high level of infrastructure and quality services to turn it into the beautiful beachside Palestinian metropolis that it should be will come from developing the Gaza Marine natural gas field for the benefit of the State of Palestine and the people of Gaza in particular. The Gaza Marine field was discovered in 2000 by BG Group and it is estimated to contain more than one trillion cubic feet of natural gas, with an estimated value of at least \$183.5 billion.



Blue: Israeli Jewish Majority Districts of the State of Israel

Green: Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of the State of Palestine

Yellow: Gaza-Israel Federal Economic District

Fig 13. Gaza with expanded boundaries and a Federal Economic District

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

6.4 - Federal Economic Districts

6.4.1 An additional Federal Economic District will be created between Israel and the West Bank, about halfway between the major economic centers of Tel Aviv and Ramallah. This will help attract investment as well as cooperation across borders. The Federal Economic Districts will be special low-tariff regions where State taxes do not apply and only limited federal taxation rules will exist. This will help boost the Palestinian economy as well as encourage cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians.

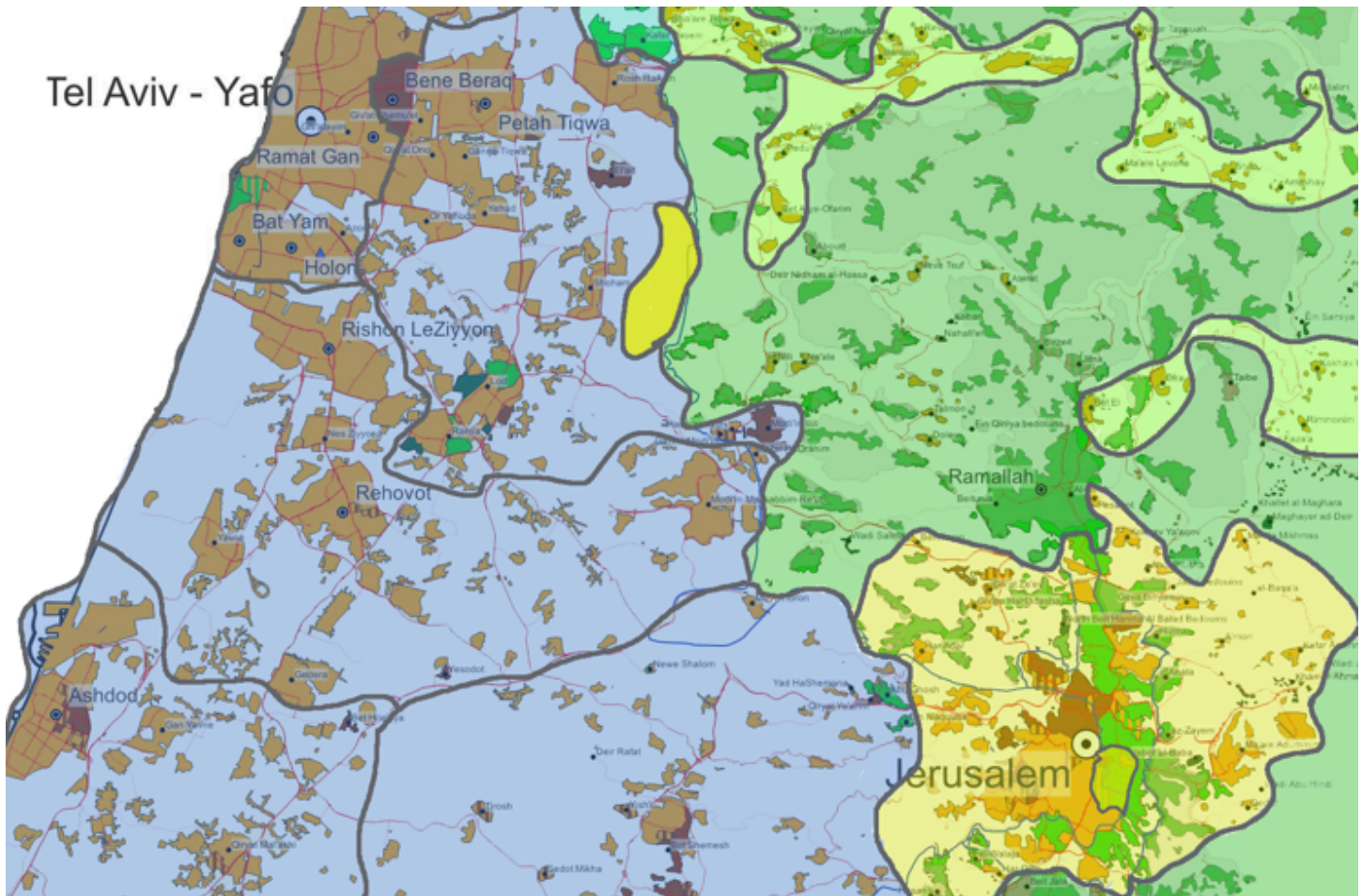


Fig 14. Israel - West Bank Federal Economic District

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

Blue: Israeli Jewish Majority Districts of the State of Israel
Light Blue: Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of the State of Israel
Green: Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of the State of Palestine
Light Green: Israeli Jewish Majority District of the State of Palestine
Yellow: Federal Districts

7- The Jerusalem Union - Electoral Districts

7.1 The Federal Government will have a Bicameral Parliament with an even number of representatives per District in the Upper House of the Legislature. There will be representatives from the 22 Districts, a total of 11 Israeli Jewish Majority Districts and 11 Palestinian Arab Majority Districts. The Federal District of Jerusalem will count as two Electoral Districts in the Federal Legislature and send an even number of Israeli and Palestinian Representatives elected from the Israeli and Palestinian Boroughs. The Lower House of Parliament will have a number of representatives per Electoral District based on the population residing in that Electoral District.

Districts:

- Federal Districts
- Jewish Majority Israeli Districts
- Arab Majority Palestinian Districts
- Arab Majority Israeli Districts
- Jewish Majority Palestinian District

Jerusalem Federal District:

- Federal Borough "Holy Basin"

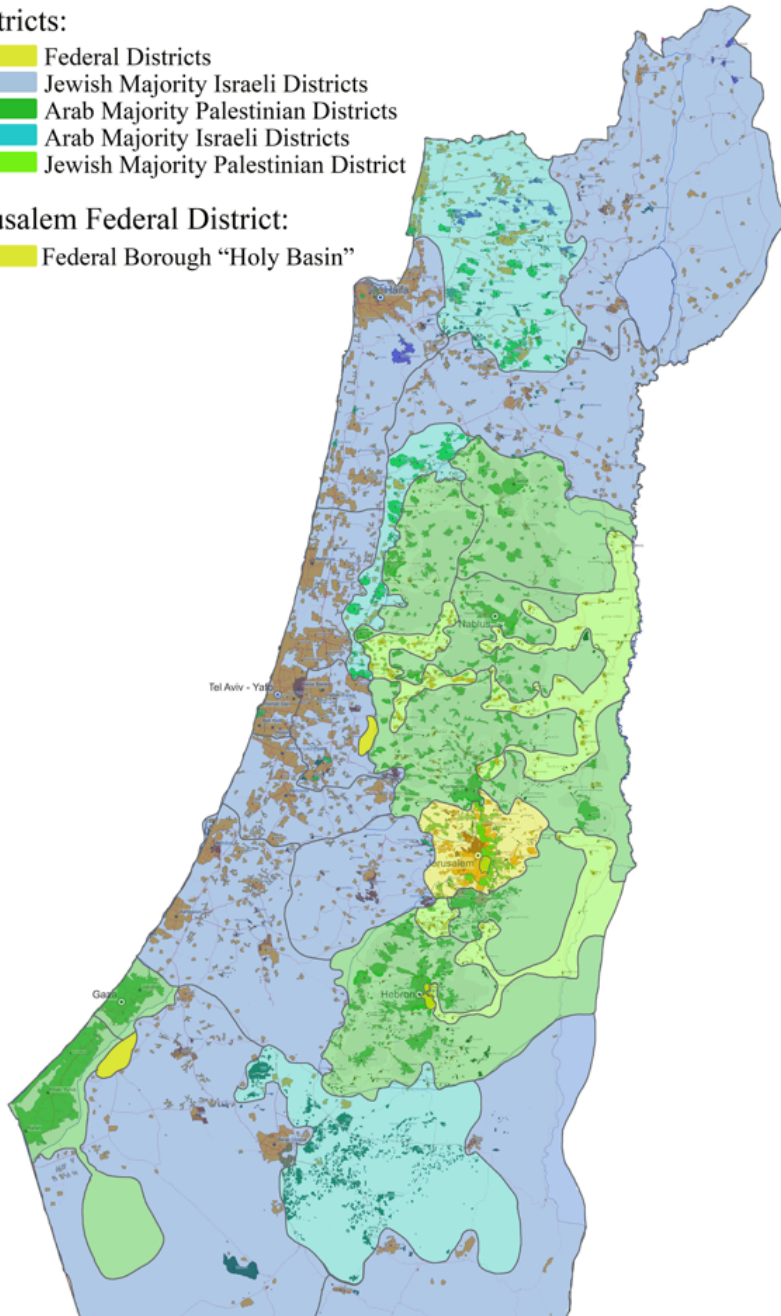


Fig 15. Jerusalem Union Electoral Districts

Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, Sergey Kondrashov, CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#), Link to detailed map ([click here](#))

7.2 The Jerusalem Union addresses land distribution from both a collective and individual perspective. Collectively, although Israel has a larger area than Palestine, much of that land is in the south, which is predominantly an unpopulated desert, whereas the population centers are relatively equally divided between the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab Majority Districts. In total, around 32% of the former Mandate of Palestine will be allotted to the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts. However, if you start with a line below the city of Yeruham in the Negev desert, below which less than 1% of the current population of Israel-Palestine lives, much like in Figure 15 above, and only count the areas north of this line, you would have approximately 45% of the territory of the former mandate of Palestine belonging to the Palestinian Arab Majority districts.

8 - The Federal Government

8.0.0 The Federal Government will consist of a central, shared regime to address mutual concerns of both states, made up of institutions including, but not limited to:

8.0.1 The Federal Parliament, the federal legislative body that provides resolutions to common issues for both member states.

8.0.2 The Federal Council, a joint executive body of elected officials to formally enact common legislation of the Federal Parliament.

8.0.3 A Federal Ministry of Immigration will coordinate between the ministries of absorption for both states, allowing for the rights of the diasporas of both peoples to come back to the land. Both states will enact immigration controls to keep their populations at a stable proportion of their representative nation.

8.0.3 The establishment of the Israeli-Palestinian Common Market, as well as other Economic and fiscal bodies including The Federal Bank of Israel-Palestine with the New Israel-Palestine Shekel as its official currency.

8.0.4 Federal Authorities over common infrastructure and resources, including roads, electricity, and water.

8.0.5 A Federal Supreme Court where the justices of both nations will arbitrate legal disputes involving both states.

8.1 - Federal Parliament

8.1.1 The Federal Parliament, the common governmental body for both states, will allow the enactment of legislation relevant to shared issues for the peoples of Israel and Palestine.

8.1.2 The Parliament is filled by democratic elections based on Electoral Districts to represent the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples of the land in equal measure, as well as representing and preserving the freedoms and rights of all the people of Israel-Palestine.

8.1.3 Like in two State Legislatures, the Federal Parliament will be made of two Houses, Upper and Lower, with 72 and 120 representatives respectively. The Upper House will comprise three representatives from each

Districts of the States of Israel and Palestine as well as six representatives from the Jerusalem Federal Region, three from the Israeli Boroughs, and three from the Palestinian Boroughs.

8.1.4 Residents of the 'Holy Basin' Binational Borough will vote for representatives from the Jerusalem Federal District based on their citizenship and if they are dual-citizens may vote for either the Israeli or the Palestinian representatives from Jerusalem. The Lower House will be made of representatives from each of these same regions with the number of representatives distributed to each region proportional to the population.

8.1.5 Residents of the Hebron Federal District will vote for a local administration for public services. They will vote in whichever state election in the state that they are a citizen of. For the Federal Parliamentary Elections, they will vote for either the Hebron District representative or the Judea and Samaria District representatives. If they are Dual Citizens then they can choose either District. The Hebron Federal District will also have its local administration under the direction of the Federal Government.

8.1.6 Residents of one of the Federal Economic Districts will vote for the State Federal Legislature based on the citizenship that they hold. They will vote along with the adjacent Israeli or Palestinian District, depending on the citizenship they hold, for the State and Federal Elections. If they are Dual Citizens then they can choose either adjacent District. The Federal Economic Districts will also have their local administration under the direction of the Federal Government.

8.1.7 Citizens of both Israel and Palestine will be able to vote for the Federal Parliament based on their current area of residency, regardless of their State of citizenship.

8.1.8 The Federal Parliament will only have the ability to make changes to the Federal Constitution or the Bill of Rights in the case of a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the representatives of both houses of the Federal Parliament and ratification by both States with $\frac{2}{3}$ majority in both houses of Parliament of each State.

8.1.9 Any law aside from a constitutional law that is proposed by either the upper or lower house of the Federal Parliament must pass with a simple majority in both houses before it can become law.

8.1.10 Federal laws will be sent to the Federal Council to be signed into law if they have passed with a simple majority in both the upper and lower houses of the Federal Parliament. The Federal Council will have the right of veto by majority decision.

8.1.11 Federal laws and generally binding federal decrees must be submitted to the people for approval by referendum if 250,000 Union citizens or if either State Government so demands.

8.1.13 As a common body, the Parliament will direct its legislative activities to issues including:

- Economic and Fiscal Policies
- Joint infrastructure
- Environmental Protection
- Regional Cooperation
- Diplomacy
- Security
- Education
- Science and Technology
- Tourism

8.1.14 As a common body, the Parliament will not interfere with the legislative activities of States or Districts, except for:

- Affiliation with an enemy state or nation.
- Declaration of war or acts of aggression upon the other constituent state.
- Economic sanctions against the other constituent state and its people.
- Violations of Federal Law or the Federal Constitution

8.2 - The Federal Council

8.2.1 At the head of the Federal Government will sit the Federal Council which will be elected by the Joint Federal Legislature which is the combined legislature of the Upper and Lower Houses of the Federal Government. The Federal Council will consist of members of the Federal Parliament, ideally from a ruling coalition government. But, if no coalition is formed the Federal Parliament can simply elect each minister separately for the four-year term.

8.2.2 This body will include seven key ministers, with one of the seven ministers acting as the prime minister when elected for this task for one year by the Federal Parliament. This minister may only be prime minister for one year at a time after which another one of the seven must be elected by the Federal Parliament from a different political party and the Prime minister of the previous year serves as deputy prime minister the following year. The Council itself is considered the official head of the Union.

8.2.3 The Federal Council will have the authority to:

8.2.3.1 Create a committee for making the constitution or basic legal framework for the managing and governance of the Union.

8.2.3.2 Coordinate internal and external security including the defense of both states from external aggression, as well as the prevention of terrorism or rebellions from militant groups.

8.2.3.3 Convene with national and religious leaders (whether Muslim, Christian, Jewish, Druze, Circassian, Samaritan, etc.) to address the needs of their communities across state and District boundaries.

8.2.3.4 Coordinate the provision of services of infrastructure, including energy and water, as well as joint environmental and security concerns.

8.2.3.5 Ensure the proper functioning of the Israeli-Palestinian Common Market, promoting stable and equitable growth inside and between both nations.

8.2.3.6 Conduct foreign relations on behalf of the Union as a whole.

8.2.3.7 Create Union-wide standards for safety and education.

8.2.3.8 Manage the Federal Districts and create a constitution or basic legal framework for the managing and governance of each Federal District.

8.2.3.9 Organize a Federal Police Force with a focus on providing security in the Federal Districts as well as in the Israeli Jewish Majority District in the State of Palestine and in the Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of the State of Israel.

8.2.3.10 A Joint security council will be comprised of the Prime Ministers, Defense Ministers, internal security ministers, and the heads of the armed forces of the Union and of the Constituent States to handle serious security situations such as a war or major military action in response to a credible threat to the Union or its Constituent states.

8.2.3.11 Appoint the members of the Supreme Court and the Justice Minister, who will be approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the representatives of both houses of the Federal Parliament.

8.2.3.12 Appoint the Minister of Immigration and Integration, who will be approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the representatives of both houses of the Federal Parliament. This Minister will manage the Ministry in charge of the immigration policy of the Union in cooperation with the States of Israel and Palestine.

8.2.3.12 Appoint the Minister of Religious Affairs and Sacred Sites, who will be approved by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of the representatives of both houses of the Federal Parliament. This Minister will work along with a council of representatives from the States of Israel and Palestine to safeguard the sanctity of their faiths and sacred sites.

8.3 - The Federal Supreme Court

8.3.1 The judicial Power of the Union, shall be vested in the Federal Supreme Court of the Union, and in such inferior Courts as the Federal Government may establish.

8.3.2 The Judicial Power of the Union shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under the Constitution, the Laws of the Union, and Treaties made by the Federal Government.

8.3.3 The Judicial Power of the Union shall also extend to all Cases:

8.3.3.1 affecting Ambassadors to the Union and to all Cases of maritime Jurisdiction

8.3.3.2 to Controversies to which the Union shall be a Party

8.3.3.3 to Controversies between the States of Israel and Palestine and between a State and Citizens of another State

8.3.3.4 to Controversies between Citizens of different States, between Citizens of the same States claiming Lands of a different State

8.3.3.5 to Controversies between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

8.4 - Bill of Rights

8.4.0 The Union Bill of Rights allows for freedom of speech, Freedom of Religion, the right to education, the right to be free of unwarranted search and seizures, due process, and many more basic civil rights. The Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, will be based on secular democratic law and ensure that the Union is operating at the political standard of a modern liberal democracy. The Bill of Rights is divided into Individual and Collective Rights. Below are Some examples from the Bill of Rights, for the full list of protected rights under the Union see [Appendix D: – The Bill of Rights for Israel-Palestine:](#)

8.4.1 Rights of the Individual

8.4.1.1 The Federal Government shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

8.4.1.2 Personal security is guaranteed by the constitution. No one may be arrested, searched, detained, or restricted in his freedom in any way except by a judicial order applying the provisions of the law. The law shall define the conditions of provisional detention.

8.4.1.3 Capital punishment shall be banned.

8.4.1.4 Punishment is individual; collective punishment is forbidden.

8.4.1.5 Natural resources in Israel-Palestine are the property of the people of Israel-Palestine. They shall exercise their sovereignty over them and do not permit their monopolization. Their exploitation shall be governed by law.

8.4.1.6 The economic order in Israel-Palestine shall be established based on free market principles. The law shall regulate its supervision to protect free economic activity and to preserve the rights of groups in need of care. The state may establish public companies regulated by law.

8.4.1.7 A clean and sustainable environment is a human right. It shall be a societal and official responsibility to preserve and protect the environment for present and future generations.

8.4.1.8 The people shall be equal before the law. They shall enjoy rights and incur duties equally without discrimination for any cause except those constitutionally legitimated.

8.4.1.9 Human rights and basic freedoms according to international laws, charters, and treaties that become part of domestic law are binding and must be respected.

