

JOE BIDEN'S ANTI-ISRAEL ADMINISTRATION

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Did you know...?

Antony Blinken, President-elect Joe Biden's pick for secretary of state, **opposed designating** the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) a foreign terrorist organization out of fears it would lead to blowback.

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Jack Lew, the former Treasury Department secretary who is nominated as U.S. ambassador to Israel, informed Congress in written communication that if confirmed to the post, he will not eliminate taxpayer funding for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), an aid organization **known to use anti-Semitic materials in its schools** and preach Israel's destruction.

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Reema Dodin, Biden's Deputy Director of White House Legislative Affairs "**justified Palestinian suicide bombings against Jews** as the 'last resort of a desperate people' during the second intifada In 2002."

[Read more at the Just The News →](#)



"Biden has appointed the most anti-Semitic, anti-Israel people to important posts we've ever seen," Zionist Organization of America National President Morton Klein told Just the News."

Even some younger members of Mr. Biden's own staff privately do not understand why he has been so willing to back Mr. Netanyahu.

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JOE BIDEN'S ANTI-ISRAEL ADMINISTRATION

Overview

Joe Biden's administration is the most anti-Israel administration in recent memory, as many of his top appointees have consistently expressed negative sentiments about one of America's closest allies. Notable appointees and staff include Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Israel Ambassador Jack Lew, National Security Council director Maher Bitar, and Reema Dodin, his deputy director of White House Legislative Affairs.

Dissent has been brewing in the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) over Israel defending itself against Hamas following their brutal terrorist attack on October 7. Recently, a junior State Department employee, Sylvia Yacoub organized a dissent cable seeking signatories challenging the White House's Israel policy. Many of the comments by State employees were "angry and emotional" over its pro-Israel stance. Hundreds of USAID officials have anonymously signed a letter pushing for an "immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities" in the Israel-Hamas war. The petition highlighted a growing rift between pro-Palestinian officials and Biden's cabinet.

Even the political staffers who are working to get Biden re-elected have signed a letter calling for Israel to stop its efforts to root out Hamas terrorists in Gaza. Earlier this month, more than 50 of the Democratic National Committee's 300 staffers anonymously signed a letter to leadership stating, "it is the DNC's moral obligation to urge President Biden to publicly call for a ceasefire." Those anonymous employees are responsible for Biden's fundraising and are coordinating his reelection campaign. This isn't the first time his campaign has been hostile to Israel. In 2021, more than 500 people who worked on his campaign called for holding Israel accountable for simply defending itself. At least nine of those people are currently in Biden's administration.

While Joe Biden portrays himself as resolute in support of Israel's self-defense, it has become abundantly clear that he stacked his administration and re-election campaign with individuals who are openly hostile to the Jewish state.

Many Of Biden's Appointees Have Expressed Anti-Israel And Anti-Semitic Sentiments

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"Even as President Joe Biden touts his support for Israel, many of his appointees have expressed anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiments, even after Hamas terrorists invaded Israel and killed more than 1,400 people, including at least 31 U.S. citizens." (Madeleine Hubbard, "Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start," [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

Zionist Organization Of America National President Morton Klein: "Biden Has Appointed The Most Anti-Semitic, Anti-Israel People To Important Posts We've Ever Seen." "Biden has appointed the most anti-Semitic, anti-Israel people to important posts we've ever seen," Zionist Organization of America National President Morton Klein told Just the News." (Madeleine Hubbard, "Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start," [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

- **Klein: "Almost Every Person Appointed To An Important Post Is Hostile To Israel. This Is Anti-Semitism."** "Almost every person appointed to an important post is hostile to Israel. This is anti-Semitism," Klein alleged." (Madeleine Hubbard, "Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start," [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

"ZOA Has Identified Dozens Of Current And Former Biden Administration Officials With A History Of Anti-Israel And Anti-Semitic Comments." (Madeleine Hubbard, "Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start," [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

- **NOTE:** ZOA's list of current and former Biden administration officials can be found at the bottom of this backgrounder.

Biden's Younger White House Staffers Have Privately Questioned His Support For Israel

Younger Members Of Biden's Staff Privately Do Not Understand Why He Has Been So Willing To Back Mr. Netanyahu Even As Israeli Forces Besiege Gaza, Cut Off Food And Fuel And Pound The Hamas-Run Coastal Enclave With Bombs That Hamas Officials In Gaza Say Have Killed Thousands Of People. "Even some younger members of Mr. Biden's own staff privately do not understand why he has been so willing to back Mr. Netanyahu even as Israeli forces besiege Gaza, cut off food and fuel and pound the Hamas-run coastal enclave with bombs that Hamas officials in Gaza say have killed thousands of people." (Peter Baker, "Biden's Israel Ties Rooted In Long Career: 'From His Gut To His Heart To His Head,'" [The New York Times](#), 10/28/23)

NOTABLE BIDEN APPOINTEES & STAFF

Antony Blinken – Secretary Of State

Following The Attack On Israel, Blinken Posted And Then Deleted On Twitter A Post Encouraging A Cease-Fire Between Israel And Hamas. "Secretary of State Antony Blinken caused an uproar over the weekend with a since-deleted social media post in which he encouraged a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas. Blinken said in the Sunday message that he 'encouraged' Turkey's push for a halt to the fighting just as Israel began responding to Saturday's large-scale attack by the Palestinian terrorist group that left hundreds of Israeli citizens dead." (Ryan King, "Blinken Slammed For Tweet Pushing Israel-Hamas Cease-Fire: 'Any Actual Adults In Charge?,'" [New York Post](#), 10/9/23)

