

LA Jews for Peace Policy Statement

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Senator Schumer's Tiny Step Forward

Senator Charles Schumer's March 14 speech on the Senate floor called for Israeli elections because the Netanyahu government's "vision is stuck in the past" and is making Israel a pariah state. This was unexpected because Schumer has been a devoted "Israel right or wrong" devotee his whole career, but it is part of a broad-based shift in the Democratic Party driven by broad-based popular protests calling for a ceasefire and more humanitarian aid. Elected as well as rank & file Democrats are more and more disgusted by Israel's genocidal war on Gaza in retaliation for the Oct.7 attack, and more and more ready to limit or curtail U.S. support for Israel's retaliation.

LA Jews for Peace supports Americans who recognize that Israel's massacre of Gaza is a moral atrocity with which the United States should not be associated. But so far, elected Democratic disassociation from the war is just talk, and food air drops are no better than a small band-aid for a humanitarian catastrophe. **LA Jews for Peace** calls for real action: the Biden Administration must permanently stop the war and force a 500-1,000% increase in humanitarian aid that is being slow walked¹ by Israel.

Stopping the war and increasing humanitarian aid is what the American people want as evidenced by "ceasefire resolutions" adopted by 100s of cities and religious, civic, labor, and social organizations nationwide.

The United States is complicit in Israel's war on Gaza because the U.S. has been providing Israel with weapons of war and diplomatic protection in the U.N. Security Council and the International Court of Justice. **LA Jews for Peace** urges the U.S. to earn some redemption by:

- halting its supply of weapons to Israel,
- directly deliver of vast quantities of humanitarian aid,
- lift hold on UNRWA funding.
- Refrain from blocking attempts in international fora to hold Israel to account.

Schumer's speech is heading in that direction.

¹ Oxfam International, March 18, 2024.

https://webassets.oxfamamerica.org/media/documents/Oxfam-inflicting-unprecedented-suffering-and-destruction-150324-en_GKMWw3T.pdf