8.4.1.10 Every person has the right to life and to the protection of his rights, freedoms, and well-being under the provisions of the Constitution, the laws issued in application thereof, and the principles of justice.

8.4.2 Collective rights

8.4.2.1 The Collective Rights are the rights afforded to the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people in all the land of Israel-Palestine by virtue of their historic, ancestral, cultural and religious ties to the land of Israel-Palestine, the Union will do all in its power under to the law to see these rights protected and the aspirations of both main Ethno-National Groups are fulfilled in a just manner, these rights include the following:

8.4.2.2 The right of the Ethno-National Groups, the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people, to return to the homeland of Israel-Palestine is sacred and eternal and is to be actualized by the Union as a top priority in accordance with the law. These rights will be known as Hoq Il Awda and Aliya respectively.

8.4.2.3 The Ethno-National Groups have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

8.4.2.4 The Ethno-National Groups, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government via the States of Israel and Palestine in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

8.4.2.5 There are also several Ethno-Cultural Communities in the Union which in many cases are subgroups of the main Ethno-National Groups and they include; the Jewish Israelis (not including ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Haredim (ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Palestinian and Israeli Settled (non-Bedouin) Arabic Speaking Muslims, the Arabic Speaking Muslim Bedouin, Palestinian and Israeli Arabic Speaking Christians, Israeli and Syrian Arabic Speaking Druze, Israeli and Lebanese Arabic Speaking Alawites, Israeli Circassians, Samaritans, Armenians and Bahai people groups.

8.4.2.6 The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions while retaining their right to participate fully, in the political, economic, social, and cultural life of the State and the Union.

8.4.2.7 The Ethno-Cultural Communities and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture.

8.4.2.8 The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect, and develop the past, present, and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archeological and historical sites, artifacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies, and visual and performing arts and literature.

8.4.2.9 The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.

8.4.2.10 The Ethno-Cultural Communities, whose members span the globe, divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations, and

cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic, and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.

9 - Districts of the States

9.1 Each District of the States of Israel or Palestine (not including the Federal Districts) will have its own constitution created by the people of that state under State and Federal Law. They will have a government consisting of a legislature, an executive, police, and courts.

9.2 Citizens may only exercise political rights in their District of residence and in no more than one District at a time. Any change in the number of Districts requires the consent of the citizens and the governments of the States of Israel and Palestine as well as the approval of the Federal Government.

9.3 The number and boundaries of States shall be arranged and delineated in a manner that preserves equity of representation between the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people groups in the Upper House of the Federal Government. If it seems that one of the districts will switch electoral majorities either state can call for a redistricting process for that District or another District to compensate for this change. Any change in territory between Districts requires the consent of both the governments of the States as well as the approval of the Federal Government.

10 - Community Councils

10.1 Each of the major Ethno-Cultural Communities will have its own Community Councils to provide cultural autonomy throughout the Union as well as help protect their collective rights in places where they may be a minority. These councils will be made up of elected representatives of the particular community. There can be Community Councils at every level of the government where appropriate. Starting with local communities in towns and neighborhoods who can create their councils at a local level, these councils can be organized to send representatives from the local councils to community councils at the District, State, and Federal levels.

10.2 The Governments of the Union at every level will be accountable to these councils for issues relating to their culture, education, tradition, religious needs, sacred sites, flags, anthems, and national symbols. The Government bodies of the Union will work towards developing relationships with their people groups and strive to afford the major Ethno-Cultural community their collective rights and respect the principle that they have the right to self-determination and Cultural Expression in the Union as a whole.

10.3 The Main Ethno-Cultural Communities that will have these Community Councils will include; the Jewish Israelis (not including ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Haredim (ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Palestinian and Israeli Settled (non-Bedouin) Arabic Speaking Muslims, the Arabic Speaking Muslim Bedouin, Palestinian and Israeli Arabic Speaking Christians, Israeli and Syrian Arabic Speaking Druze, Israeli and Lebanese Arabic Speaking Alawites, Israeli Circassians, Samaritans, Armenians, and Bahai people groups.

11 - Citizenship and Immigration

11.1 Any citizen who is a citizen or resident of Israel or Palestine at the founding of the Union or has immigrated to the Union and lived there for at least five years is considered a Union Citizen. This will include Palestinians who, after 1967, were residents of East Jerusalem with an Israeli residency or either the West Bank or Gaza under the Palestinian Population Registry (which was controlled by Israel) but have since lost their residency due to leaving Israel-Palestine for an extended period or for taking another citizenship. This group, along with their spouses and children, will also get automatic Palestinian and Union citizenship at the founding of the Union.

11.2 A Union Citizen may move to any region or state in the Union and will vote in District, Municipal, and Federal elections from their new residency. They will maintain their Israeli or Palestinian State Citizenship which will enable them to vote for their respective State Parliaments.

11.3 The Federal Ministry of Immigration will work with both states to ensure ongoing demographic majorities of Jews in Israel and Palestinian Arabs in Palestine, as well as ensure coordination for the allocation of appropriate resources to enable the incorporation of future immigrants.

11.4 New Immigrants are immigrants to either of the constituent States who have not yet lived in the Union for at least five years, after which they will also become Union Citizens. A New Immigrant may work in or travel to either State or any Federal District in the Union but may only reside in the state of which they are a citizen or in a Federal District.

11.5 A Union Citizen may reside in any region or state in the Union and will vote in regional, municipal, and Federal elections from their new residency. The number of years from immigrating to one of the constituent States, until one becomes a Federal Citizen, is one of the variables that may change over time as the Federal Union progresses, starting with five years and later reducing to 3 years or less. Eventually, this regulation may be eliminated and all new immigrants to either constituent State may simultaneously become Union citizens.

11.6 New Immigrants of Jewish origin may move to the State of Israel or one of the Federal Districts. The State of Palestine will be allowed to limit the number of New Immigrants to the State of Israel who move to the state of Palestine. A New Immigrant to the State of Israel wishing to move to the State of Palestine will have to apply for residency in the State of Palestine and be subject to approval. Once the 'New Immigrant' gains Union Citizenship they gain the right to move to the other state whenever they want.

11.7 New Immigrants of Palestinian origin may move to the State of Palestine or one of the Federal Districts. The state of Israel will be allowed to limit the number of New Immigrants to the State of Palestine who move to the state of Israel. A New Immigrant to the State of Palestine wishing to move to the State of Israel will have to apply for residency in the State of Israel and be subject to approval. Once the 'New Immigrant' gains Union Citizenship they gain the right to move to the other state whenever they want.

11.8 Overall Immigration to the Union will be coordinated by the Federal Ministry of Absorption and by agreement with the constituent states such that a roughly equal number of persons of Jewish and Palestinian Arab origin be permitted to immigrate to the Union as a whole on an annual basis. Our suggestion would be the rate of around 1% annual immigration distributed evenly between the two groups. For example, that would mean around 70,000 immigrants from each population group would be allowed to immigrate on an annual basis. This number can be adjusted as needed based on mutual agreement.

11.9 During the first five years of the agreement this number could be increased to 100,000 for each side to allow all Palestinian refugees in refugee camps outside of the Union to have the option to immigrate to the Union, after this it would be reduced to 70,000 annually for each side. This number would be in addition to the around 250,000 Palestinian Refugees who will be allowed to move directly to Israel and receive Israeli citizenship as described in section [16 - Refugees and Compensation](#).

11.10 In the event of a major emergency such as a world war or genocide this immigration policy can be suspended to allow for the safe refuge of the Jewish or Palestinian Arab people throughout the world. Israel will continue to be a haven for the Jewish people and Palestine can become a haven for the Palestinian Arab people.

11.11 In addition to immigration the Federal Ministry of Immigration will manage visas for visitors as well as work visas in cooperation with the State governments. They will set annual limits on the number of Visas for tourists and workers to be approved by either state. In principle every Jew or Palestinian interested in visiting the Union should be approved, however, some reasonable annual limits can be put in place to reduce concerns about the potential issue of people overstaying their tourist visas and attempting to 'work around' the regular immigration program.

11.12 After moving to the other State of which one is a citizen, one may apply for dual citizenship and vote in the local State elections where they reside. Each State will be able to determine the number of applications for dual citizenship they are willing to accept from the citizens of the other state on an annual as well as case-by-case basis. Each State may determine the number of years of residency in their State one must have to apply for citizenship.

12 - Demographics

To understand the demographics of Israel-Palestine one first needs to understand the fertility rate of the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab populations of Israel-Palestine. Over the last 20 years, due to a declining Arab Palestinian birth rate to a rate more similar to that found in the developed world and an increasing fertility rate in Israel, due to a growing religious Israeli Jewish population, the fertility rates are now similar between the two groups. Between 1950 and 2000, Palestinian Arabs maintained nearly double the fertility rate of Israeli Jews, but in the last 20 years, fertility levels have almost converged and are set to cross this decade.

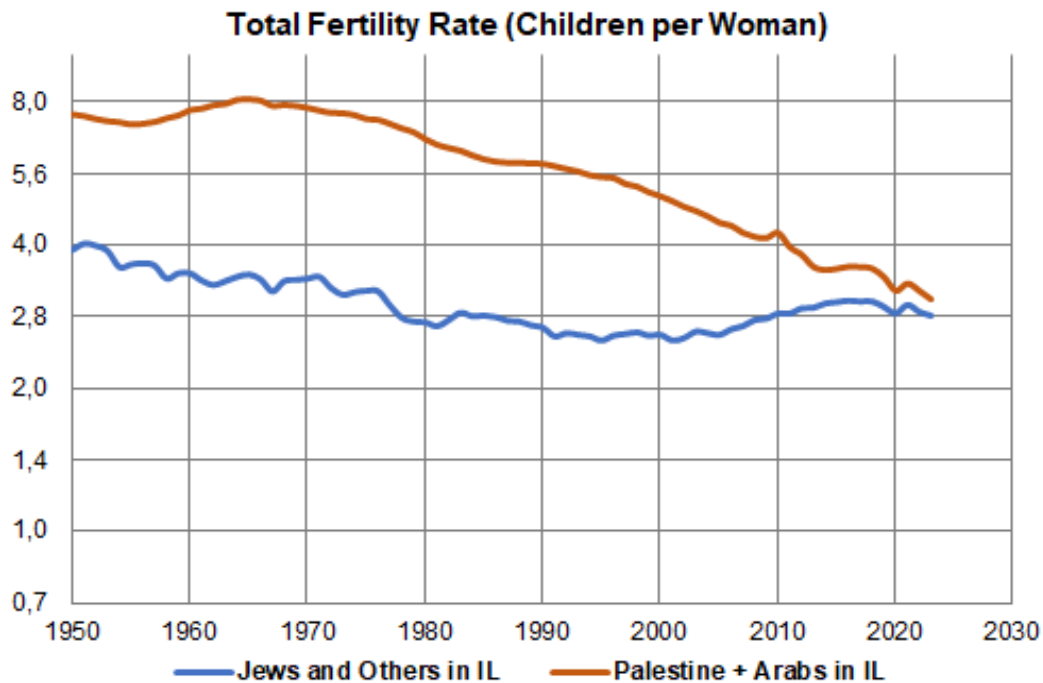


Fig.16

Data based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

During the first 72 years following the founding of the State of Israel, between 1948 and 2020 around 3.3 million Jews have immigrated, or ‘made aliyah’, to Israel. That represents approximately 46,000 new Jewish immigrants per year, with only a handful of years reaching over 100,000 and only twice with over 200,000 in a single year. The greatest periods of Jewish immigration were in two cases. First, following the founding of the State of Israel, where many refugees from the European Holocaust as well as Mizrahi Jews who were expelled from the Arab and Muslim States migrated en masse between 1948 and 1952. The Second, was in the period after the fall of the Soviet Union when a large wave of Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union migrated to Israel from 1990 to 2000.

For the proposed immigration policy to work where the annual Jewish immigration rate is similar to the annual expected Palestinian immigration rate for the first several years. This will enable a significant number of Palestinians to return while maintaining a stable demographic balance as described in this proposal. The Jewish community worldwide will have to make a concerted effort to increase Jewish immigration during this initial period. Since the largest population of Jews in the world today outside of Israel lives in the United States of America, much of this new wave of Jewish immigration would likely have to come from American Jews who would want to do their part to contribute to this peace process as described in this proposal.

Jewish immigration to Israel from 1948 to 2007

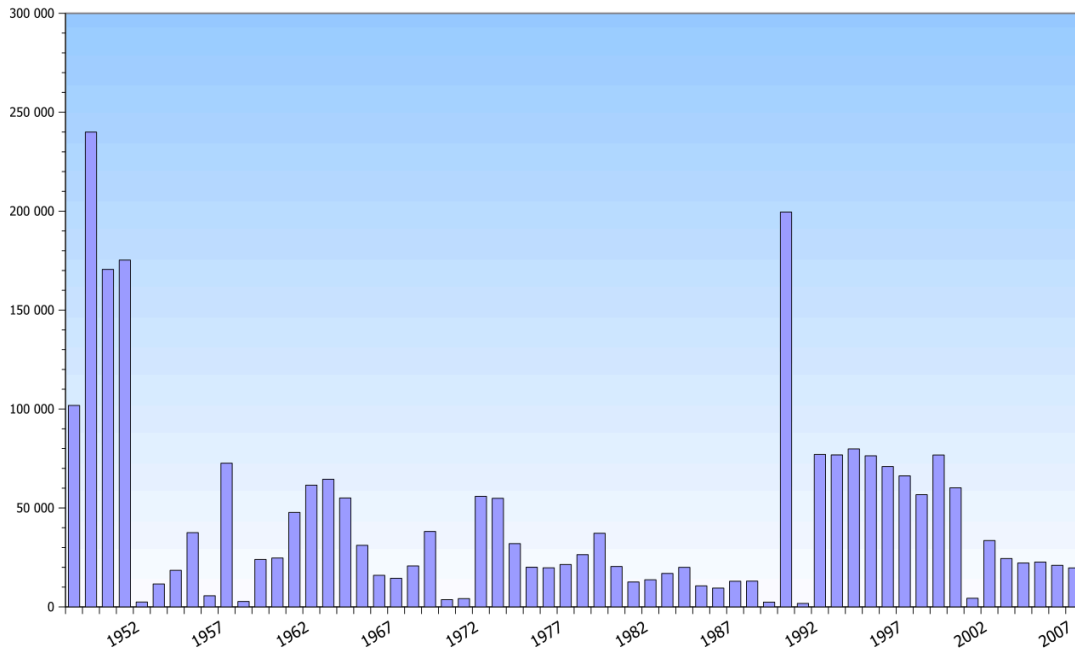


Fig. 17

Data based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

The proposal describes an immigration wave of 250,000 Palestinians immigrating directly to Israel over the first five years while 500,000 immigrated to Palestine over this same period. During this same period around 500,000 Jews would immigrate to Israel. Following this, the immigration rate would be up to 70,000 Jews immigrating to Israel and up to 70,000 Palestinian Arabs immigrating to Palestine each year. For our analysis, we used these numbers as projections for the 15 years following the first five years. This would give a total of 1,800,000 Palestinian Arabs and 1,550,000 Jews immigrating to Israel-Palestine over this first 20-year period.

Based on the experience of Jewish Immigration to the State of Israel since the founding of the state, these immigration numbers seem like a bit of an overestimation. It seems likely that the immigration rate of both groups will be less than this cap that we set. It could reasonably be expected that the immigration rate for each group would in reality taper off to a similar level as the average rate seen in the Jewish immigration after the first several years after the initiation of the Union. But we feel that setting such a cap would give both sides a sense of security that neither side would be able to overwhelm the country and gain a significant demographic advantage that would give them a strong political dominance of the Union.

12.1 The total population of the Jerusalem Union at the start (based on the current population) will be around 14.9 Million people, around 7.7 Million Israeli Jewish people, including descendants and spouses of Jews, and 7.2 Million Palestinian Arabs including Druze, Bedouin, and other Arab citizens of Israel, plus an additional 20,000 people of various minority groups such as Armenians, Circassians, Samaritans, and Bahai people. For more demographic statistics on the Current population of Israel-Palestine see [Appendix C: – Current Demographics of Israel-Palestine](#).

12.2 For the first 20 years the population would grow to an estimated 26.4 Million people, based on the population growth rate of 2% annually and a full application of the immigration proposal in this plan. The Israeli Jewish population would in that case be around 13.4 Million and the Palestinian Arab population would be around 13.1 Million, with the small minority groups at around 28,000.

Population of Jews and Palestinian Arabs in the Jerusalem Union - Year 0-20

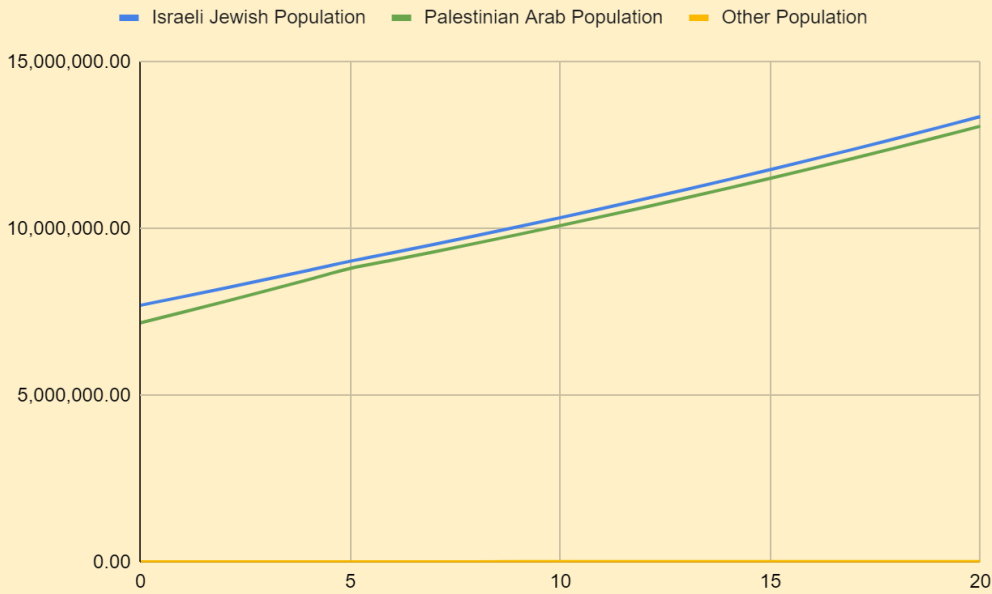


Fig. 18

Population of Jerusalem Union after 20 years

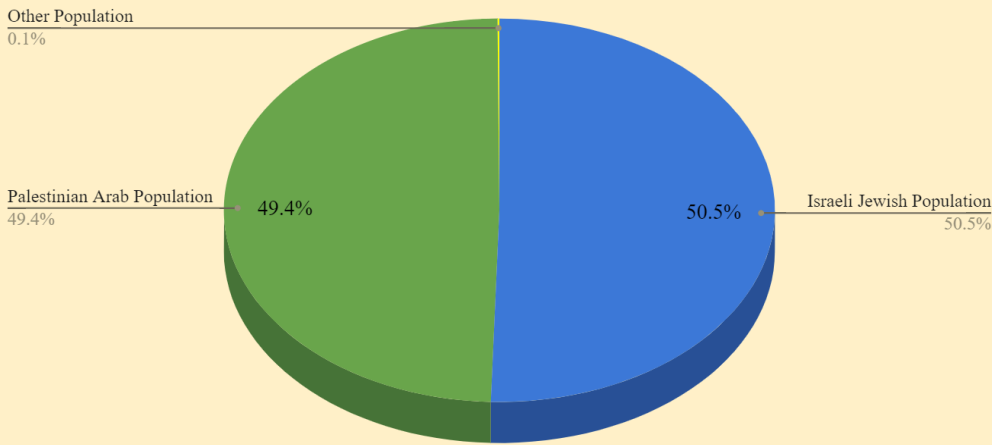


Fig. 19

Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Demographics of Palestine based on the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

12.3 In the minor border adjustments Israel will annex some of the largest settlements near the Green Line including Beitar Illit, Modi'in Illit and Maale Adumim as well as the Israeli Jewish neighborhoods of East Jerusalem. Roughly 500,000 of the 720,000 Israelis living over the green line today will be incorporated into the new boundaries of the State of Israel.