- **Blinken Tweeted He Was Encouraged By Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan's Advocacy For A Cease-Fire.** "Turkish Foreign Minister @HakanFidan and I spoke further on Hamas' terrorist attacks on Israel. I encouraged Türkiye's advocacy for a cease-fire and the release of all hostages held by Hamas immediately,' read Blinken's post on X, formerly Twitter." (Ryan King, "Blinken Slammed For Tweet Pushing Israel-Hamas Cease-Fire: 'Any Actual Adults In Charge?,'" [New York Post](#), 10/9/23)

Blinken Previously Opposed Designating The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp As A Foreign Terrorist Organization. "Antony Blinken, President-elect Joe Biden's pick for secretary of state, opposed designating the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) a foreign terrorist organization out of fears it would lead to blowback -- a potential sign of the softer stance a Biden administration is expected to take toward Iran. Biden announced Monday that Blinken, a former deputy national security adviser in the Obama administration, would be his pick for the nation's top diplomat. It was the Obama administration that entered the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPoA) -- known as the Iran nuclear deal -- which normalized relations with the Iranian regime." (Adam Shaw, "Biden Secretary Of State Pick Blinken Opposed Terrorist Label For Iran's Revolutionary Guard," [Fox News](#), 11/24/20)

- **In October 2017, Blinken Said "If There's A Formal Designation As A Terrorist Organization, I Think There Is Going To Be Blowback."** "In 2017, when the Trump administration was still mulling the idea, Blinken said he opposed designating the IRGC a terror group, noting that the Bush administration had also shied away from making such a designation. The Trump administration would make the designation in 2019. 'If there's a formal designation as a terrorist organization, I think there is going to be blowback,' he said on CNN in October 2017. 'That's exactly why the Bush administration and the Obama administration, while using other sanctions against individual members, leaders or the IRGC, resisted designating the organization.'" (Adam Shaw, "Biden Secretary Of State Pick Blinken Opposed Terrorist Label For Iran's Revolutionary Guard," [Fox News](#), 11/24/20)

Jack Lew – Israel Ambassador

NOTE: *Lew was confirmed by the U.S. Senate (53-43) on October 31, 2023.* (Karoun Demirjian, "Senate Confirms Lew As U.S. Ambassador To Israel," [The New York Times](#), 10/31/23)

Jack Lew, Obama's Former Treasury Secretary And Biden's Israel Ambassador Nominee Has Pledge Full Support For The U.N. Relief And Works Agency (UNRWA) An

“Anti-Semitic” Organization That Cooperates With Hamas. “The Biden administration’s nominee to be the next ambassador to Israel is pledging full American support and funding for an anti-Semitic United Nations organization known to cooperate with Hamas. Jack Lew, the former Treasury Department secretary who is nominated as U.S. ambassador to Israel, informed Congress in written communication that if confirmed to the post, he will not eliminate taxpayer funding for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), an aid organization known to use anti-Semitic materials in its schools and preach Israel’s destruction.” (Adam Kredo, “Biden Israel Ambassador Nom Pledges U.S. Funding For Anti-Semitic U.N. Group Tied To Hamas,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/25/23)

In Written Testimony, Lew Said “I Believe Eliminating Funding For UNRWA Would Be Harmful For The Innocent People That Live In Gaza, Israel And The Broader Region As Well As U.S. Security Interests.” “‘I believe eliminating funding for UNRWA would be harmful for the innocent people that live in Gaza, Israel and the broader region as well as U.S. security interests,’ Lew said in written testimony provided to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee following his confirmation hearing last week.” (Adam Kredo, “Biden Israel Ambassador Nom Pledges U.S. Funding For Anti-Semitic U.N. Group Tied To Hamas,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/25/23)

Under Biden, The U.S. Has Given UNRWA \$730 Million. “U.S. funding to UNRWA, which topped \$730 million under the Biden administration, has long been a flashpoint among Republicans in Congress, and was frozen under the Trump administration due to the organization’s promotion of Jew hatred.”

According To Watchdog Groups, UNRWA Employs Teachers Who Call For The Slaughter Of Jews And Glorifies Hamas Terrorists. “UNRWA is known to employ teachers who call for Jews to be murdered and glorify Hamas terrorists, including its leaders, according to watchdog groups. The Iranian-backed terror group that recently slaughtered nearly 1,500 Israelis is also reported to store weapons and other munitions at UNRWA facilities.” (Adam Kredo, “Biden Israel Ambassador Nom Pledges U.S. Funding For Anti-Semitic U.N. Group Tied To Hamas,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/25/23)

Maheer Bitar – National Security Council Senior Intelligence Director

National Security Council Senior Intelligence Director Maheer Bitar, Led The Students For Justice In Palestine And Hosted A Student Meeting On How To Demonize Israel As A Georgetown University Student In 2006. “Another high-profile example of anti-Israel sentiment in the administration comes from National Security Council senior intelligence director Maheer Bitar. As a student at Georgetown in 2006, Bitar led the Students for Justice in Palestine and hosted a student meeting about how to demonize Israel in the minds of Christians.” (Madeleine Hubbard, “Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start,” [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

