

## LA Jews for Peace Policy Statement

Los Angeles, CA. July 23, 2024 Contact: [info@LAJewsforPeace.org](mailto:info@LAJewsforPeace.org)

### **Israel (and U.S.) Reject ICJ Ruling Against Settlements: Shame**

**LA Jews for Peace** applauds the July 19, 2024 wide-ranging ruling of the [International Court of Justice \(ICJ, commonly called "The World Court"\)](#) on the legal consequences of Israel's continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, including East Jerusalem. The ICJ ruled that the occupation is illegal and must end "as rapidly as possible," that Israel must cease all settlement activity, evacuate all settlers, and make reparations for damage done.

The ICJ went further, ruling that all states and international organizations, especially the U.N. Security Council, are obligated to stop any support of Israel's occupation and are required to bring to an end "as rapidly as possible the unlawful occupation." The resounding breadth of this decision could energize international diplomacy and encourage more states to formally recognize a Palestinian state.

World reaction, shared by **LA Jews for Peace**, is that the ruling is the first step to end the impunity that Israel has enjoyed since its founding for its continuous oppression of Palestinians from the 1948 Nakba through to the ongoing genocide or war of extermination in Gaza. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas called the ICJ ruling "a victory of Justice."

There is no evidence that Israel will comply with any portion of this ruling that it calls antisemitic and supportive of Islamic terrorism. The [July 21, 2024, Ha'Aretz editorial](#) captured reactions across the Israeli political spectrum, from the far right calling for "sovereignty now," Netanyahu's insistence of "the legal right of Israelis to live in...in our ancestral home," to Gantz complaining of the "judicialization of a political-diplomatic conflict," and Lapid, saying the opinion lacks "an understanding of the reality on the ground." And on July 18, 2024, the day before the ICJ ruling was announced, Israel's Knesset passed a resolution to affirm its opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Once again, the United States tried to protect Israel with the assertion that only the U.S. can solve the problem. [Reuters reported](#) the State Department said it is "concerned that the breadth of the court's opinion will complicate efforts to resolve the conflict."

President Biden preaches the importance of the international rule of law. **LA Jews for Peace** agrees that is the best way to peace. But by criticizing the ICJ and denouncing its ruling, the United States and its ally Israel are undermining the same international rule of law they claim to promote. Shame!