12.4 The remaining Israeli citizens residing in the State of Palestine, estimated at around 220,000, will be offered an option to gain Palestinian Citizenship and become dual citizens of the States of Israel and Palestine. Around 85% of the Israeli Jewish population of the State of Palestine at the start of the Union (approximately

190,000 people) will live in the Judea and Samaria District. The Judea and Samaria District itself will be around 80% Israeli Jewish by population with a total population of around 240,000.

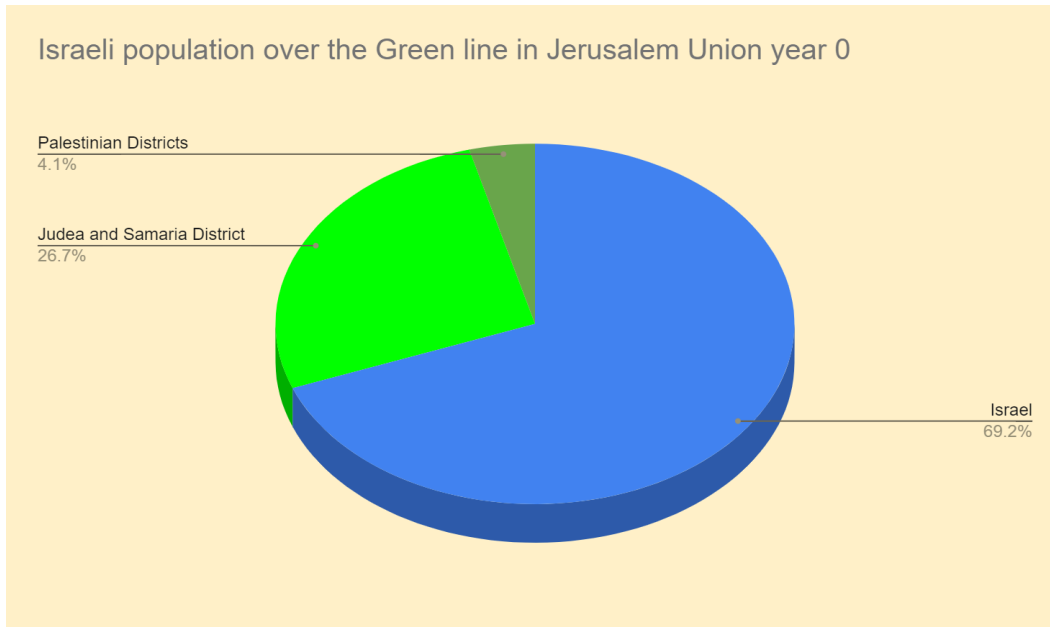


Fig. 20

Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). The estimated Palestinian population of "Judea and Samaria District" in Palestine was based on the Peace Now "Settlement Watch" database.

12.5 The State of Palestine will start with having an Israeli Jewish population of roughly 220,000 people or 4% out of a Total Population of around 5.5 Million. This will give Palestine a 96% Palestinian Arab Majority. Over the first 20 years of the Union, we could expect the population of the State of Palestine to grow to around 10.7 Million people. The population of citizens would include 10.4 Million Palestinian Arabs and around 368,000 Israeli Jewish citizens of Palestine. The State of Palestine will agree to give a total of 250,000 Israeli Jews citizenship as part of this agreement.

12.6 We also could expect that there would be a population of Israeli Jewish residents of Palestine of around 86,000 based on statistics that suggest that around 3.2% of all new immigrants to Israel will move to the West Bank as well as internal migration statistics that suggest that at a rate of around 3,400 a year, Israeli Jews will immigrate the West Bank. This will leave an Israeli Jewish population closer to 4.3% and a Palestinian Arab Majority of around 95.8%.

Population of State of Palestine after 20 years - Jerusalem Union

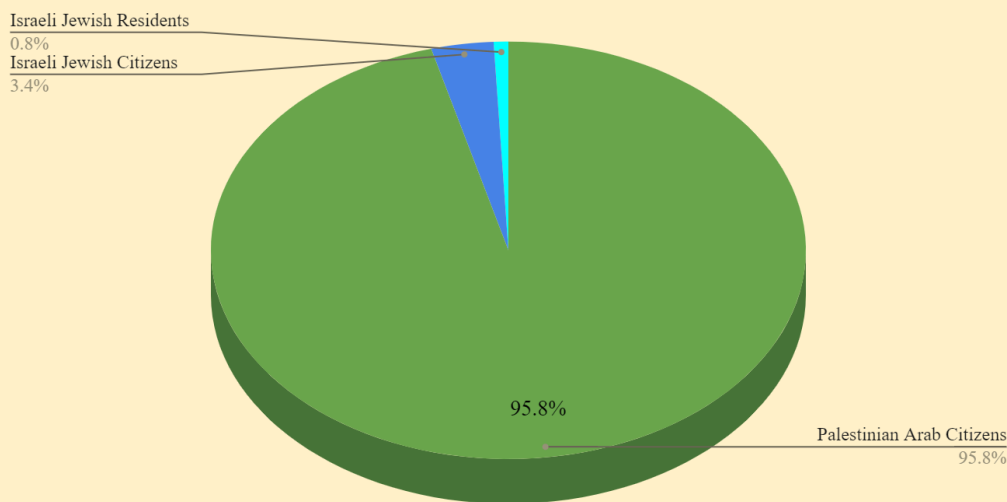


Fig. 21

Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Demographics of Palestine based on the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

12.7 As part of the agreement, 250,000 Palestinian refugees or their descendants will be allowed to move to the State of Israel over 5 years gaining automatic citizenship of both Israel and Palestine. At the start of the Union the State of Israel will have a roughly 18% Palestinian Arab population by citizenship out of a total population of around 9.5 Million people. Over the first 20 years, given the proposed immigration policies and expected population growth rates, the population of citizens of the State of Israel could grow to an estimated 16.4 million people with a population of 13.4 Million Israeli Jewish citizens and 3 Million Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel with a small minority population of “Others” of approximately 28,000. This would give an Israeli Jewish Majority of citizens of around 81.4% Israeli Jewish with 18.4% Palestinian Arab and around 0.2% Others.

12.8 In addition there could likely be a population of around 383,000 Palestinian Arab residents who are citizens of Palestine and residents of Israel under the terms of the Union. This was estimated based on the polling suggesting that around 10% of Palestinian Refugees would want to immigrate to Israel. We factored that 10% of the current Refugee population in Palestine at the beginning of the Union and an additional 10% of new Palestinian immigrants over the 20-year period would be interested in moving to the State of Israel as residents. If you include these Palestinian residents as well you get close to a 79.6% Israeli Jewish Majority to a 21% Palestinian Arab Minority in the State of Israel after 20 years of the Jerusalem Union.

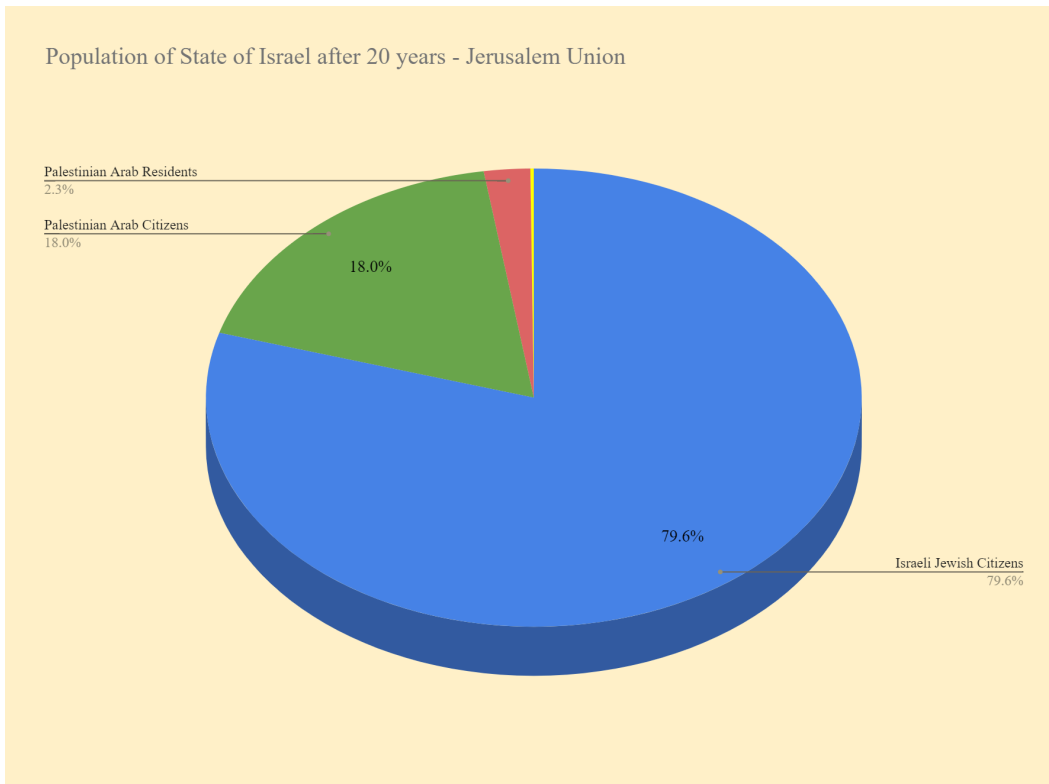


Fig. 22

Demographics based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS).

12.9 Around 67% of the current Palestinian Arab population of Israel (approx. 957,000 out of approx. 1,700,000) will live in the three Palestinian Arab Majority Districts of Israel. The Nazareth District will be around 70% Palestinian Arab with a total population of around 900,000, the Um Il Fahim District will be around 80% Palestinian Arab with a total population of around 360,000 and the Rahat District will be around 95% Palestinian Arab Bedouin with a population close to 200,000.

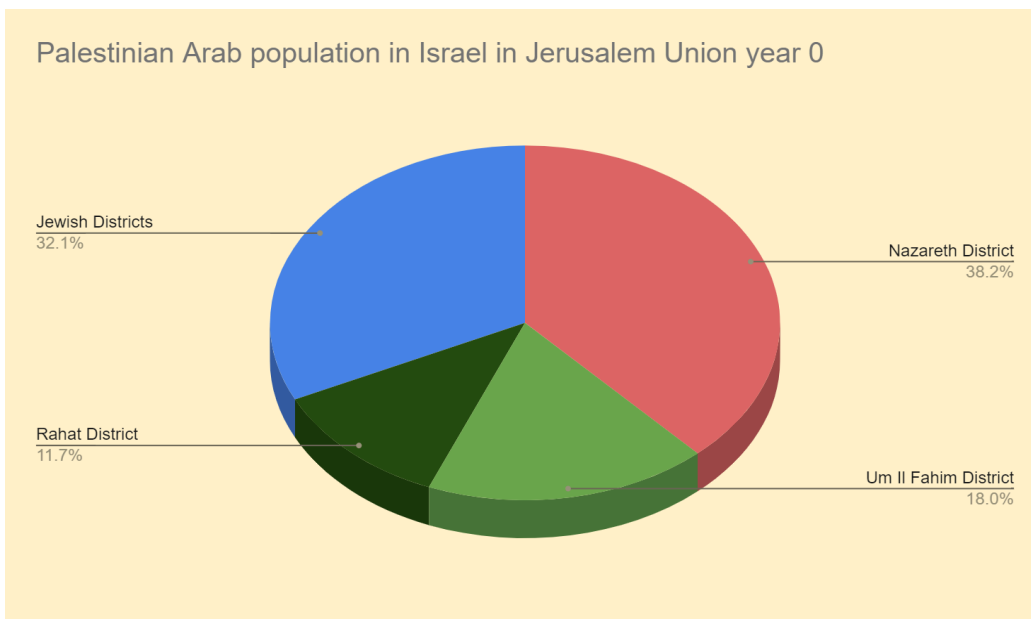


Fig. 23

Demographics based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS).

12.10 The Jerusalem Federal District at the State of the Union will have a population of approximately 1,275,000, which is up from the current Jerusalem Municipality which has a population of approximately 980,000. The current Jerusalem Municipality is around 60.3% Israeli Jewish, 38.3% Palestinian Arab and 1.4% Others. The newly expanded Jerusalem Federal District would be closer to 50:50 with a population of 56.2% Israeli Jewish, 42.7% Palestinian Arab, and 1.1% Others.

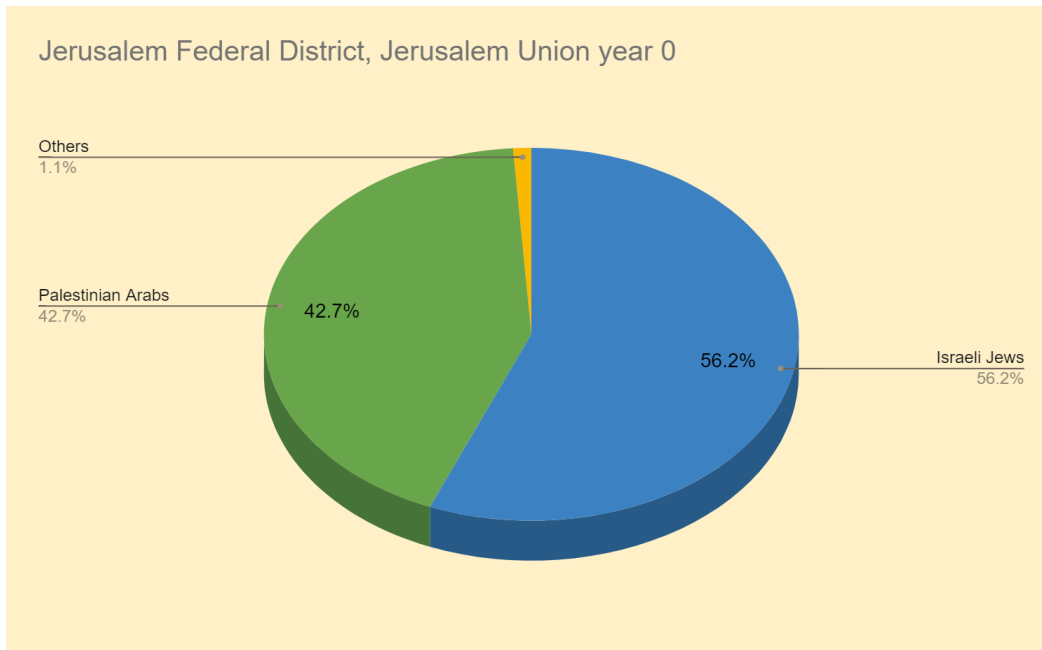


Fig. 24

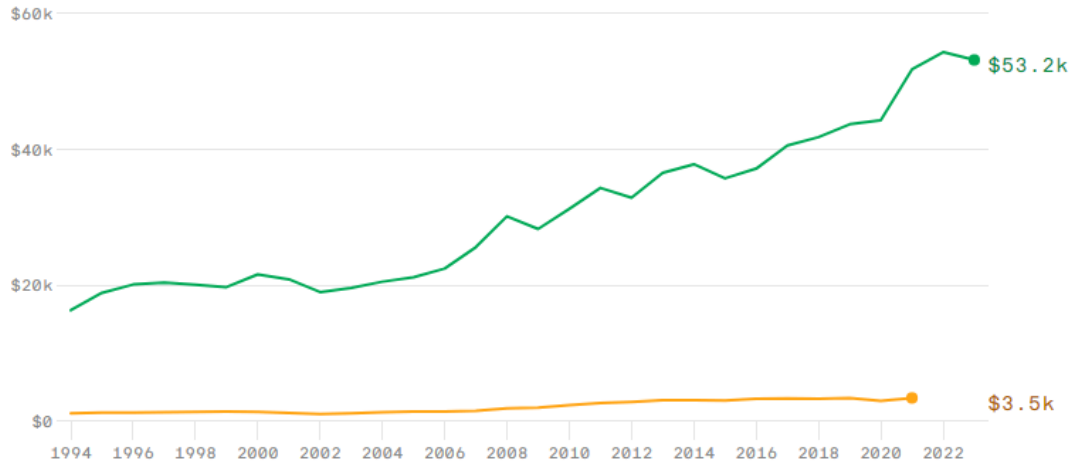
Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). The estimated Palestinian population of “Jerusalem Federal District” regions beyond the current Jerusalem Municipal boundaries was based on the Peace Now “Settlement Watch” database.

13 - Economy

The conflict has severely restricted economic activity and job creation in Palestine. Israeli closures, restrictions on movement, and security measures have disrupted supply chains, limited access to markets, and discouraged foreign investment. The Palestinian economy currently is considered over 15 times weaker than that of Israel in terms of GDP per capita as they have not benefited from the economic success that Israel has seen over the last 30 years.

GDP per capita in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Annually; 1994 – 2023

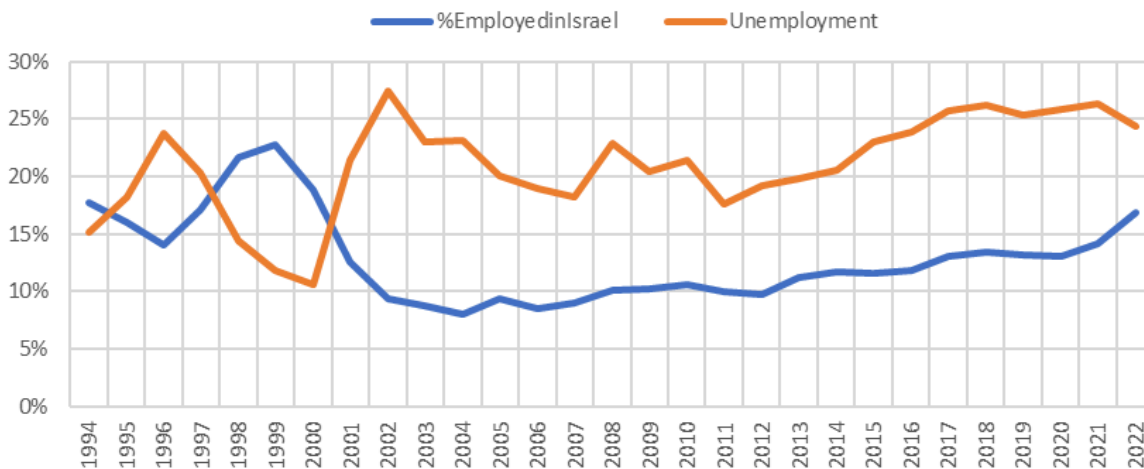


Note: West Bank and Gaza GDP data is unavailable for 2022 and 2023; Data: IMF; Chart: Axios Visuals

Fig.25

Additionally, The Palestinian economy is heavily reliant on the Israeli market for goods, services, and job opportunities. The welfare of many Palestinians is heavily dependent on their ability to work in Israel. According to the World Bank, around 200,000 Palestinians hold work permits to work in Israel, representing approximately 15% of the Palestinian workforce. Over recent years, there has been a negative correlation (-0.49) observed between the proportion of Palestinians employed in Israel and Palestinian unemployment rates. These workers earn significantly higher wages in Israel than they could in Palestine, contributing substantially to their families' incomes.