Bitar’s Master’s Thesis From Oxford Was “Nakba” The Arabic Work For “Catastrophe,” Referring To The Founding Of Israel In 1948. “After earning his law degree from Georgetown in 2012, Bitar earned his master's from Oxford and wrote his thesis about the ‘Nakba,’ the Arabic word for ‘catastrophe,’ referring to the founding of Israel in 1948.” (Madeleine Hubbard, “Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start,” [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

“The Georgetown Students For Justice In Palestine Chapter Put Out A Statement Blaming The Brutal Oct. 7 Hamas Terrorist Attack On Israel, As Have Many Other Chapters Across The Nation.” (Madeleine Hubbard, “Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start,” [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

Reema Dodin – Deputy Director Of White House Legislative Affairs

Reema Dodin, Biden’s Deputy Director Of White House Legislative Affairs “Justified Palestinian Suicide Bombings Against Jews As The ‘Last Resort Of A Desperate People’ During The Second Intifada In 2002.” “In another example, Biden appointed Reema Dodin to serve as White House Legislative Affairs deputy director. She justified Palestinian suicide bombings against Jews as the ‘last resort of a desperate people’ during the Second Intifada in 2002 when she

spoke in Lodi, Calif., about the conflict as a student at Berkley, according to the Lodi News-Sentinel.” (Madeleine Hubbard, “Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start,” [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

Tyler Cherry – Interior Department Senior Spokesman

In 2014, Tyler Cherry, The Department Of Interior’s Principal Deputy Communications Director And Senior Spokesman Celebrated The End Of The Palestine Occupation.

“Tyler Cherry, who is now the Department of the Interior's principal deputy communications director and senior spokesperson, said in the 2014 post that he was celebrating the end of the ‘occupation of Palestine.’ The post came amid the 2014 Gaza War in which Palestinian forces, led by the radical Iran-backed terrorist group Hamas, launched hundreds of rockets into Israel, sparking a forceful Israeli response that involved airstrikes and a ground invasion.” (Thomas Catenacci, “White House Silent On Biden Official’s Pro-Palestinian Post Amid Bloodshed In Israel,” [Fox News](#), 10/13/23)

Cherry’s Tweet: “Cheersing In Bars To Ending The Occupation Of Palestine — No Shame And F--- Your Glares #ISupportgaza #Freepalestine.” “‘Cheersing in bars to ending the occupation of Palestine — no shame and f--- your glares #ISupportGaza #FreePalestine,’ Cherry said on July 25, 2014, in a post on X, formerly known as Twitter.” (Thomas Catenacci, “White House Silent On Biden Official’s Pro-Palestinian Post Amid Bloodshed In Israel,” [Fox News](#), 10/13/23)

Cherry Has Been At The Interior Department Since 2021 And Had Previously Worked On Biden’s Presidential Campaign. “Cherry, who has served at the Interior Department since early 2021, previously worked for President Biden's presidential campaign, left-wing consulting firm SKDK, and Media Matters for America, a progressive publication.” (Thomas Catenacci, “White House Silent On Biden Official’s Pro-Palestinian Post Amid Bloodshed In Israel,” [Fox News](#), 10/13/23)

“The White House Opted Not To Respond To A Request For Comment After A Biden Administration Communications Official's Pro-Palestinian Social Media Post Resurfaced Amid The Middle East Crisis.” (Thomas Catenacci, “White House Silent On Biden Official’s Pro-Palestinian Post Amid Bloodshed In Israel,” [Fox News](#), 10/13/23)

Yusra Fazili – Pentagon Comptroller Chief Of Staff

Yusra Fazili, Chief Of Staff To Pentagon Comptroller Mike McCord Has Posted Pro-Palestinian Demonstrations On Her Instagram Account. “A Pentagon employee who worked for the Hamas-linked Qatari government has been pushing on social media for Israel to end its war on Hamas, undercutting the Biden administration’s stated support for the Jewish state’s defensive war. Yusra Fazili, who serves as chief of staff to Pentagon comptroller Mike McCord, has been using her private Instagram account to promote pro-Palestinian demonstrations across America that have excused Hamas’s slaughter of Israeli citizens and called on the Jewish state to agree to a ceasefire, according to social media posts obtained by the Washington Free Beacon.” (Adam Kredon, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

- **Fazili Had Previously Worked As A Strategic Adviser To Qatar’s Ambassador In America.** “Fazili, prior to joining the Pentagon, worked for more than three years as a strategic adviser to Qatar’s ambassador in America, prompting concerns in Congress that she helped Doha target ‘prominent Americans in an effort to silence Qatar’s critics,’ according to a letter from Rep. Jack Bergman (R., Minn.) sent earlier this month to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.” (Adam Kredon, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

Fazili’s Posts Have Supported A Ceasefire. “With Doha playing a central role in international efforts to mediate a hostage deal with Hamas, whose senior leaders live in Qatar, Fazili’s social media posts in support of a ceasefire appear at odds with the Pentagon, which is offering robust military support to Israel as it tries to dismantle the terror group’s operations in the Gaza Strip.” (Adam Kredon, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