Share of Palestinians Employed in Israel of all employed Palestinians and Unemployment Rate in Palestine



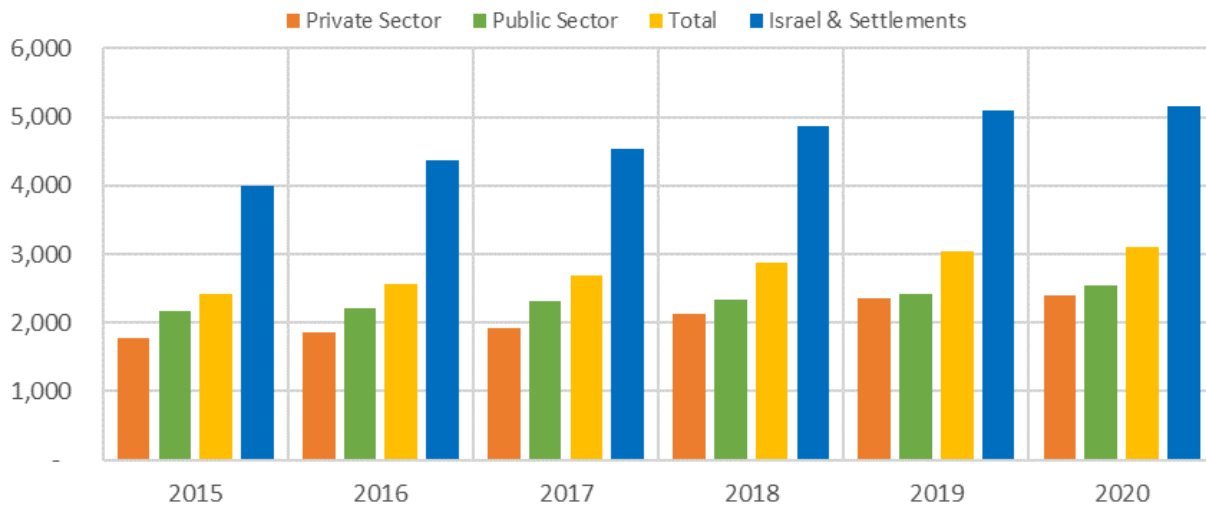
Source: PCBS

Fig 26

Because of the large income gap between the territories, Palestinians employed in Israel receive significantly higher wages than their counterparts working in the public or private sector within Palestine. In 2020, the average monthly wage for Palestinians in the West Bank working in Israel was 5,158 shekels, compared to 2,546 shekels for those working in the public sector and 2,396 shekels for those working in the private sector.

The unification of the economies and establishing a single labor market presents an opportunity for Palestinians to access more jobs, enabling them to harness their economic capabilities and elevate their quality of life. The utilization of the economic potential will be beneficial to both Palestinians and the Israeli Jewish parts of the Union

Monthly Wages in the West Bank by Sector



Source: PCBS, Daily wages multiplied by 20

Fig. 27

The human capital in the West Bank and Gaza is underutilized, even though Palestine has a high Human Capital Index (HCI) compared to other low-middle-income countries. The HCI for Palestine is 0.58, higher than the average for low-middle-income countries (0.48). A relatively high HCI score indicates the educational and health level, is higher than other populations with similar income levels. In recent years, the proportion of West Bank Palestinians with a BA or higher education attainment is steadily increasing, particularly for women.

Human Capital Index in Israel and Palestine (West Bank and Gaza)

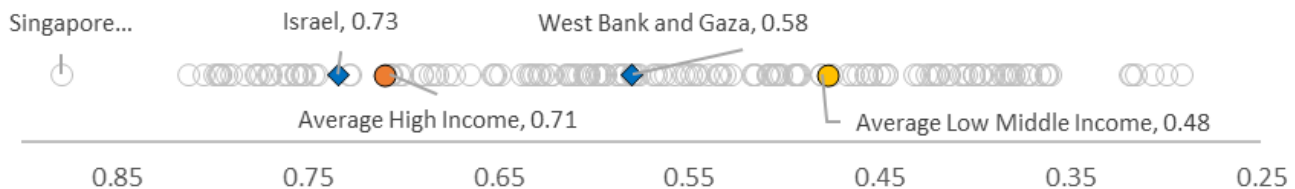


Fig. 28 - The World Bank, Human Capital Project, "Human Capital Brief on West Bank and Gaza", October 2022

Considering that the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza rank high on the World Bank's Human Capital Index, and proximity to major economic centers in Israel, we expect to see the easing of restrictions and economic cooperation to result in significant income growth in the Palestinian households. Within a few

years, they should be able to attain a significant level of economic prosperity as we move towards economic equity among all the people of Israel-Palestine.

The land of Israel-Palestine was blessed with many riches, among them its most precious is its people – devoted to peace, aspiring to develop the land and achieve prosperous livelihoods. Recognizing the importance of providing equal opportunities for human development and contributing to the development of the land for all of its inhabitants, we base the economic policies on the principle of economic federalism.

Based on the principle of economic federalism, the Federal Government will see equitable economic development as its main priority. To meet this end, the Federal Government will strive to fulfill the full potential of its states as well as promote federal-wide policy. The federal government will be open to all economic cooperation with other states and international organizations. We don't view economic development as a panacea, but we firmly believe it has a pivotal role in fostering a life of dignity, and prosperity as a crucial element in the path to peace.

13.1 Economic Federalism will serve as the guiding principle of the Union, incorporating a multi-tiered fiscal system. Tier one will operate at the federal level, tier two will function at the State level, comprising two equal and parallel systems – one of Israel and one of Palestine, and tier three will function at the District level.

| Union Fiscal System | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Federal - Tier 1 | Federal Fiscal System (Tax + Spending) | |
| State - Tier 2 | Israel State Fiscal System (Tax + Spending) | Palestine State Fiscal System (Tax + Spending) |
| District - Tier 3 | Israeli Districts Fiscal System (Tax + Spending) | Palestinian Districts Fiscal System (Tax + Spending) |

The federal fiscal system (tier one) will levy taxes on all individuals and legal entities residing within the federation. The spending of these tax revenues will be conducted under the law of the federal budget, as legislatively determined by the federal parliament.

Each of the local fiscal systems (tiers two and three) will levy taxes on individuals and legal entities residing within Israel or Palestine and their respective Districts. The spending of these tax revenues will be conducted under the law of the local government and based on spending limits set by the federal government.

13.2 The economy of the Union will be a common market economy with a common external tariff. In this common market, the States of Israel and Palestine will allow free trade and free movement of labor and capital between them. There will be a single currency and interest rate managed by the Federal Bank of Israel-Palestine with the New Israel-Palestine Shekel as its official currency.

13.3 Each of the two states may have different tax rates and regulatory policies, though the goal will be to harmonize regulations as much as possible to allow for the free movement of goods between the two states. There will be Federal Taxes in addition to State and District Taxes. Tax rates may vary from region to region to enable the developing areas in the State of Palestine to compete with more economically developed regions in Israel.

13.4 The Creation of the Federal Economic Districts will welcome foreign investment into Israel-Palestine that aims to contribute to support this union in various ways, with low-tax regions that will be federally managed.

13.5 The National Security programs of Israel and Palestine, which are equivalent to the 'Social Security program in the US, as well as the national public health programs of both states, will be merged and federally managed so that residents of either state will receive the same quality of healthcare and social services.

13.6 The Federal Government will create a Federal Development Agency aimed at funding statewide projects that foster economic convergence between the two economies. This agency will help streamline foreign aid coordination to finance projects aimed at industrialization, job creation, economic development, and investment in human capital.

13.7 A great deal of investment also needs to be made in the Palestinian Educational system to increase the educational quality to that of Israel such that they can reach similar outcomes as in Israel. In Israel, for example, an average of 24% of students graduate with a degree from a higher education institution.

The Israeli economy is dominated by high-tech Start-Ups with the world's highest number of start-ups per capita with over 6,000 active start-ups and as well the second-highest R&D expenditure per capita. Allowing Palestinians to access Israeli universities, combined with significant investment in the Palestinian education system, will allow the Palestinians to fully reap the benefits of proximity and integration into the Israeli high-tech economy.

Education Attainment of BA and above, West Bank [%]

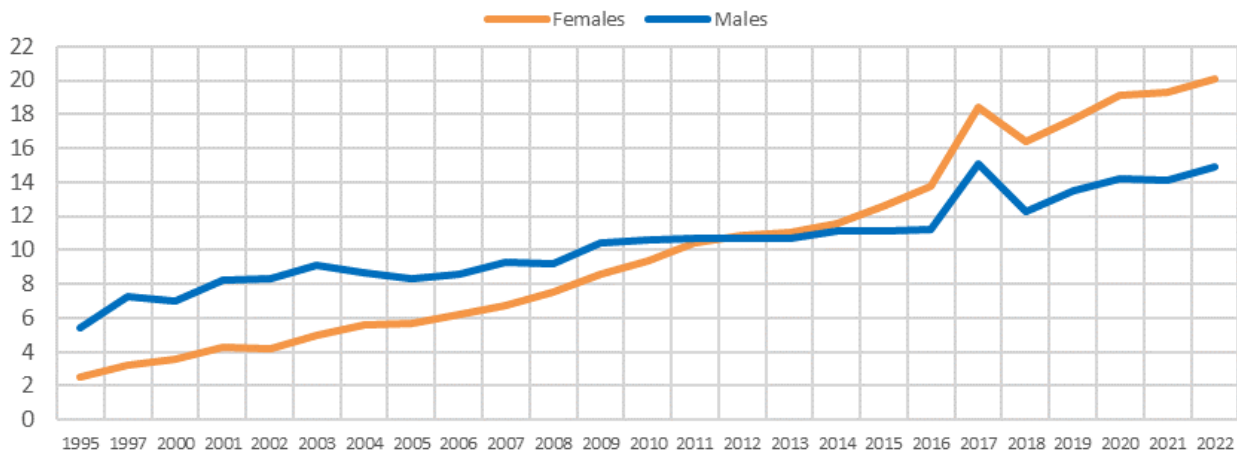


Fig. 29

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

Education Levels by Population Group Ages 25-64, 2016

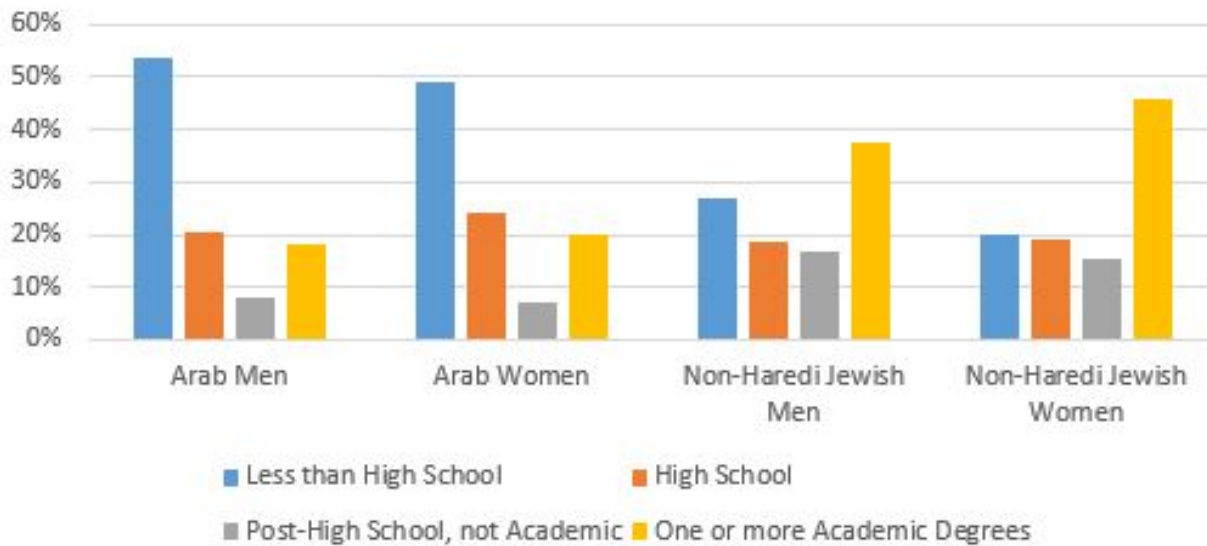


Fig. 30

Education level in the State of Israel - Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

13.8 There is a great need for industrial development both in Palestine and the periphery regions of Israel. We acknowledge that Israel exhibits characteristics of a "dual economy", while the high-tech sector in the greater Tel Aviv region of Israel is very impressive and world-class making Israel one of the strongest economies in Asia, their manufacturing industrial sector is relatively weak leaving the periphery areas of Israel relatively underdeveloped.

Israel has one of the highest income inequalities of any OECD country due to this socio-economic disparity between the greater Tel Aviv region and the periphery of the country, both in the North and South. This will create a challenge in the context of the Union as lower-cost Palestinian labor will be able to outcompete Israeli labor in the already weak Israeli industrial sector.

13.9 What we suggest will be needed is the following:

13.9.1 A combination of foreign aid and investment to help develop the manufacturing industrial sector in Palestine and the periphery regions of Israel that would be coordinated by the new Federal Development Agency.

13.9.2 Investment in education and human capital that will allow the inclusion of new populations into the high-tech sector thus diffusing the high-tech sector into new populations.

13.9.3 Long-term social program addressing inequality and elimination of poverty.

13.9.4 To foster convergence in terms of economic development and allow for labor and goods mobility, the federal government will commit to improving the infrastructure of the Union.

13.10 In the long run we expect to see significant economic growth among all sectors of the Israel-Palestine economy along with the increase in standard of living and life expectancy particularly among the Palestinian

population. The language barrier is one of the Major challenges to this economic development we foresee. This is why in the context of developing this Israel-Palestine Common Market we strongly recommend that Israelis learn Arabic and that Palestinians learn Hebrew.

13.11 The Union will be open for trade and economic cooperation with all world nations. Positioned at the crossroads of three continents and embodying both Eastern and Western attributes, we aspire to serve as a 'bridge' uniting East and West, fostering prosperity for its citizens and catalyzing positive transformations across the region.

13.12 We call to all nations worldwide, urging cooperation, trade, and recognition of the economic prosperity crucial to this sacred land, revered by three major religions, as well as to aid in creating a positive future for people who have suffered through 100 years of conflict. We believe that a prosperous Israel-Palestine will lead to significant positive changes throughout the region and be an inspiring demonstration of the goodness of human nature to overcome a conflict and transform it into a situation of deep cooperation and mutual respect.

14 - Security

14.1 There will be three main police forces, the Israeli, the Palestinian, and the Union Police. The Israeli police force will enforce Israeli laws within Israel's borders, the Palestinian police force will enforce Palestinian laws within Palestinian borders and the Union police force will enforce Union laws over both Israel and Palestine and will have jurisdiction over both states.

14.2 The Israeli and Palestinian Police Forces will each be divided into local District Police forces made up of members of the Police from a local district so that each local population may police itself and enforce local District ordinances. There will also be statewide Israel and Palestinian Police Departments responsible for enforcing state law throughout the State.

14.3 The Jerusalem Federal District will be the Capital of the Union and will be governed by Union police and State Police. The Federal District will comprise Israeli, Palestinian, and Federal Boroughs. The Israeli State Police responsible for Jerusalem will have jurisdiction in the Israeli Boroughs, the Palestinian State Police responsible for Jerusalem will have jurisdiction in the Palestinian Borough, and the Union Police will have jurisdiction throughout the District as well as sole jurisdiction in the Borough of the Holy Basin.

14.4 Israel will be allowed to maintain and grow the IDF and maintain a presence in the territory of Palestine on the very strict condition that no IDF soldier is allowed to interact with any Palestinian without permission from the Palestinian government. In the very limited situations in which Palestine gives the IDF soldiers permission to operate within Palestine, they must wear a bodycam which is subject to review by a special Union Domestic Military Review Board. Any violation of a Palestinian's rights by an IDF soldier must be penalized strictly but fairly with additional consequences due to the political nature of the IDF presence within Palestine. There should be zero tolerance to any IDF violence against Palestinians and interaction between the two should be kept at a bare minimum and only when absolutely necessary.

14.5 The integration of the IDF into the Union will happen in three phases. In the first phase, Israel will be allowed to keep their current military based in the Palestinian territories and agree to pay rent to Palestine for the usage of Palestinian territory for this purpose. The Union and the State of Palestine will have observer status on the security council of the State of Israel.

14.6 During a second phase The state of Palestine will be required to pay for the IDF a predefined percentage of the Palestinian GDP as a condition to protect Palestinian international security interests. These interests will be protected by the Union which will have oversight over the IDF for this interim period. The IDF will not be allowed to undertake any international military action other than defensive action without the approval of the Union parliament unless immediate actions are necessary. For military intervention in another country, the IDF must get Union approval for any action that requires more than 48 hours. A breach of this condition will constitute a critical breach of the Union. The exception for this is in the case that the territory of Israel or the Union is directly attacked by or from another country, in which case Israel retains the right of self-defense.

14.7 During this second phase period the IDF will begin to enlist Palestinian citizens as recruits for military service at an agreed number annually. Moving from the first to the second phase will require among other things that the Union sign a peace agreement with all neighboring states, including Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia, as well as a statewide referendum in both States.

14.8 The third and final phase will be the full integration of the IDF into the Union as the Israel-Palestine Defense Force, or IPDF. In this case, the Security Council for the Military will consist of representatives from the Union as well as the States of Israel and Palestine. The condition for moving to this phase will require among other things that the Union sign peace agreements with all regional states that were previously hostile to Israel, including Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Yemen, as well as a statewide referendum in both States.

15 - Renewed Five Year Interim Agreement

The agreement outlined in this document may begin to be implemented first as a Renewed Interim Agreement or upgrade to the current five-year interim agreement that is now in its 29th year. The Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in September of 1995 by Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin was meant to last five years and lead to a two-state solution that has yet to materialize.

This time, however, the parties must first accept the general outline of terms for a solution to the conflict as described in this document as the framework of an outcome at the conclusion of the five years. They may also choose to conclude the full agreement as described in this document before the conclusion of the five-year Interim Agreement, in which case that full agreement will supersede the Renewed Interim Agreement.

The parties must also agree at the outset that this will be a permanent solution to the conflict resolving all claims. All factions and parties that are allowed to participate in this agreement and the political process in Israel and Palestine must agree to the principles of the Renewed Interim Agreement.

15.1 The new renewed version of this agreement should include the following elements:

15.1.1 Israel will agree to not build any new settlements in the West Bank or East Jerusalem during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.2 All construction in East Jerusalem and the Area C region of the West Bank will be pre-agreed upon by both parties on an annual basis using a formula that takes into consideration the natural growth of both the Israeli and Palestinian populations of this region and using the same factor to determine the number of additional housing units per person needed to be built for both populations in these regions. This agreement on the number and location of each housing unit will be signed at the

beginning of each of the five years of the Interim Agreement and all construction in East Jerusalem and Area C for this period will be done per these agreements.

15.1.3 Areas A and B will be merged politically and will be under the full control of the Palestinian Authority during the Interim Agreement period and all of the regions under the Palestinian Authority control hereby referred to as Area A.

15.1.4 At the beginning of the agreement regions of Area C where it is clear to both sides where they will be allocated at the end of the process, either transferred to the State of Israel, become part of the State of Palestine in a Palestinian District or part of the State of Palestine in the Israeli Jewish autonomous District, these regions can begin the transition process during the five year Interim Agreement period.

15.1.5 The list of these locations should be made public so that the publics of both Israel and Palestine as well as the international community are aware of which regions are agreed upon and which regions remain in dispute during the Interim Agreement Period.

15.1.6 Regions of Area C with no Israeli population that is agreed to be allocated to the State of Palestine as part of the Palestinian Majority Districts and do not have any security necessity to remain in Area C during the Interim Agreement should be transferred to the Palestinian Authority, Area A, during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.7 Regions of Area C that are agreed to be allocated to the State of Israel should be transferred to the State of Israel during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.8 Regions of Area C that are agreed to be allocated to the State of Palestine in the Israeli Jewish Autonomous District can begin to organize as the Israeli Jewish Autonomous District under the Israeli Civil Authority in Area C during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.9 Regions of the State of Israel that are agreed to be allocated to the State of Palestine in the minor border adjustments should be transferred to the Palestinian Authority, Area A, during the Interim Agreement Period where possible.

15.1.10 Palestine will agree to become a formal signatory of the 4th Geneva Convention as well as give up the right to armed resistance against Israeli military presence in the West Bank or other Palestinian territory during the term of the agreement.

15.1.11 The Agreement will include the principle that the IDF presence in Area C during the Interim Agreement period and afterward if needed, is there to protect both the Israeli and Palestinian people as well as to provide security to the region as a whole.

15.1.12 IDF officers will wear body cameras when dealing with the civilian population and a civilian committee made up of Israelis and Palestinians will be established to review complaints regarding the treatment of Palestinian and Israeli civilians by the IDF operating in the West Bank.

15.1.13 The Palestinian Authority will agree that Palestinian security services in Area A must provide security to both Palestinian and Israeli people present in this region as well as provide security to the region as a whole.

15.1.14 Entry Permits to Area A for Israelis will be given under the discretion of the Palestinian Authority, and Israelis may legally enter Area A with a valid permit from the Palestinian Authority. Israelis who are not deemed a reasonable threat to the Palestinian people should be granted such permits as needed during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.15 Entry Permits to Israel for Palestinians will be given under the discretion of the State of Israel and Palestinians may legally enter Israel with a valid permit from the State of Israel. Palestinians who are not deemed a reasonable threat to the Israeli people should be granted such permits as needed during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.16 Palestinians will be permitted to travel to and from Palestine using Israel's Ben Gurion Airport during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.17 Palestinians will be permitted to hold Palestinian elections for the government of the Palestinian Authority in East Jerusalem during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.18 Israel and Palestine will begin the process of the creation of the Joint Federal Police Force to take over much of the security needs in Area C during the Interim Agreement period.

15.1.19 The Palestinian Authority will reform its welfare system to comply with Israeli and US laws regarding the support of terrorism.

15.1.20 Israel, the United States, and other partners will assist the Palestinian Authority in funding their welfare needs during the Interim Agreement period.

16 - Refugees and Compensation

The Palestinian Refugees have many definitions, for this agreement we are focusing on those who have not been settled into a country but live in "refugee camps" specifically in Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq. All Palestinian refugees in Palestine will automatically be provided Palestinian citizenship as part of this agreement. Palestinian Refugees living in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq in refugee camps and without citizenship, estimated as approximately 750,000 persons, plus their children born during the implementation of that agreement, will be granted a Right of Return to be implemented within the first 5 years of this agreement.

In addition to the Palestinian Refugees living in Refugee camps, there are many Palestinians throughout the world who do not have citizenship in any country and are living as residents only. Particularly many of those living in Saudi Arabia and those who were living in Syria and Lebanon but have since left to seek asylum in other countries. These Palestinians will also be prioritized, following those who are living in refugee camps, for immigration to Palestine if they should choose to do so as well as prioritized to be given options in the coalition of supporting Third Party countries.

There was a series of polls that were taken in 2003 in the West Bank, Gaza, Jordan, and Lebanon asking a total of 4,506 Palestinian refugees where they would like to go in the event of a two-state solution agreement.

In Gaza and the West Bank 12.6% of respondents said that they would like to move to Israel and take citizenship, 74.4% said that they would like to remain in the Palestinian State and the remainder did not prefer either option.

Palestinian Refugees in West Bank and Gaza polling in 2003

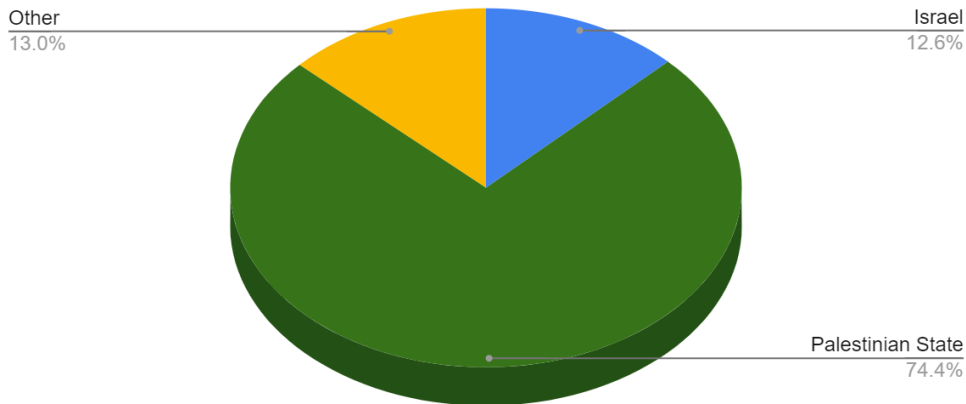


Fig. 31

In Jordan 5.2% of respondents said they would like to move to Israel and take citizenship, 37% said that they would like to move to the Palestinian State, 32.9% said that they would prefer to stay in Jordan and the remainder did not prefer any option.

Palestinian Refugees in Jordan polling in 2003

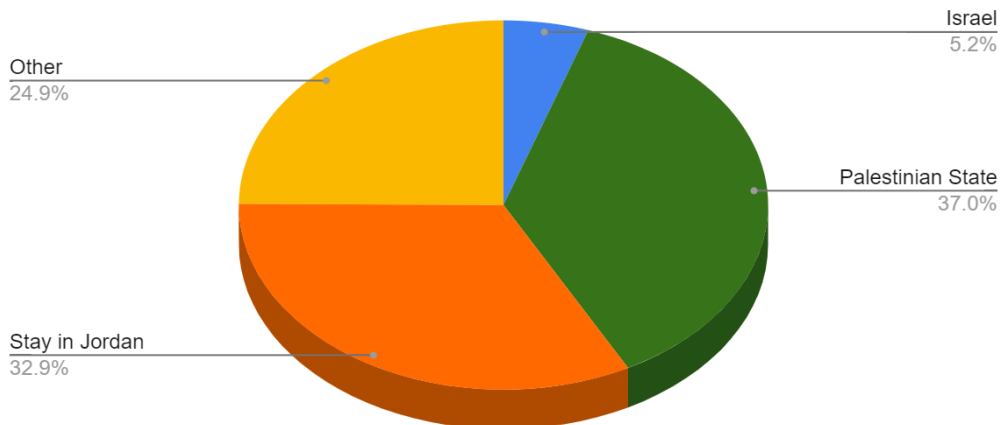


Fig.32

In Lebanon 23.2% of respondents said they would like to move to Israel and take citizenship, 39.1% said they would like to move to the Palestinian State, 11% said they would prefer to remain in Lebanon and the remainder did not prefer any option.

Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon polling in 2003

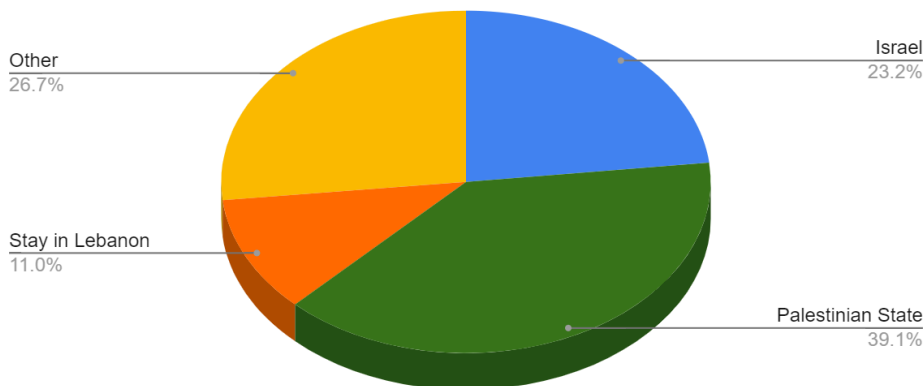


Fig. 33

These statistics suggest that the majority of Palestinian refugees would prefer to live in the Palestinian State with a minority preferring to move to Israel and become citizens, as well there are a not insignificant portion in other countries that would prefer to remain where they are. Therefore we suggest that the Palestinian refugees should be given a range of options.

The Right of Return for Palestinians will be provided in two main ways. Firstly, via the agreement described above to allow the return of an agreed number of Palestinian refugees to the State of Israel with Israeli citizenship for allowing an equal number of Israelis to live in Palestine with Palestinian citizenship. Secondly, the overall annual immigration policy described above will allow immigration to Palestine for all Palestinians with an annual quota combined with the option for Palestinian citizens the right to residency in the State of Israel. In addition, visitor visas for Palestinians who live outside of the Union will be provided upon request.

16.1 A "Refugee Settlement Board" will be created to administer the implementation of the refugee right of return. The Board will be directed to protect each refugee's rights while also avoiding an economic crisis of a sudden mass increase in the labor market within Palestine. Each refugee will be individually (or as a family) granted a hearing where the refugee will be provided options on where to reside.

16.2 An agreed number of Palestinian refugees, we suggest 250,000, from abroad will be granted dual Israel and Palestinian citizenship and the immediate right to live in Israel. As Israeli citizens, these refugees will be afforded all the rights of any other Israeli citizen. Palestine for its part will agree to give Palestinian citizenship to an equal number of Israeli Jews including current Israeli Jewish settlers who choose to remain in Palestine (currently estimated at 220,000) as part of this agreement.

16.3 In addition, at the rate of approximately 100,000 persons per year for the first five years and then 70,000 for each year after, Palestinian Refugees will be able to immigrate to Palestine and receive Palestinian as well as Union citizenship. Those Palestinian refugees who would prefer to move to a third country or remain where they are will also have such options provided upon request as part of this agreement. As a result of this agreement over these 5 years all refugee camps in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq can be dismantled or converted into normal residential areas and UNRWA (the UN organization for the support of Palestinian Refugees) will be disbanded.

16.4 Third-party countries supporting this agreement, such as the US, Canada, the UK, and Australia, will provide citizenship to a limited number of Palestinian Refugees as well they will be asked to provide educational opportunities, including University scholarships, which will provide opportunities for a large number of the Palestinian refugees.

16.5 Those Palestinians currently living in countries where they are not citizens but prefer to stay in these countries will be assisted in doing so and the Union will work with these countries to provide citizenship and support for those Refugees who prefer to stay in their current country. The Union will work to help these Stateless Palestinian refugees who are living in countries in the region such as Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia who wish to stay in those countries to achieve a dignified quality of life.

16.6 All Palestinians, refugees or otherwise, will have the right to return to Palestine and receive Palestinian and Union citizenship as part of the continual immigration program for Palestinians that will continue at the rate of at least 70,000 per year.

16.7 As a gesture of reconciliation, the state of Israel will rebuild a symbolic number of depopulated pre-1948 Palestinian Arab villages in Israeli territory, allowing many refugees or their descendants the opportunity to achieve the dream of returning to the area of their ancestral homes. This number can be in the range of 20-40 villages being rebuilt with an initial carrying capacity of around 2,000 people each and can develop over time. The location of these villages will be determined by polling those Palestinians who are taking the option of the 250,000 Palestinians to move to Israel at the beginning of the implementation of the agreement, to determine which villages they would most like to see rebuilt. The villages will be located in what are now nature reserves or other currently unused areas in Israel and a list of possible options will be provided, the most popular options based on the polling will be rebuilt. In addition, a memorial will be placed at the site of every depopulated pre-1948 Palestinian village to honor the memory of those communities.

16.8 Places that are defined as refugee camps in Palestine where Palestinians may continue to live will need to undergo renovations to improve the quality of infrastructure, housing, and services to be at a similar standard to other municipalities or neighborhoods in Palestine.

16.9 Land rights will be protected by establishing a Land and Resource Arbitration Board which will be governed by an equal representation of Palestnians and Israelis and commissioned by the Federal Government. The Board will adjudicate individual property rights complaints over land, water, and other resources, while the Federal parliament will be responsible for the equitable distribution of resources collectively. The Board will be directed to consider all factual evidence in dispute resolution including archived land deeds from the Turkish, British, and Jordanian rule.

16.10 As a general principle regarding land and property that was lost as a result of either the war of 1948 or 1967, in cases where the land/property is not currently in use or owned under Israeli or Palestinian law and is within the limits of a modern municipality, then the property will be returned to the original owner. In cases where this property is within the limits of a modern municipality and is available for sale, the Union government may be able to purchase this property and return it to the original owners. In all other cases, either if the property is currently owned or inhabited or otherwise in use as public infrastructure, then financial compensation will be given. In cases where the land or property is currently zoned as a nature reserve or otherwise not part of a current municipality, financial compensation will be given to the owners.

16.11 The Union will assist in getting the Arab and Muslim countries that expelled the Jewish populations following the founding of the State of Israel to provide reasonable compensation to those families that lost

property in those events. As these expulsions affected the majority of Israeli Jewish families in Israel, for those countries in which this is relevant, making proper restitution either with financial compensation or with return of property, will be a requirement for these countries to initiate relations with the Union. This would include at least the following list of countries; Lebanon, Syria, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, and Yemen.

16.12 Water rights and gas reserves will be controlled by the Union with compensation provided for “eminent domain”, e.g. for individual Palestinian landowners who own land over public water wells and collectively to either state in which gas reserves are located on public land.

17 - Reconciliation

Reconciliation is the process of building trust through creating new positive collective memories and overcoming past traumas. A conflict does not end when the violence stops, this begins a long process called reconciliation that begins with moving from a Hot War or a state of open violent conflict to a Cold War which is a state where there is no longer open violent conflict, but where there is still a fear that the violence may return. We will describe reconciliation as proceeding in three distinct stages one after another, these stages will be described as Cold War, Cold Peace, and finally, hopefully, Warm Peace.

During this Cold War stage, both groups will operate under what is called ‘working trust’ where they trust that it is in the other side’s interest to avoid returning to violence but still do not believe that the other side has their best interest in mind. Thus this is a stage where trust is conditional and must be regularly verified to continue.

During the Cold War stage, both sides must be exposed to each other’s narrative to begin to at least become familiar with each side’s perspective on the conflict. At this point, it will be important to have some kind of mediator or government organization to help facilitate this.

At this point, both sides will still perceive themselves as righteous victims with each side holding onto their own ‘chosen traumas’ and ‘chosen glories’ which are the selected series of events and their interpretations that each side chooses to tell its narrative. The ‘chosen traumas’ refer to events in a group’s history in which they have suffered catastrophic loss, humiliation, and helplessness at the hands of an enemy. Whereas ‘chosen glories’ are triumphs against a formidable and deserving adversary.

As the groups in conflict move from the initial stage of the Cold War to the next stage, Cold Peace, they will begin to challenge their perspectives of the past conflict and events and start to develop a ‘knowledge-based trust’ which is a trust based on “confident knowledge about the others, including their motives, abilities and reliability”. This is where each side will start to see the perspective of the other side and see how not all of the actions taken by their side were correct and not all of the actions of the other were incorrect. This is where the sides will begin to form a Shared Collective memory.

Building a Shared Collective Memory is not about forgetting or neglecting experienced atrocities, but about including them in a shared narrative. This will require groups to acknowledge responsibility for their transgressions and to move past the stage of victimization and blame. A Shared Collective Memory represents the groups’ joint history of suffering through the conflict and their joint desire for a peaceable future.

In the context of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict building this ‘knowledge-based trust’ will require both sides to acknowledge the various wrongdoings that they have done to one another throughout the conflict and make some genuine efforts to make amends. They will have to not only develop the level of trust needed to

apologize to one another but also to be vulnerable enough to forgive the other for the wrongs done to them. They will also each have to acknowledge the suffering that the other side has faced over the years and recognize the rights of the other to live in the land of Israel-Palestine and have a haven and self-determination there.

Several pitfalls should be avoided as this path progresses. These include the idea of 'competitive victimhood', where each side will try to see themselves as the bigger victim and reduce the likelihood of each side wanting to acknowledge their wrongdoings in the conflict. Similarly, there is 'winners justice' which is a narrative usually promoted by outsiders declaring one side the 'winner' of the peaceful resolution and therefore trying to justify one side of the conflict over the other.

The final stage of reconciliation we will describe is Warm Peace. We envision that it will take a long time to be achieved. Moving into Warm Peace, groups no longer perceive each other to be a threat in the foreseeable future, and are confident of a peaceful resolution of all differences. This stage does not describe a utopia as tensions may still exist. However, there should be a shared agreement that these tensions will be addressed peacefully and democratically.

In the Warm Peace stage we will be moving towards a Shared Collective Memory, this holds the potential to further unite groups as partners. While the more cognitively driven 'knowledge-based trust' fostered through the second stage of Cold Peace supports the alteration of collective memory, we suggest that an 'identity-based trust' starts to develop at this stage, which is more affective and emotional. This is needed to move toward a Shared Collective Memory, as it impacts the self-perception and the identity of the ingroup.

'Identity-based trust' moves beyond knowledge of the motives and the abilities of the outgroup, to the perception that both groups identify with each other's needs and values. This deeper trust enables groups to build a Shared Collective Memory that represents their narrative in a mutually acceptable way. The stage of Warm Peace is marked by the internalization of the new relationship and its integration into each group's Identity.