One Particular Fazili Repost Read “Let Gaza Live.” Another Was Praise For Harvard University Students And Their Pro-Palestinian Rallies That Accused Israel Of “Genocide.” “‘Let Gaza Live,’ read one Instagram post that Fazili reposted. She went on to praise students at Harvard for a series of pro-Palestinian rallies accusing Israel of ‘genocide’ and demanding an immediate ceasefire. ‘I’m so proud of these kids at Harvard,’ Fazili wrote, referring to an effort by media watchdog groups to identify the leaders behind the pro-Palestinian rallies. ‘The leaders all got doxxed this week & undeterred they continue to organize and come out strong.’” (Adam Kredo, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

Fazili Had Also Questioned Israel’s Ground Operation. “Writing about Israel’s expected ground operation into the Gaza Strip, Fazili claimed the Jewish state has already destroyed the Hamas-run enclave and should not send in troops. ‘I can’t help but think, what’s left to destroy?’ she wrote in an Instagram posting that depicts what appears to be rubble in the Gaza Strip. ‘Is this helping find the hostages? Who in their right mind can see this and not believe in a ceasefire?’” (Adam Kredo, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

Another Fazili Post Said She Was Proud Of The Anti-Israel Demonstrations That Took Place In Front Of The White House. “In another post, Fazili displays pictures of a mass anti-Israel demonstration held over the weekend in Washington, D.C., and wrote that ‘ceasefire is what everyone should be pushing for.’ ‘So proud of these demonstrators in front of the White House yesterday,’ she adds.” (Adam Kredo, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

Fazili Also Expressed Thanks For Anti-Israel Members Of Congress Who Had Called For A Ceasefire, This Included A Resolution Backed By The “Squad,” Which Includes Reps. Rashid Tlaib (D-MI), Ilhan Omar (D-MN) And Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY). “Fazili also thanked a cadre of anti-Israel members in Congress for pushing a hotly contested resolution in the House calling for an immediate ceasefire. The resolution was endorsed by members of the anti-Semitic ‘Squad,’ including Reps. Rashida Tlaib (D., Mich.), Ilhan Omar (D., Minn.), and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D., N.Y.).” (Adam Kredo, “Biden’s Deep State: Pentagon Employee Calls For Israeli Ceasefire On Social Media, Undercutting Admin’s Support For Jewish State,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/24/23)

STATE DEPARTMENT

Many Diplomats Are “Alarmed By Washington’s Largely Unrestricted Approval Of Israel’s Conduct In The War Against Hamas.” “Nearly one month into Israel’s U.S.-backed military assault on the Gaza Strip, some State Department officials say their agency is being sidelined in a way that risks hurting American foreign policy, demoralizing valuable personnel and worsening the humanitarian toll of the war. Many diplomats are alarmed by Washington’s largely unrestricted approval of Israel’s conduct in the war against Hamas, which began on Oct. 7 after the Gaza-based militant group launched a brutal shock attack. So far, more than 9,000 Gazans and more than 1,400 Israelis have been killed, according to officials.” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

Secretary Of State Antony Blinken Has Acknowledged The Discontent In The State Department. “Secretary of State Antony Blinken acknowledged the broad discontent within his department in a message to staff on Oct. 19, and some of his lieutenants have since held listening sessions and town hall meetings to discuss the war with department officials at both State’s headquarters in Washington and its facilities worldwide.” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

Frustrated Officials At The State Department Have Become Disillusioned With One Official Saying, “It Feels Like We Are Advocates On The Outside Or Civil Society Banging On The Doors Of Government And That’s Not Our Role.” “Frustrated State Department officials describe disillusionment and a sense of powerlessness as they watch the U.S. pursue policies they believe will cause immense suffering in the near term and painful blowback in the

future. ‘It feels like we are advocates on the outside or civil society banging on the doors of government and that’s not our role,’ one department official said.” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

State Department Officials Have Dissented With Biden’s Stance On Israel The State Department’s “Dissent Channel.” “Last month, HuffPost revealed that officials were drafting a formal dissent to Blinken through State’s storied ‘dissent channel.’ At least two dissents have now been submitted to his staff, two State Department officials said. Blinken welcomes opposing views and the use of the channel, State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said on Oct. 19. The secretary’s team is mandated to prepare responses to dissents. One official said more dissent cables and memos are in the works from a diverse array of officials who want to express concern about the Israel policy for particular reasons, like their knowledge of regional affairs or their experience in combat zones.” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

- **“Many Of Those Comments Were Angry And Emotional.”** “Other State Department officials have expressed similar concerns and some of them spoke at a series of internal discussions for employees that were held on Friday, according to people familiar with the events who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations. Many of those comments were angry and emotional, these people said.” (Matthew Lee and Aamer Madhani, “Biden Walks A Tightrope With His Support For Israel As His Party’s Left Urges Restraint,” [The Associated Press](#), 10/23/23)

Veteran State Department Official Josh Paul Resigned In October 2023 Over Biden’s Gaza Policy. “Josh Paul, a veteran State Department official who last month resigned over the Gaza policy in a development first reported by HuffPost, described a similar divergence. ‘I was deeply involved in a lot of the Afghan evacuation and people certainly felt very passionately about that – and remain of the sense that things were badly mishandled there,’ Paul said in a recent interview. ‘I didn’t hear the same sort of desperation and lack of empowerment.’” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