In the context of the Israeli Palestinian Conflict building 'identity-based trust' will require fully accepting each other as legitimate inhabitants of the land and as partners in building a shared future together. This will come over time as a result of living together in a cooperative arrangement and building new positive memories of working together. It can also be positively influenced by both sides accepting one another as fellow Natives of the Land, which we describe in the section following this one as [Mutual Recognition of Historic Connection](#).

One of the pitfalls to avoid at this final stage is called 'apology fatigue'. Apology fatigue refers to one group's sense that they have apologized enough, linked to a feeling that there is "never enough", and that the other group will never be satisfied with apologies uttered by the ingroup. Thus, apology fatigue may draw groups back into a new collective victimhood, not based on the victimization that occurred in the actual conflict, but on victimization that has appeared during the conflict transformation process where they were forced to apologize over and over and they feel that these apologies were never really accepted. Therefore, both groups not only need to be ready to apologize in the process of reconciliation but for what in fact may be the even more difficult task, the willingness to forgive.

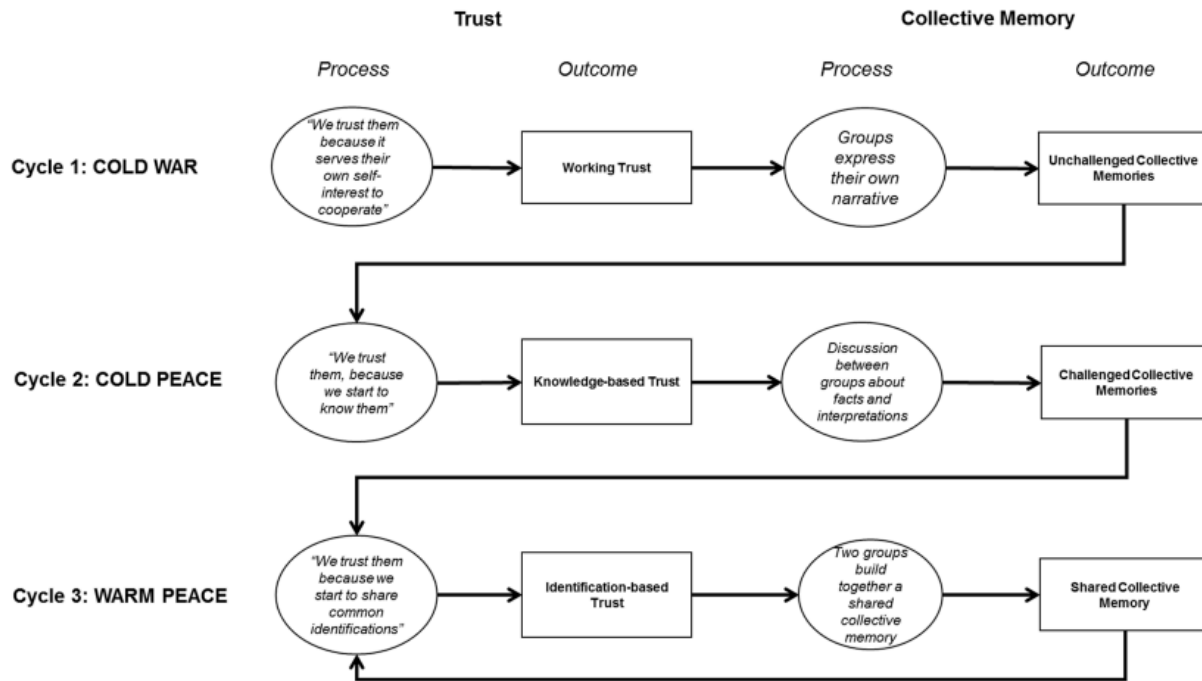


Fig. 34

Trust-based reconciliation model for Shared Collective Memory – Linear presentation

Kappmeier, M., & Mercy, A. (2019). *The Long Road From Cold War to Warm Peace: Building Shared Collective Memory Through Trust*. *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*, 7(1), 525-555.

<https://doi.org/10.5964/jssp.v7i1.328>

17.1 The Union will establish a Federal Truth and Reconciliation Commission which will organize media and workshops in communities and educational institutions that will promote the understanding of the narratives of the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples to each other. This Commission will work to help build a Shared Collective Memory about the conflict and promote mutual understanding and peace.

17.2 The Israelis and Palestinians will each recognize their part in the Jewish-Arab conflict from 1920-1948. As well they must take responsibility for all mistreatment and violence carried out by their side towards the other during the entire history of the conflict from the 1920s until the current day.

17.3 The Israelis will acknowledge their part in the Palestinian exodus of 1948 and will provide just financial compensation to the families of the Palestinians who lost property in those events. In cases where it is possible to return the property to the original families which can be done instead of monetary compensation.

17.4 The Palestinians will acknowledge their part in the attacks against the Jewish communities in events including the riots of 1929 in Hebron, Safed, and Jerusalem, and will provide reasonable compensation to the families who lost property in those events. In cases where it is possible to return the property to the original families that can be done instead of monetary compensation.

17.5 The Palestinians will acknowledge the suffering that the Jewish people have endured over the centuries in many countries and accept the necessity that the Jewish people require a haven in Israel-Palestine and that they have a right to self-determination and to rule themselves with their institutions.

17.6 The Israelis will acknowledge the suffering that the Palestinian people have endured over the last century and accept the necessity that the Palestinian people require a haven in Israel-Palestine and that they have a right to self-determination and to rule themselves with their institutions.

17.7 The Union will criminalize purposeful acts of violence against civilians and any citizen of the Union or lawful resident therein. Acts of violence against either military before the 5-year interim agreement immediately preceding the formation of the Union will be pardoned, as long as these acts were under the laws of war and did not constitute a war crime.

18 - Mutual Recognition of Historic Connection

Numerous archeological and historic sources attest to the presence of the ancestors of both the Israeli Jewish and the Palestinian Arab people in the land of Israel-Palestine for over 2000 years. Israel-Palestine is the birthplace of Judaism, and Christianity and contains the second-oldest Islamic mosque according to tradition. Both the Israeli Jewish people and the Palestinian Arab people have been shown to have a [genetic link](#) to each other and the ancient populations in Israel-Palestine from thousands of years ago.

According to the traditional narrative of the Abrahamic faiths of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, the Jewish and Arab people are the descendants of two brothers, Isaac and Ishmael, the two eldest sons of the patriarch Abraham. These brothers were said to have been born in Israel-Palestine in the city of Hebron approximately 3700 years ago.

The two Hebrew Kingdoms of Israel and Judah existed in the Iron Age Israel-Palestine, during the first half of the first millennium BCE, in the northern parts of Israel-Palestine, including the West Bank, Jerusalem area, northern coastal plain, and Galilee regions. The Capital of Judah was in Jerusalem and the Capital of Israel was in Samaria near today's Nablus. Both Samaritans and Jews claim descent from the people of Israel and Judah and both have a tradition that at one point both Kingdoms were united under the leadership of Kings David and Solomon who ruled from Jerusalem.

The oldest confirmed Hebrew inscription goes back to the 10th century BCE found near the Elah Valley in Israel. The oldest mention of the people of Israel is from the Merneptah Stele from 1250 BCE, where then King Merneptah of Egypt boasted of having defeated the Israelites in Canaan. On the same Merneptah Stele is also the first mention of the Philistines from where the name Palestine comes from. The Tel Dan Stele, which dates to the 9th century BCE, shows a historical "House of David", the name of the traditional royal family of Judah who ruled a kingdom just to the south of the Kingdom of Israel in the 9th century BCE. The Nimrud Tablet, dated to 733 BCE, is the earliest known record of the name "Judah" from where the name of the Jewish people comes.

The Philistines were originally people from the Greek Aegean who migrated during the 12th Century BCE into the southern coast plain of Israel-Palestine including the region of today's Gaza strip as well as the surrounding area. They mixed with the pre-existing local Canaanite cultures to form the unique Philistine culture. Their only known writings were in the language of the Phoenicians which is a part of the Canaanite family of languages and is related to and mutually intelligible with Ancient Hebrew. Their largest city was the city of Gat, today's archeological site of Tell es-Safi which was one of the largest cities in Israel-Palestine during the Iron Age and was later inhabited by Palestinian Arabs up until the war of 1948.



Fig. 35

The Southern Levant, including the Kingdoms of Israel, Judah, and the Philistine City States in the 9th Century BCE.

The oldest Arabic inscription in the world is found in the deserts of what is now Southern Jordan. The Bayir inscription, as it is called, has been dated to the first half of the first millennium BCE (500-1000 BCE). The earliest mention of the Arab people is the Kurkh Monoliths, the second of which was made in the year 852 BCE and describes King Shalmaneser the Third of Assyria's battle with a coalition of kingdoms in the Levant which included, among others, King Ahab of Israel and King Gindibu of the Arabs.

The Qedarites were a large Arab tribal confederation that formed starting in what is now Southern Jordan in the 9th-7th centuries BCE. By the 6th Century, they had expanded into the south of Israel-Palestine, including the Negev desert and Gaza regions. At its height in the 5th Century BCE, it had become a powerful Kingdom stretching from the deserts of modern Western Iraq and northwest Saudi Arabia through modern Jordan to Southern Israel-Palestine and the Sinai Peninsula. It was later absorbed into the Nabatean Arab Kingdom which also had similar boundaries.

According to both Jewish and Islamic tradition, Nabat and Qedar were the two eldest sons of Ishmael and according to Islamic tradition, the Prophet Muhammad was a descendant of Qedar. As well, many Palestinian Arabs traditionally claim descent from both Nabat and Qedar.



Fig. 36

The Arab Kingdom of Qedar in the 5th Century BCE

However, even though there is overwhelming evidence for the deep historic connections that both people have with the land and the idea that people on both sides would believe in a common heritage as mutual descendants of Abraham or even of the Ancient Israelites would certainly seem to ease the tension in Israel-Palestine. In the modern history of the conflict, so often both groups only acknowledge their historic connection to the land and try to negate the connection of the other for political reasons.

The reason that we believe that this recognition is so critical is that both the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people fundamentally believe themselves to be natives of the land of Israel-Palestine. This belief is so foundational to their sense of self-identity that they often see the denial of this idea as a denial of their very existence.

Since the foundation of peace is trust and both sides would see anyone who would deny their connection to the land as untrustworthy, any denial of this historic connection will be met with serious hostility. Conversely, we have found that with groups of Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs, once people from the two sides give this recognition, with this simple act often we can see immediate trust and even admiration start to develop.

In the context of the three-stage reconciliation progression described in the previous chapter, this concept of Mutual Recognition of Historic Connection moves the two people from the stage of the Cold War to starting to develop a 'knowledge-based trust' of one another by accepting how each group legitimately sees themselves as native to the land. This concept also allows some level of leapfrogging over the first two stages and right up to aspects of Warm Peace by creating a type of 'identity-based trust'. By fitting each other into one's existing narrative as a 'Native of the Land' the other group becomes seen with a greater level of trust and legitimacy.

The Name Eretz-Ard is a reference to the idea that one of the central themes of this proposal and the group that created it was the idea that we are a group of Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs who recognize each other as fellow 'children of the land', 'Benei Haaretz' in Hebrew and 'Ibna Il-Ard' in Arabic.

18.1 In the spirit of the brotherhood and sisterhood of the children of Abraham, as well as in recognition of the historic connection between the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people and the land of Israel-Palestine, the Israeli Jewish people, and the Palestinian Arab people will formally recognize the deep and eternal historic, cultural and religious connection that they both share with the land of Israel-Palestine.

18.2 The Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people will recognize the fact of Israelite, Jewish, Palestinian, and Arab history in the land and commit to an accurate portrayal of this history in their educational and other formal institutions.

18.3 The Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people will recognize the connection of both people to all the sacred religious, cultural, and historic sites throughout Israel-Palestine and respect access to all of these sites for both religious and educational purposes for both people.

19 - The Golan Heights and the Shebaa Farms

The Territory of the Golan Heights is unique in the region with its high altitude climate with the peaks of Mt Hermon at over 2800 meters above sea level. Mount Hermon is a mountain cluster at the southern end of the Anti-Lebanon mountain range that separates Lebanon from Syria, with the possibility of Israel having a portion of this range within the Golan Heights territory it gives the Union access to this unique high-elevation climate for the region with its snow-capped mountain peaks that are great for winter sports activities as well as growing certain fruits such as apples and cherries which can only be grown in Israel-Palestine in the Golan Heights region.

Historically, the position of the State of Israel has been that the territory of the Golan Heights in particular, and in extension also the Shebaa farms region, is that this territory is essential to the security of the State of Israel. This is why despite no international legal support for Israel's territorial claim to the Golan Heights, The United States of America has recognized it as part of the State of Israel citing essential security needs. However, this status quo is not good for regional stability and needs to be rectified. In addition, there are around 25,000 Israeli Jewish settlers in the Golan Heights with a similar-sized population of Syrian Druze Arabs also living there.

Regarding Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Syria, UNRWA has listed around 450,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and around 530,000 in Syria. Lebanon has in the past already given citizenship to all the ethnic Shia and Christian Palestinians in Lebanon, at least 100,000 people. According to a survey of the Lebanese government in 2018, there were approximately 175,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Palestinian officials have reported that by 2015 there were approximately 200,000 Palestinian refugees in Syria.

19.1 The Union will enter negotiations with Syria and Lebanon on behalf of the State of Israel and with the interest of the Union as a whole in mind. Since the agreement concerns territory currently under the control of the State of Israel as well as making a peace treaty with states that are currently in conflict with Israel and it concerns two states that host a large number of Palestinian refugees, the State of Israel and The State of Palestine would both need to ratify this agreement for it to go into effect.

19.2 To resolve the issue of the Golan Heights the Union would offer that they could purchase the Golan Heights from Syria and the Sheeba Farms from Lebanon for a fair market value as well as a package for compensation and a right of return of between 50,000 and 100,000 people from among those who lost their homes from these areas during the war of 1967. This would happen over 10 years with between 5,000 and 10,000 immigrating to Israel and receiving Israeli citizenship.

19.3 Israel would agree to fund the rebuilding of some of the villages in the Golan Heights for the returning immigrants as well as offer financial compensation or return of property to those who lost personal property in

the conflict from this region. This population is primarily Syrian Druze and Circassian, both populations that have historically adapted well to the State of Israel and are currently Israeli both Israel Druze and Circassians serve in the Israeli military at high numbers and are generally considered loyal and trusted citizens.

19.4 The Syrian Golan Heights is approximately 1,772.5 km² and the Lebanese Shebaa Farms is roughly 27.5 km². At a rate of around \$30,000,000 per km², the price to Syria for the Golan Heights would be approximately \$53,175,000,000 and the Lebanese Shebaa Farms would be roughly \$825,000,000. This could be paid by Israel to Syria and Lebanon in annual installments over 10 years. This funding will be supplied by the State of Israel and the territory would be added to the Israeli District of Tiberias. However, the Union acts as the guarantor of the agreement

19.5 Alternatively, another agreement can be reached to return the territory that provides for Israel's security needs in exchange for peace agreements between Israel, Syria, and Lebanon. This could be resolved by an agreement including Union military presence in the Golan Heights and an agreement that the Union would pay rent for housing military bases on their territory for as long as the Union needs to do so to help preserve regional stability and security.

19.6 In addition the Union would offer as part of the agreement a mutual defense treaty with Syria and Lebanon as well as a free trade and economic cooperation agreement. This would in addition include a plan to deal with the issue of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Syria.

19.7 Under the agreement Lebanon and Syria would be asked to give citizenship to those Palestinians who already live in these countries and wish to stay after having been given the option to move to the Union or to a third-party country. This number will be limited to no more than 100,000 Palestinians (not including Palestinians who already hold citizenship in these states) living in these countries. The Union will also take into account the economic situation in these countries to determine feasibility. The remaining Palestinian refugee population in these countries will be resettled either in the Union or in third-party countries.

20 - Trajectory for the Future and Regional Integration

The future of the Jerusalem Union is a bright one. Over the years there will be those who support further integration and those who support more autonomy, this is healthy and the way it works in most political unions, particularly in multi-ethnic ones. In the long run, the direction of further integration, both within the Union and as an integral part of a New Middle East, is the most probable course.

The Union may someday choose to move to a single citizenship system. New immigrants will receive only citizenship in the Union and this will be the key to entry into any District of the Union. The Union would have only one armed service, one passport, and one seat at the United Nations. Should the Union decide to convert into a full-fledged Federal State it may choose to name itself something like the United States of Israel-Palestine, or Israel-Palestine for short.



Fig. 37

“Great Seal” of the “United States of Israel-Palestine”

The States in the Union could reduce the number of Electoral Districts by one and not have their citizens residing in the other state be considered one of the electoral districts, as voting for the State government would be by residency in the state. Therefore Israel would only have 14 Electoral Districts and Palestine would only have 10 Electoral Districts. Since there would only be one citizenship, each State would have elections only by local residents of that state, as opposed to by citizenship in either state.

After 20 years of the Union, the State of Israel could, based on our estimates, have a population of around 16.3 million residents, with around 12.9 million Israeli Jews and 3.4 million Palestinian Arabs, plus around 28,000 Others, a total of around 79% Israeli Jewish Majority. The State of Palestine could have a population of around 9.9 million residents, with around 9.4 million Palestinian Arabs and around 450,000 Israeli Jews, a total of around 95.5% Palestinian Arab Majority. The Union as a whole could have around 26.4 million people, about 50.5% Israeli Jewish and 49.4% Palestinian Arab, according to our estimates.