- **Paul Resigned Over “A Policy Disagreement Concerning Our Continued Lethal Assistance To Israel.”** “A State Department official, Josh Paul, resigned last month because of ‘a policy disagreement concerning our continued lethal assistance to Israel,’ he wrote on LinkedIn.” (Hans Nichols and Barak David, “Scoop: State Dept. Employee Accuses Biden Of ‘Genocide’ Amid Calls For Gaza Ceasefire,” [Axios](#), 11/3/23)

Paul’s Resignation Has Spurred Junior Personnel, Who Are More Likely To Be Palestinian Sympathizers, From Speaking Out In Meetings. “Paul’s resignation spurred talk of others following in his footsteps. But, officials noted, quitting is often challenging financially and can cause reputational harm that makes it tough, if not impossible, to work in foreign policy again. The alarm is especially acute among more junior personnel, who, like many younger Americans, are more sympathetic to Palestinians than older generations. ‘Younger members of the department ... have been particularly afraid of speaking in meetings that they would normally feel comfortable in speaking in or of voicing their opinion to senior leaders or mentors who we assume we can share our perspective with in any other conflict or crisis situation,’ an official said.” (Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Biden’s Israel-Gaza Approach Sidelines State Department, And Officials Fear The Worst,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/2/23)

Sylvia Yacoub, A State Department Employee Sought Signers In A “Dissent Cable” Calling For A “Significant Change” Of The Administration’s Israel Policy

Sylvia Yacoub, A Junior Foreign Affairs Officer In The State Department Organized A Dissent Cable On Biden’s Israel Policy And Has Publicly Accused Him Of Being “Complicit In Genocide” On Social Media. “A junior State Department employee who is organizing a dissent cable on the White House’s policy on Israel has used social media to publicly accuse President Biden of being ‘complicit in genocide’ toward the people of Gaza. ... Sylvia Yacoub, a foreign affairs officer in the Bureau of Middle East Affairs for more than two years, sent an email

Thursday morning to gather signatures for the dissent cable.” (Hans Nichols and Barak David, “Scoop: State Dept. Employee Accuses Biden Of ‘Genocide’ Amid Calls For Gaza Ceasefire,” [Axios](#), 11/3/23)

- **Yacoub’s Dissent Cable Sought Signatures Calling For “Significant Change” In The Administration’s Israel-Gaza Policy.** “In light of Hamas's heinous attack on October 7, the ensuing response by the Government of Israel, and the seemingly full endorsement by the U.S. government to the response, we have drafted a dissent cable calling for a significant change in the Administration's short and long-term policy surround the conflict and path towards regional integration and security,’ she wrote, according to a copy obtained by Axios. ... ‘We will send the draft cable on ClassNet,’ she wrote, referring to a classified system in the State Department. ‘We are hoping to collect signatures of those interested by COB tomorrow.’” (Hans Nichols and Barak David, “Scoop: State Dept. Employee Accuses Biden Of ‘Genocide’ Amid Calls For Gaza Ceasefire,” [Axios](#), 11/3/23)
- **On Social Media, Yacoub Tweeted Biden Was “Complicit In Genocide.”** “‘You are providing significantly more military assistance to the government that is indiscriminately attacking innocent Gazans....you are complicit in genocide @POTUS,’ Yacoub posted Thursday on X, formerly known as Twitter, in response to a tweet from Biden explaining why he's asking Congress for more military assistance for Israel.” (Hans Nichols and Barak David, “Scoop: State Dept. Employee Accuses Biden Of ‘Genocide’ Amid Calls For Gaza Ceasefire,” [Axios](#), 11/3/23)
- **Yacoub Has Called Vice President Harris “Embarrassingly Out Of Touch” For Posting “Israel’s Right To Defend Itself.”** “‘Embarrassingly out of touch @VP,’ Yacoub tweeted at Vice President Kamala Harris after Harris met with U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. Harris had just posted that she and Sunak discussed ‘our support for Israel's right to defend itself and the urgent need to increase the flow of humanitarian assistance into Gaza.’” (Hans Nichols and Barak David, “Scoop: State Dept. Employee Accuses Biden Of ‘Genocide’ Amid Calls For Gaza Ceasefire,” [Axios](#), 11/3/23)

A Congressional Staffer Who Works With The State Department Has Said Yacoub Is “One Of The Loudest And Most Vicious Anti-Israel Activists Inside” The Administration, Adding “She Is Hysterical And Unprofessional To Her Colleagues.” “One senior congressional staffer who works close with the State Department told the Free Beacon that Yacoub is known among her colleagues to be ‘one of the loudest and most vicious anti-Israel activists inside’ the administration. ‘She thinks the State Department is supposed to be a college campus with safe spaces where her feelings in favor of Hamas and against Israel get affirmed,’ the source said, speaking only on background. ‘She is hysterical and unprofessional to her colleagues and even to political appointees by the President. Everyone knows it.’” (Adam Kredo, “State Department Employee Accuses President Biden Of Being Complicit In Israel’s Genocide,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 11/3/23)

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

Hundreds Of USAID Officials Have “Anonymously” Signed A Letter Calling For An Israeli Ceasefire And Cessation Of Hostilities

In November 2023, *Foreign Policy* Reported Hundreds Of USAID Officials Anonymously Signed A Letter Urging The Biden Administration To Push For “An Immediate Ceasefire And Cessation Of Hostilities” In The Israel-Hamas War. “Hundreds of USAID officials have reportedly signed a letter calling on the Biden administration to push for ‘an immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities’ in the Israel-Hamas war, according to a copy of the petition obtained by Foreign Policy. The open letter from staff at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) reflects the mounting alarm within the U.S. government over how President Joe Biden is supporting Israel in its war against the Islamist militant group Hamas.” (Amy Mackinnon and Robbie Gramer, “More U.S. Officials Are Anonymously Calling For A Gaza Cease-Fire,” [Foreign Policy](#), 11/3/23)

- **The Circulated Letter Also Called For The U.S. And The International Community To Hold “All Parties, Including The State Of Israel, To International Law, Which Includes Ending Israel’s Illegal Occupation Of The Palestinian Territories And Settlements On Occupied Land.”** “The internal letter that is being circulated for signatures

among USAID staff calls for an ‘immediate ceasefire’ and ‘cessation of hostilities.’ It also calls for the United States to join the international community in ‘holding all parties, including the State of Israel, to international law, which includes ending Israel’s illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories and settlements on occupied land.’” (Amy Mackinnon and Robbie Gramer, “More U.S. Officials Are Anonymously Calling For A Gaza Cease-Fire,” [Foreign Policy](#), 11/3/23)

- **“The Letter Did Not Acknowledge The Hamas Attack, Its Deliberate Targeting Of Civilians, Or The Group’s Publicly Stated Objective Of Destroying The State Of Israel, And It Is Unclear Whether It Will Have Any Impact In Altering Biden’s Ongoing Support For Israel As The War Continues.”** (Amy Mackinnon and Robbie Gramer, “More U.S. Officials Are Anonymously Calling For A Gaza Cease-Fire,” [Foreign Policy](#), 11/3/23)

Foreign Policy Reported “The Petition Represents A Growing Rift Between Biden’s Cabinet And Rank-And-File U.S. Officials Internally Opposed To The White House’s Approach To The War.” “The petition represents a growing rift between Biden’s cabinet and rank-and-file U.S. officials internally opposed to the White House’s approach to the war, as reported in FP. Israel’s campaign in Gaza, now in its fourth week, was triggered by Hamas’s violent rampage in southern Israel on Oct. 7 that killed over 1,400, constituting the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust.” (Amy Mackinnon and Robbie Gramer, “More U.S. Officials Are Anonymously Calling For A Gaza Cease-Fire,” [Foreign Policy](#), 11/3/23)

The Political Staffers Who Worked To Get Biden Elected Are Calling For A Cease-Fire And To Hold Israel Accountable For Past Transgressions

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE

In November 2023, More Than 50 Staffers At The Democratic National Committee (DNC) Anonymously Signed An Open Letter To Leadership Calling On Them To Urge Biden To Seek A Cease-Fire In Israel. “More than 50 Democratic National Committee employees have signed an open letter to their leadership, calling on them to urge President Joe Biden to seek a cease-fire in Israel’s escalating war against Hamas. The letter’s signers, who chose to remain anonymous, work at the primary organizing body for the Democratic Party, which is handling the bulk of Biden’s fundraising and the coordinated campaign for his reelection.” (Liz Skalka, Daniel Marans and Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Over 50 DNC Employees Sign Letter Urging Biden To Call For Israeli Cease-Fire In Gaza,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/3/23)

- **The Letter, Signed By 51 Of The DNC’s 300 Employees Said “As Strategic Partners To The Administration ... We Feel It Is The DNC’s Moral Obligation To Urge President Biden To Publicly Call For A Ceasefire.”** “The document, which was shared exclusively with HuffPost, underscores how frustrated many Democrats — as well as administration officials, including career diplomats — have become with Biden’s reluctance to demand Israeli restraint in the country’s now month-long offensive against Hamas, the Gaza-based Palestinian militant group. ‘As strategic partners to the administration... we feel it is the DNC’s moral obligation to urge President Biden to publicly call for a ceasefire,’ the 51 employees wrote in a letter they shared with their leadership Friday morning. That figure represents 15% of the committee’s 300 staffers, a DNC spokesperson told HuffPost.” (Liz Skalka, Daniel Marans and Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Over 50 DNC Employees Sign Letter Urging Biden To Call For Israeli Cease-Fire In Gaza,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/3/23)

The DNC Handles The “Bulk Of Biden’s Fundraising And The Coordinated Campaign For His Reelection.” “The letter’s signers, who chose to remain anonymous, work at the primary organizing body for the Democratic Party, which is handling the bulk of Biden’s fundraising and the coordinated campaign for his reelection.” (Liz Skalka, Daniel Marans and Akbar Shahid Ahmed, “Over 50 DNC Employees Sign Letter Urging Biden To Call For Israeli Cease-Fire In Gaza,” [Huffington Post](#), 11/3/23)

FORMER CAMPAIGN STAFF

In 2021, Biden Campaign Alumni Called On Biden To “Hold Israel Accountable For Its Actions” Following Its Response To Rocket Fire From Gaza. At Least Nine Of The Letter’s Signatories Currently Work In The Biden Administration