Population of State of Israel Residents after 20 years - Jerusalem Union

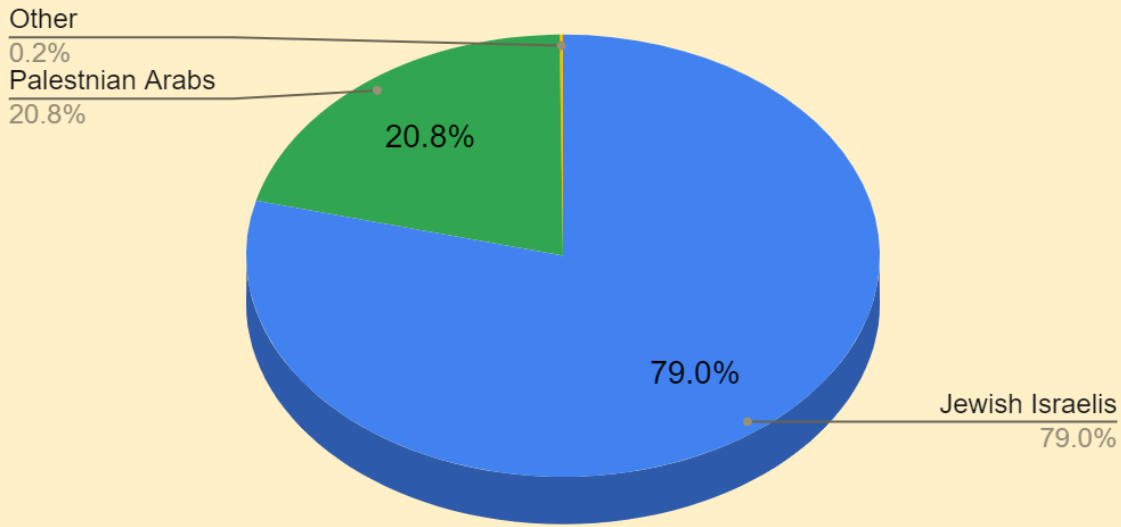


Fig. 38

Population of State of Palestine Residents after 20 years - Jerusalem Union

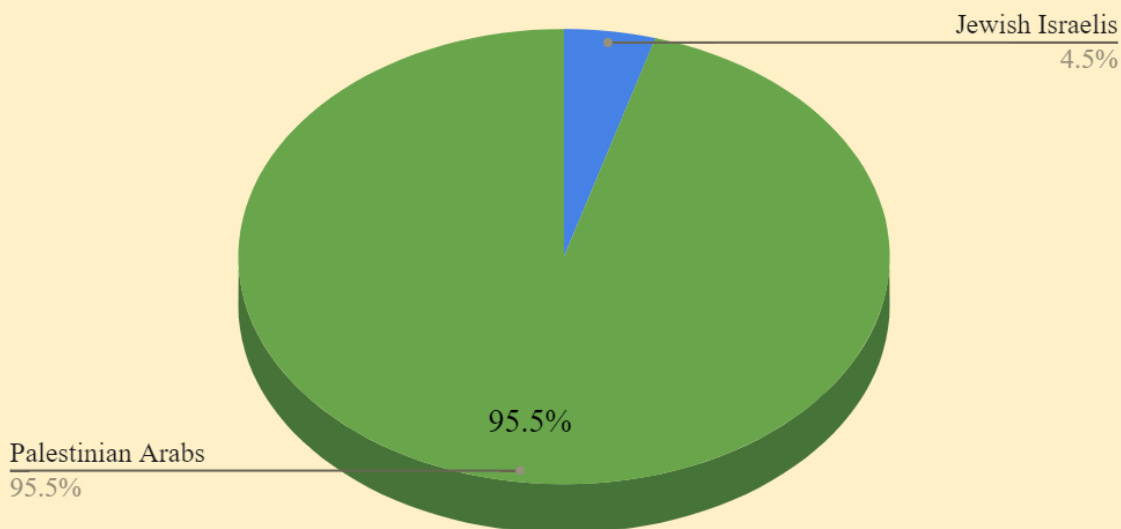


Fig. 39

Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Demographics of Palestine based on the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

Population of Jerusalem Union after 20 years

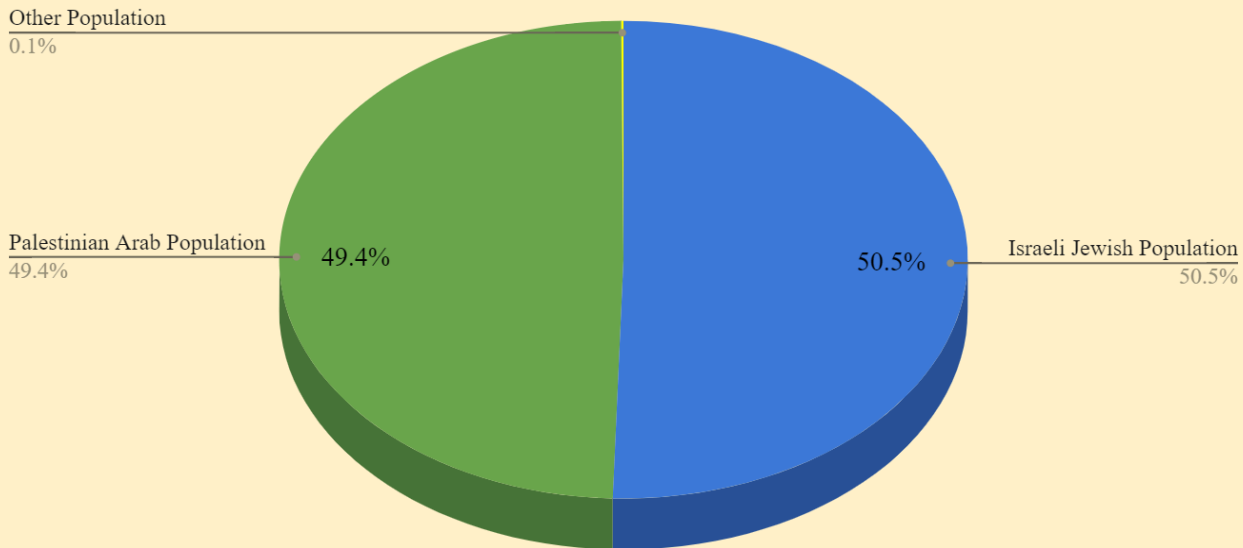


Fig. 40

Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Demographics of Palestine based on the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

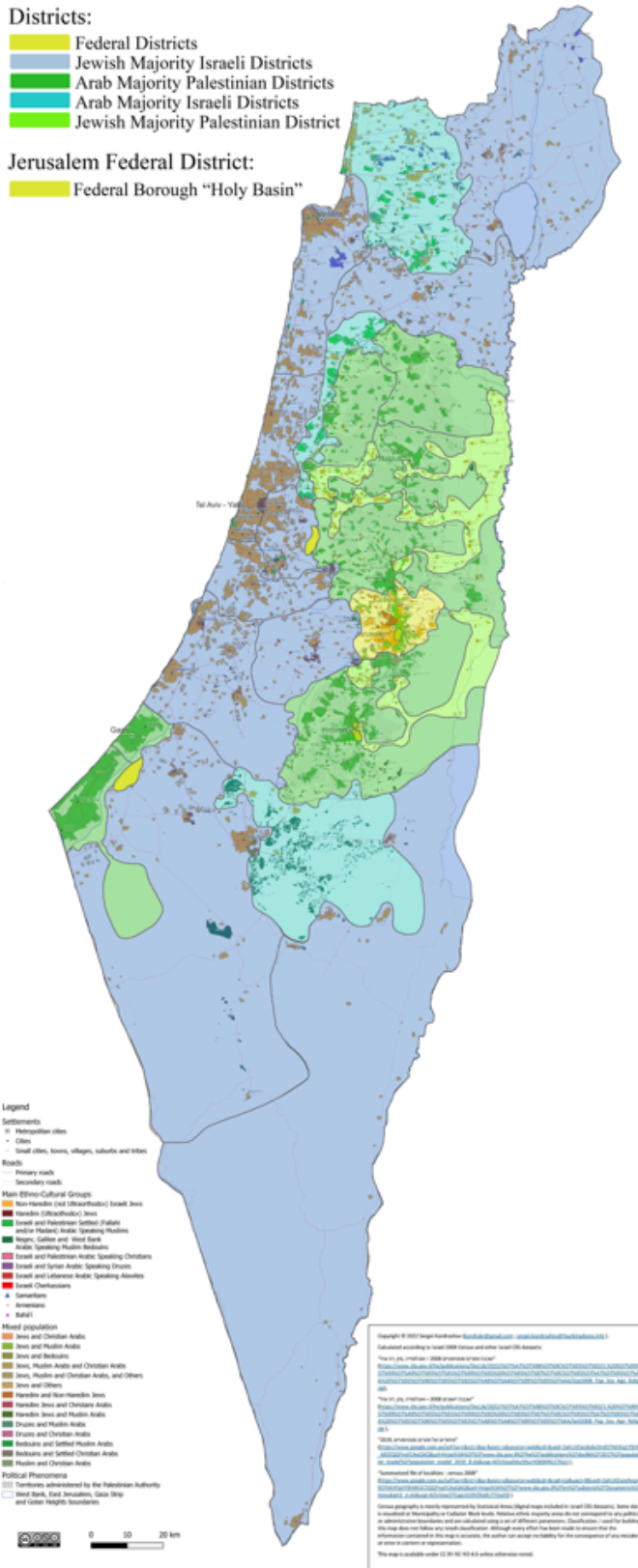
The Jerusalem Union is the perfect place to headquarters a new Middle Eastern Union. Much like how Brussels serves as the capital of the European Union. Jerusalem, the Capital of the Jerusalem Union can serve also as the Capital of the new Greater Middle Eastern Union. This can include the countries that have already signed peace agreements with Israel, such as Egypt, Jordan, The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco, and in the future can also include countries like Saudi Arabia, Oman, Syria, and Lebanon. This would lead to greater prosperity and peace in the region.

The Greater Middle Eastern Union can include free trade, visa-free travel, and even a mutual defense pact to provide security guarantees for the region as a whole.

They would be an integral part of a new prosperous Middle East with Jerusalem hosting embassies of every country in the world and diplomats far and wide coming to make agreements with the Middle Eastern Region as a whole. The quality of life, the tourism, and the technological advancements that would come out of the Greater Middle Eastern Union will make it one of the leading economies in the world

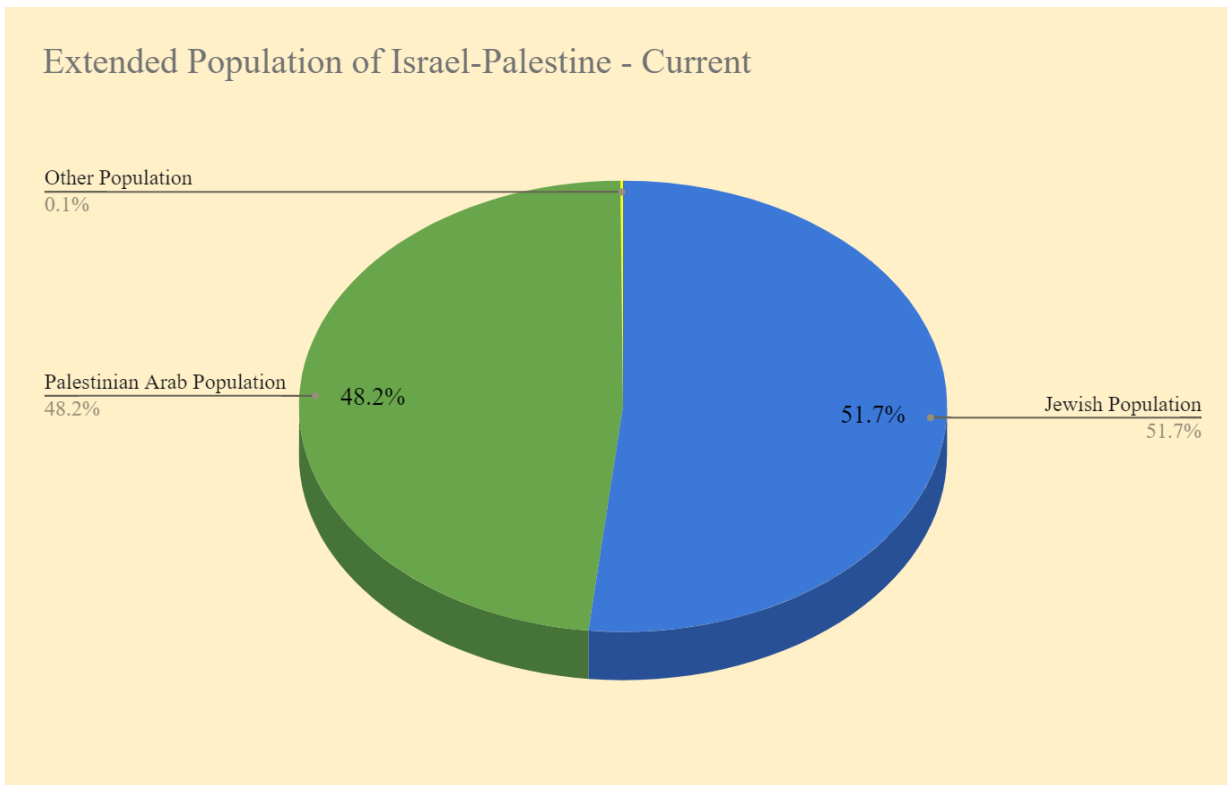
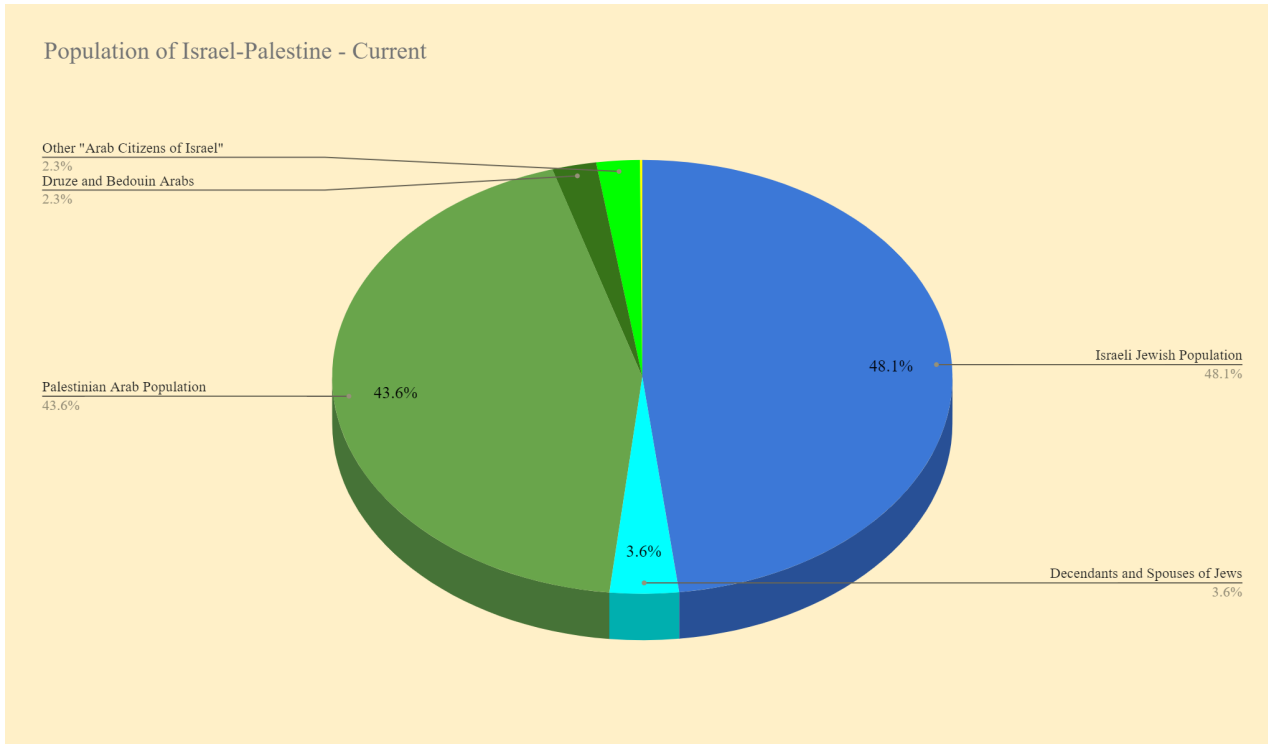
It's time for a change, it's time for a Union.

Appendix A: – District Map of the Jerusalem Union



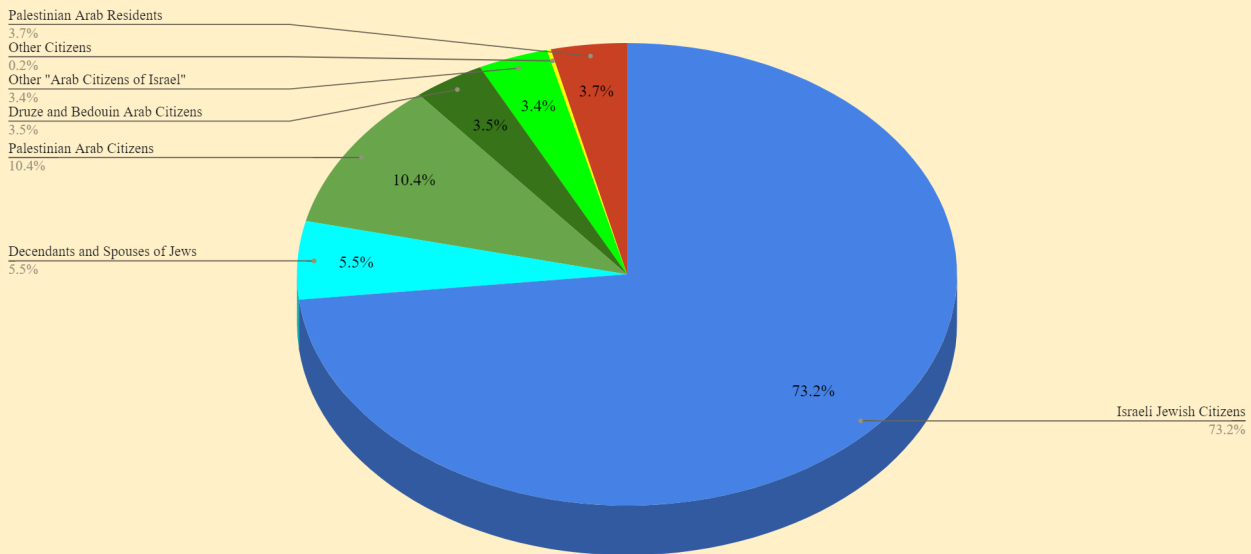
Political Concepts map by Rafi Gassel, modified over the base map by, [Sergey Kondrashov](#), CC BY-SA 4.0, [Ethno-cultural groups of Israeli population by settlements' built-up areas](#). Link to detailed map ([click here](#)), for link to a Google Maps version ([click here](#))

Appendix C: – Current Demographics of Israel-Palestine

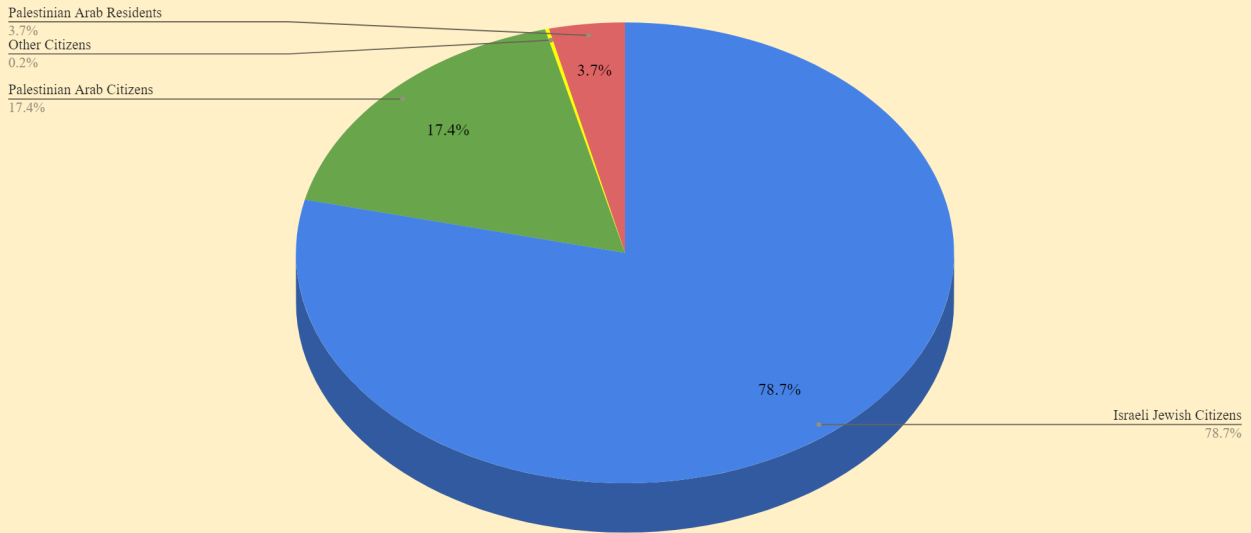


“Extended Population” for Israeli Jews includes descendants and spouses of Jews and for Palestinian Arabs includes Druze, Bedouin and Arab Citizens of Israel who prefer that definition. Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), Demographics of Palestine based on the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS).