In 2021, More Than 500 Biden Campaign Alumni Demanded He “Hold Israel Accountable For Its Actions” After Israel Responded To Rocket Fire From Gaza. “Biden's campaign was also filled with people expressing anti-Israel sentiments. A 2021 letter signed by more than 500 Biden campaign alumni demanded the president to ‘hold Israel accountable for its actions’ after Israel responded to a barrage of rockets from Gaza.” (Madeleine Hubbard, “Anti-Israel Sentiment Has Permeated Biden Administration From The Start,” [Just The News](#), 10/22/23)

- **The Letter Called On Biden To Address The “Underlying Conditions Of Occupation, Blockade, And Settlement Expansion That Led To This Exceptionally Destructive Period” As Well As Other Demands Such As The U.S. To Cease Funding Of Aggression Towards Palestine.** “The staffers asked the president to address ‘underlying conditions of occupation, blockade, and settlement expansion that led to this exceptionally destructive period’ and included a list of specific demands. Among those demands: Ensure that foreign aid from the United States ‘no longer funds the imprisonment and torture of Palestinian children, theft and demolition of Palestinian homes and property, and annexation of Palestinian land.’” (Philip Wegmann, “Before Joining Administration, White House Staff Attacked ‘Apartheid’ Israel,” [RealClear Politics](#), 10/19/23)
- **NOTE:** *A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).*

The Letter Was Co-Signed By Staffers At Biden’s Campaign Headquarters, The DNC And In 22 States. “The Washington Post reported in May 2021 that more than 500 Biden campaign and Democratic Party staffers signed a public letter calling on Biden to do more to protect Palestinian human rights. It was co-authored by Borgwardt. And, as the Post noted at the time, it was co-signed by staffers who worked in Biden campaign headquarters, at the Democratic National Committee, and in 22 states.” (Philip Wegmann, “Before Joining Administration, White House Staff Attacked ‘Apartheid’ Israel,” [RealClear Politics](#), 10/19/23)

According To RealClear Politics, At Least Nine Of The Co-Signers Work In The Biden Administration, Mostly In Low To Mid-Level Positions. “RealClearPolitics found that at least nine of the co-signers now work across the administration in posts from the Department of Energy to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, often in low to mid-level positions.

- **“Some Of The Co-Signers Work On The White House Campus, Including One In The Office Of Management And Budget, Which Will Administer Foreign Aid To Israel, As Well As A Senior Associate Director For Presidential Boards And Commissions.”** (Philip Wegmann, “Before Joining Administration, White House Staff Attacked ‘Apartheid’ Israel,” [RealClear Politics](#), 10/19/23)

[Zionist Organization Of America](#) Has Identified The Following Biden Staffers As Being Anti-Semitic And Anti-Israel

Name	Status	Position	Anti-Israel Sentiments
Jack Lew	Nominated	U.S. Ambassador To Israel	Jack Lew lied about Israel, shilled for Iran, and called for Israel's suicidal retreat.
Ramzi Kassem	Appointed	Senior Policy Advisor for Immigration at the White House Domestic Policy Council	In his columns, as in his activism, Ramzi Kassem repeatedly justified terrorism as a reaction to its victims. "Terrorism is but one of many reactions to oppression and dispossession and not their cause."
Kimberly Marteau Emerson	Appointed	U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council	Kimberly Marteau Emerson has been an active member of the Board of Directors of the Israel-bashing and America-bashing Human Rights Watch (HRW), which is infamous for falsely accusing Israel of "apartheid," "crimes against humanity," "persecuting" and "systematic oppression" and "inhumane acts" against Palestinians.
Alan D. Solomont	Appointed	U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council	While giving the opening speech at J Street's 2022 National Conference, Solomont blasted Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu; called Israeli government officials "ultra-nationalist bigots with massive destructive influence"; called much of the lawful Jewish homeland "occupied territories"; and called for "standing up to the right wing fanatics and to occupation."
Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum	Serving	U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom	Kleinbaum retweeted Randi Weingarten's tweet describing antisemites Linda Sarsour and Tamika Mallory as "warriors for justice and I am honored to know them and work with them & call them friends..."
Deborah Lipstadt	Confirmed	U.S. Ambassador to Monitor & Combat Antisemitism	"Lipstadt's abuse of false Nazi and antisemitism charges against those with whom she disagrees politically should disqualify her from serving as the U.S. Combating Antisemitism Envoy."
Tamara Cofman Wittes	Awaiting C	Assistant Administrator for USAID's Middle East Arm	"Tamara Cofman Wittes and her co-authors try to blame the PLO's pay-to-slay program on Israel, frame it as a right of the PLO, and then, after rolling their eyes at the roadblock of the PLO funding terrorism, propose to cover it up by passing it off as a welfare program."