Population of State of Israel - Current

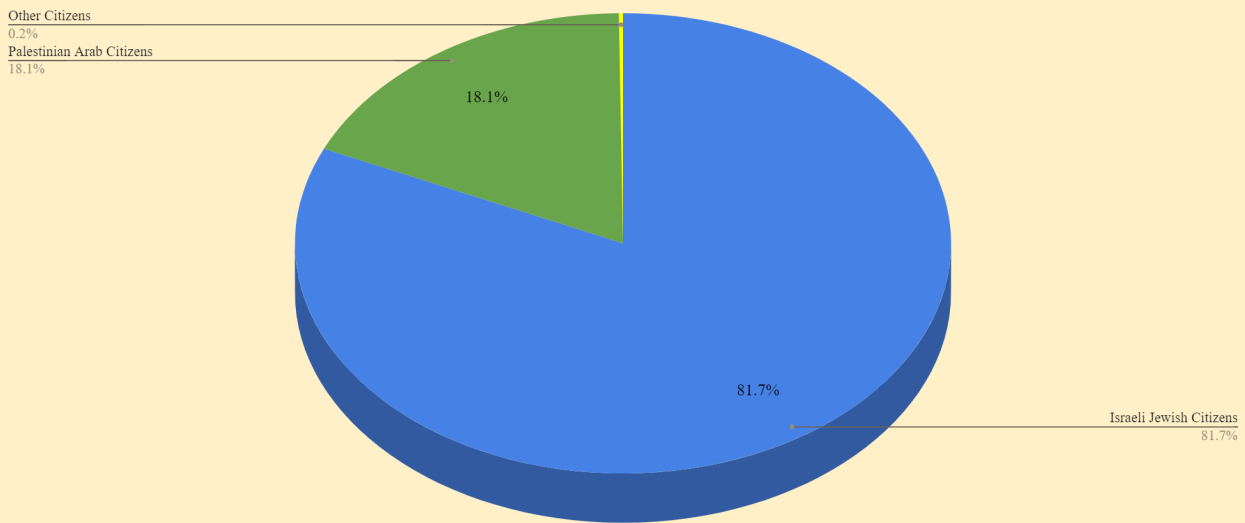


Extended Population of State of Israel - Current

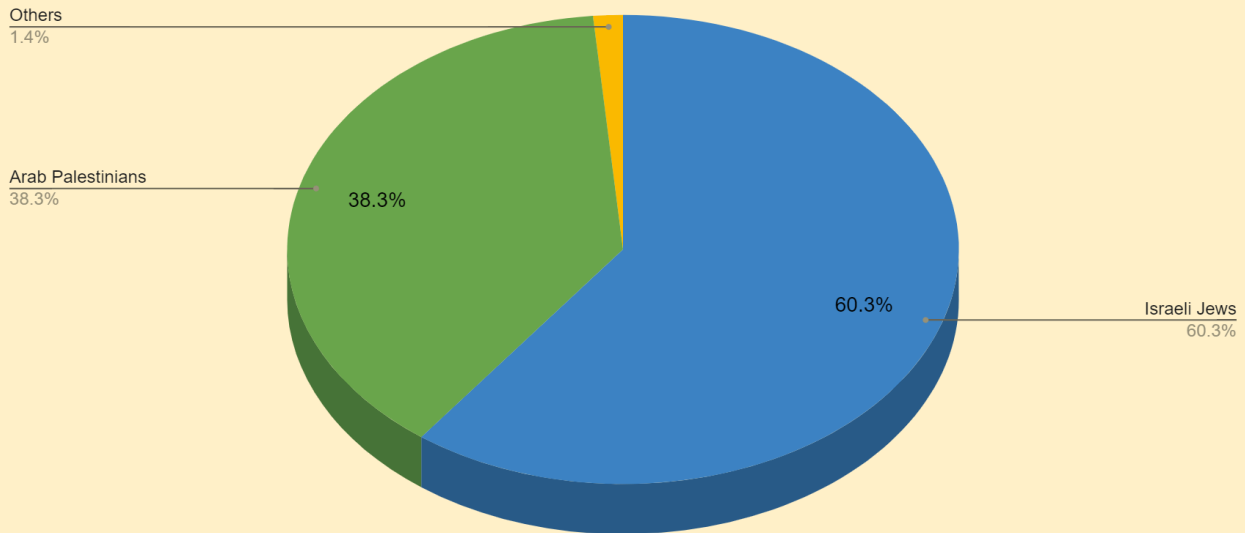


“Israeli Jewish Citizens” include descendants and spouses of Jews, and “Palestinian Arab Citizens” include Druze, Bedouin, and Arab Citizens of Israel who prefer that definition. Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS), “Palestinian Arab Residents” refers to Palestinian Arab residents of East Jerusalem who do not hold Israeli citizenship. “Other Citizens” include Armenians, Circassians, non-Arab Christians, Bahia, and other citizens of Israel who do not fit into one of the other groups in the chart.

Extended Population of State of Israel Citizens - Current



Jerusalem Municipality - Current Residents



“Extended Population” for Israeli Jews includes descendants and spouses of Jews and for Palestinian Arabs includes Druze, Bedouin, and Arab Citizens of Israel who prefer that definition. Demographics of Israel and Israelis in the West Bank and East Jerusalem based on the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)

Appendix D: – The Bill of Rights for Israel-Palestine

Rights of the Individual

1. The Federal Government shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.
2. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall be issued without probable cause and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized.
3. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the military, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.
4. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, of the State or district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.
5. Personal security is guaranteed by the constitution. No one may be arrested, searched, detained, or restricted in his freedom in any way except by a judicial order applying the provisions of the law. The law shall define the conditions of provisional detention.
6. The accused may not be subject to any coercion or torture. The accused must be treated as innocent until his guilt has been proven in a fair trial granting him the guarantees of self-defense and the assistance of an attorney.
7. Capital punishment shall be banned.
8. A convict deprived of his freedom must be treated humanely and appropriately.
9. There shall be neither crime nor punishment except as stipulated by law. There shall be no punishment except for deeds committed after a law comes into effect. In non-criminal matters, it may be stipulated otherwise in a law that is approved by a majority of all the members of the Legislative Branch.
10. Punishment is individual; collective punishment is forbidden.
11. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.
12. The powers not delegated to the Union by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.
13. Natural resources in Israel-Palestine are the property of the people of Israel-Palestine. They shall exercise their sovereignty over them and do not permit their monopolization. Their exploitation shall be governed by law.
14. The economic order in Israel-Palestine shall be established based on free market principles. The law shall regulate its supervision to protect free economic activity and to preserve the rights of groups in need of care. The state may establish public companies regulated by law.

15. The state shall strive to realize the social, economic, and cultural development of the people based on social justice.
16. A clean and sustainable environment is a human right. It shall be a societal and official responsibility to preserve and protect the environment for present and future generations.
17. The people shall be equal before the law. They shall enjoy rights and incur duties equally without discrimination for any cause except those constitutionally legitimated.
18. Citizenship in the Union is secure and permanent for any citizen. It is transmitted from parent to child. It endures and is not canceled by the passage of time. The law shall determine the ways of gaining and losing it and the rights and duties of multinational citizens.
19. The constitution guarantees the civil, political, social, cultural, and economic rights and freedoms of all citizens, which they enjoy based on equality and equal opportunity.
20. Human rights and basic freedoms according to international laws, charters, and treaties that become part of domestic law are binding and must be respected.
21. Every person has the right to life and to the protection of his rights, freedoms, and well-being under the provisions of the constitution, the laws issued in application thereof, and the principles of justice.
22. Life shall not be subject to scientific or medical experimentation. No one shall be subject to medical treatment without his consent. Exceptional circumstances shall be regulated by law. Organ transplants and other innovations of scientific progress for legitimate humanitarian purposes shall be regulated by law.
23. People have the right to protection from injury, harsh treatment, and subjugation to torture or inhumane and undignified punishment.
24. The constitution guarantees to every citizen freedom of movement within the state, abroad, and returning to it.
25. No citizens may be extradited for political crimes and no political refugee may be extradited.
26. No person may be deprived of legal competence, citizenship, or reputation for political reasons.
27. The freedom to practice religion and arrive at places of worship shall be guaranteed insofar as it does not disturb the public order or defame the religions of the People of Israel-Palestine
28. Residences shall be inviolable. Search and entry shall not be permitted except according to judicial order given for cause, during the day, and in accordance with the provisions of law.
29. Freedom of thought and expression, in speech, writing, or other means, shall be guaranteed. The law shall regulate it to guarantee equal respect for the rights of others.
30. Freedom of the press, printing, publishing, and media shall be protected by the Constitution. It is not permitted to suspend them except by judicial decision in the application of the law. It is not permitted to subject them to censorship. The law regulating these shall guarantee their integrity, and the expression of different opinions, encourage scientific, artistic, and literary creativity, and guarantee the freedom of academic opinion.
31. The constitution shall protect the confidentiality and freedom of correspondence and communication. They may not be infringed except in circumstances defined by law.
32. Public property shall be regulated by law to protect it and so that it serves the interest of the people. Private property is protected. It shall be disposed of in a matter that does not conflict with the public interest. It may not be seized or appropriated except for the public benefit, by law, and in return for just compensation. It may not be confiscated except by judicial decision. Public confiscation of the right of ownership shall be forbidden.
33. The state shall protect the private economic activity of individuals to realize economic growth and social justice.

34. Each citizen has the right to work. The constitution shall guarantee the freedom to form work-related associations.
35. Slave labor shall be prohibited. The law shall regulate compulsory labor in cases of executing judicial decisions.
36. The right to protest and strike shall be exercised in a way that does not violate the law. Strikes are forbidden in the army and police sectors. The law shall regulate the relations of work in order to guarantee justice for all parties and provide for the protection and security of workers.
37. Every citizen has equal right to public positions based on merit and aptitude, under the law regulating public employment.
38. The Union shall guarantee social insurance services, pensions for the disabled and aged, care for orphans, and care for those wounded and injured. This shall be done to guarantee them training, education, and health and social insurance.
39. The Union shall guarantee health insurance as an individual right and a public interest. It shall guarantee basic health care for those financially unable.
40. Education has freedom provided it does not disturb the public order and decency or offend the religions of Israel-Palestine. It is a right of every citizen and is supervised by the state. The state shall guarantee education until the secondary level. It is compulsory until the end of the tenth grade.
41. Private education has freedom provided it does not violate public order and public decency or offend the religions and cultures of the people. The law shall regulate the supervision of the state over its organization and curricula.
42. The state shall assist students who are financially unable. It shall support the outstanding.
43. The constitution shall protect the independence of institutions with scientific goals and universities in a manner defined by law to guarantee the freedom of scientific research and encourage it.
44. The state and the society shall protect motherhood and childhood. The rights of the child, the mother, and the family shall be regulated by law.
45. Men and women have equal rights. The law shall ensure their equality, both in law and in practice, most particularly in the family, in education, and the workplace. Men and women have the right to equal pay for work of equal value.
46. The law shall provide for the elimination of inequalities that affect persons with disabilities.
47. Children and young people have the right to the special protection of their integrity and to the encouragement of their development. They may personally exercise their rights to the extent that their power of judgment allows.
48. Every person has the right to privacy in their private and family life in their home, and concerning their mail and telecommunications. Every person has the right to be protected against the misuse of their data.
49. The right to marry and to have a family is guaranteed.
50. Freedom of religion and conscience is guaranteed. Every person has the right to choose freely their religion or their philosophical convictions, and to profess them alone or in community with others. Every person has the right to join or to belong to a religious community, and to follow religious teachings. No person may be forced to join or belong to a religious community, to participate in a religious act, or follow religious teachings.
51. Freedom of expression and information is guaranteed. Every person has the right freely to form, express, and impart their opinions. Every person has the right freely to receive information, gather it from generally accessible sources, and disseminate it.

52. Freedom of the press, radio and television, and other forms of dissemination of features and information utilizing public telecommunications is guaranteed. Censorship is prohibited. The protection of sources is guaranteed.
53. The freedom to use any language is guaranteed.
54. Each citizen has public, civil, and political rights and freedoms, which shall be guaranteed by the Constitution and regulated by law. Specifically, he has the following rights: Direct participation in political life. The right to election and nomination in representation of the people. The right to contribute to political activities, form or join a political party, adopt the platform of a legally established party, idea, or political choices, and support them peacefully. The freedom to gather and demonstrate with others peacefully and without weapons. The freedom to form public associations according to the legal procedures. The right to present petitions and complaints.
55. The suspension of any right or freedom among the rights and freedoms is not permitted in any circumstance. The law shall regulate the rights and freedoms that may be restricted temporarily in exceptional circumstances.
56. Any violation of the basic rights and freedoms of the individual guaranteed by the constitution shall be a crime for which the resulting civil and criminal lawsuits shall have no statute of limitations.

Collective Rights

Collective Rights for the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people (The Ethno-National Groups) as well as other Ethno-Cultural Communities in Israel-Palestine

1. The Collective Rights are the rights afforded to the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab people in all the land of Israel-Palestine by virtue of their historic, ancestral, cultural, and religious ties to the land of Israel-Palestine, the Union will do all in its power under to the law to see these rights protected and the aspirations of both main Ethno-National Groups are fulfilled in a just manner, these rights include the following:
2. The right of the Ethno-National Groups, the Jewish and Palestinian people, to return to the homeland of Israel-Palestine is sacred and eternal and is to be actualized by the Union as a top priority under the law. These rights will be known as Hoq Il Awda and Aliya respectively.
3. The Ethno-National Groups have the right to self-determination. By that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development.
4. The Ethno-National Groups, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government via the States of Israel and Palestine in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.
5. There are also several Ethno-Cultural Communities in the Union which in many cases are subgroups of the main Ethno-National Groups and they include; the Jewish Israelis (not including ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Haredim (ultra-Orthodox Jews), the Palestinian and Israeli Settled (non-Bedouin) Arabic Speaking Muslims, the Arabic Speaking Muslim Bedouin, Palestinian and Israeli Arabic Speaking Christians, Israeli and Syrian Arabic Speaking Druze, Israeli and Lebanese Arabic Speaking Alawites, Israeli Circassians, Samaritans, Armenians and Bahai people groups.
6. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions while retaining their right to participate fully, in the political, economic, social, and cultural life of the State and the Union.

7. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the collective right to live in freedom, peace, and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group or forcibly removing them from their lands and territories.
8. The Ethno-Cultural Communities and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture.
9. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect, and develop the past, present, and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archeological and historical sites, artifacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies, and visual and performing arts and literature.
10. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to manifest, practice, develop, and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs, and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites; the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of their human remains.
11. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to revitalize, use, develop, and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems, and literature, and to designate and retain their names for communities, places, and persons.
12. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.
13. The Union shall, in conjunction with The Ethno-Cultural Communities, take effective measures, for individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their language.
14. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories, and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
15. The Union shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the Ethno-Cultural Communities concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding, and good relations among the Ethno-Cultural Communities and all other segments of society.
16. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to establish their media in their languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination.
17. The Union shall take effective measures to ensure that government-owned media duly reflect the cultural diversity of the Ethno-Cultural Communities. And without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, they should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect cultural diversity.
18. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to participate in decision-making in matters that would affect their rights, through the States or other representatives chosen by themselves under the law, as well as to maintain and develop their unique decision-making institutions.
19. The Union shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Ethno-Cultural Communities concerned through the States or through their representative institutions and National Councils to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.
20. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to maintain and develop their social systems or institutions and to engage freely in all their traditional activities.
21. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories,

waters, coastal seas, and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

22. Ethno-cultural communities have the right to the lands, territories, and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied, or otherwise used or acquired, under the law of the Union.

23. The Union shall establish and implement, in conjunction with the Ethno-Cultural Communities, a fair, independent, impartial, open, and transparent process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs, and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of Ethno-Cultural Communities pertaining to their lands, territories, and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used.

24. The Ethno-Cultural Communities in cooperation with the Union have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair, and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories, and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent. Unless otherwise freely agreed upon by the peoples concerned, compensation shall take the form of lands, territories, and resources or monetary compensation or other appropriate redress under the law.

25. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to maintain, control, protect, and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies, and cultures, including human resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literature, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect, and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.

26. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources under the law.

27. The Union shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Ethno-Cultural Communities concerned through their States or other representative institutions to obtain their free and informed consent before the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.

28. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to determine their own identity or membership following their customs and traditions.

29. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of their institutions following their procedures.

30. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to promote, develop, and maintain their institutional structures and their distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices, and, in the cases where they exist, juridical systems or customs, under the law and international human rights standards.

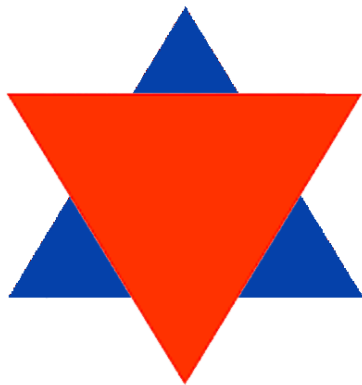
31. The Ethno-Cultural Communities have the right to determine the responsibilities of individuals to their communities.

32. The Ethno-Cultural Communities, whose members span the globe, divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations, and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic, and social purposes, with their members as well as other peoples across borders.

33. The Union, in consultation and cooperation with the Israeli Jewish and Palestinian Arab peoples via their intuition in the States Israel and Palestine as well as all other Ethno-National Communities in

Israel-Palestine via their Community Councils, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of all of these rights.

34. Should any Community Council or the governments of Israel or Palestine determine that any Federal Law passed violates their individual or Collective Rights they may request this law to be redressed by the Supreme Court of the Union.



ERETZ-ARD
أرض-ארץ

The six-pointed star or hexagram is a symbol found in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic iconography, the symbol is meant to symbolize the connection between heaven and earth. In Judaism, it is usually called a Magen David or 'Shield of David.' The oldest evidence of this was found in a 3rd-century synagogue in the northern Galilee region of Israel-Palestine. In the Middle Ages, it became widely used as a symbol of the Jewish people. In Christianity, it is sometimes called the star of creation. In Islam, the symbol is known as Khātem Sulaymān, the 'Seal of Solomon' or Najmat Dāwūd, the 'Star of David'.