Dilwar Syed	Confirmed	SBA Deputy Administrator	"Following Mr. Syed's confirmation hearing, Engage Action released incendiary statements during the regional unrest, stating "This state of affairs is not a case of 'both sides.' Not when Palestinians are occupied and the State of Israel is the occupier."
Hady Amr	Serving	Deputy Assistant Secretary for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs; then elevated to Special Envoy to the Palestinians	"I was inspired by the Palestinian intifada," Hady Amr wrote a year after Sept. 11, 2001.
Sarah Margon	Nomination	Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor	Margon was active on social media "urging companies to pull out of the Israeli Settlements", but her hatred for the Jewish State goes beyond an economic war of BDS in all its forms.
Uzra Zeya	Confirmed	Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights	Zeya has a long record of denouncing the "Israel lobby" and the "secret money" it uses to control American politicians.... She appears not to care that Hamas & the PLO endanger their own civilians by placing weapons in schools, hospitals, mosques.... Nor does her support of Hamas and the PA suggest she should be in charge of defending "democracy" anywhere else.
Samantha Power	Confirmed	Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development	Power Called for the New York Times to Headline Alleged Signs of Israeli "War Crimes" – Even Though An Anti-Israel NGO Admitted Its Allegations Were False.
Colin Kahl	Confirmed	Under Secretary of Defense	In 2018, Kahl absurdly tweeted, "we are all going to die" if the White House replaced H.R. McMaster as national security adviser with pro-Israel, strong Iran opponent Amb. John Bolton.
Wendy Sherman	Confirmed	Deputy Secretary of State	Sherman also downplayed PLO suicide bombings and other terror attacks on innocent Israelis engineered by Arafat following the Oslo accords, by calling this mere "nagging disruptions from the Palestinian side."
Kristen Clarke	Confirmed	Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division	The linked letter [in Clark's tweet] accused ADL of playing a "destructive role . . . in undermining struggles for justice," based on a few occasions when ADL criticized antisemites such as Ilhan Omar.
Deb Haaland	Confirmed	Interior Secretary	Haaland tweeted: "The murder of 60 Palestinians in Gaza just as Ramadan begins weigh heavy on my heart today..." but failed to mention that Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad acknowledged almost all casualties were their militants. J Street called her their hero.
Antony Blinken	Confirmed	Secretary of State	Blinken opposed sanctioning and designating Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a foreign terrorist organization.
Avril Haines	Confirmed	Director of National Intelligence	Haines signed a vicious letter falsely condemning Israeli violence, terrorism, and incitement.
Reema Dodin	Serving	Deputy Director of the White House Office of Legislative Affairs	Dodin legitimized and even encouraged suicide bombings against Jews.
Alejandro Mayorkas	Confirmed	Secretary of Homeland Security	Mayorkas serves on HIAS board, which works with Islamic Relief, an organization on Israel's terrorist list.
Karine Jean-Pierre	Serving	White House Press Secretary	Jean-Pierre condemned those who condemned Jew-haters Reps. Omar, Tlaib, and AOC; and successfully urged Democratic presidential candidates not to attend a major pro-Israel conference.
Susan Rice	Serving	Director of the Domestic Policy Council	Rice's deeply concerning policy positions include: calling Israel's concerns about the Iran Deal outrageous; promoting anti-Israel UNRWA; U.S. involvement in Israel-bashing UN Human Rights Council; supporting anti-Israel UNSC Res. 2334...
Denis McDonough	Confirmed	Secretary of Veterans Affairs	McDonough spoke at the anti-Israel J Street convention and falsely accused Israel of occupying "Palestinian land."

Pete Buttigieg	Confirmed	Secretary of Transportation	Buttigieg called for financially penalizing Israel if Israel 'annexes' Jewish communities in Judea/Samaria and blamed Israel for the lack of peace.
Symone Sanders	Serving	Senior Advisor and Chief Spokesperson to the Vice President	Sanders praised Israel-basher and Jew-hater Linda Sarsour as dedicating her career to fighting for justice.
Robert Malley	Serving	U.S. Special Envoy on Iran	An analysis of Malley's 2019 foreign policy articles aptly observed that Malley's foreign policy prescriptions consist of: abandoning our allies (Israel, Sunni Arab states); raising false specters of war; and weakening the U.S. and our partners to follow a dangerous, doomed "peace through weakness" strategy.
Maher Bitar	Serving	Senior Director for Intelligence at the National Security Council	Bitar wrote in one paper, "Israel's political existence as a state is the cause for Palestinian dispossession and statelessness.... Israel's rejection of their right to return remains the main obstacle to finding a durable solution."
Merrick Garland	Serving	U.S. Attorney General	Judge Garland's decisions repeatedly blocked or limited innocent victims of Palestinian Arab terrorism and Iranian terrorism from obtaining justice.
John Kerry	Serving	Special Presidential Envoy for Climate	Kerry insisted: "There will be no advance and separate peace between Israel and the Arab world, without the Palestinian process and Palestinian peace. Everybody needs to understand that. That is a hard reality." (video) The Abraham Accords proved Kerry completely wrong.
Michael Ratney	Awaiting Si	Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	"Under [his] watch, the State Department provided \$465,000 in grants to a group called OneVoice, which then joined a group called Victory 15 and worked to defeat Benjamin Netanyahu and his Likud Party in Israel's elections. This struck many observers, including me, as highly inappropriate, if not unethical, especially given that the Obama administration disagreed with Netanyahu and his many policies, including the Iran nuclear deal." – Sen. Bill Hagerty
Elizabeth Frawley Bagley	Confirmed	U.S. Ambassador to Brazil	"There is always the influence of the Jewish lobby because there is major money involved" – Elizabeth Bagley