J Street U Stanford and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

What is J Street U Stanford?
- We are a pro-Israel, pro-Palestine student organization dedicated to ending the occupation and supporting the two-state solution that a majority of Israelis and Palestinians seek.
- We proudly support both Israel’s right to exist in security (pro-Israel) and Palestinians’ right to live free from oppression and occupation (pro-Palestine), and reject false dichotomies that claim these are in opposition.
- Our members come from a wide range of backgrounds and many disagree on topics like divestment, but we unite to pursue serious, substantive action toward peace.
- We pursue strategic goals aimed at changing systems in America that support the conflict, such as unchecked federal ideological and financial support for practices inconsistent with international law.
- We work on campus to promote understanding of and empathy for Israelis and Palestinians, while not projecting our own experiences onto a complex and historically unique conflict.
- We invite you to engage with us, share your experiences, expand your understanding of this issue, and contribute to building a just future for all.

Israel and the Palestinian Territories in Brief
- Combined area: 8,500 mi² (smaller than NJ)
- Population of Israel: 8.2 million
  75.3% Jewish, 17.3% Muslim,
  1.7% Christian, 1.7% Druze
- Population of West Bank: 2.7 million
  2.3 million Palestinian Arabs
  350,000 Jewish settlers not incl. E. Jerusalem
- Population of Gaza: 1.8 million
- Languages spoken: Hebrew, Arabic
Key Dates

- 1897: First World Zionist Congress
- 1917: Sykes Picot Agreement (Ottoman Empire divided by Europeans)
- 1917: Balfour Declaration (British support Jewish homeland in Palestine)
- 1919: Palestine Arab Congress (opposing Balfour declaration)
- 1936-39: Arab Revolts (Attacks & severe response; many Arabs killed)
- 1937: Peel Commission (2-state partition plan around Arab Revolts)
- 1947: UN Partition Plan (Jewish minority get 56% of land; Arabs 43%)
- 1948: Israeli independence & Nakba (Palestinians flee/forced to leave)
- 1948 War: Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, Syria attack; Green Line established
- 1967: Six-Day War (Israel attacks; major land gains, occupation begins)
- 1967: UN Resolution 242 (withdrawal from captured territory required)
- 1973: Yom Kippur War (Arab states attack; Israeli victory)
- 1979: Camp David Accords (Israeli peace with Egypt)
- 1987-1993: First Intifada (Palestinian uprising)
- 1993: Oslo Accords (talks between Israel and PLO)
- 2000-2004: Second Intifada (Palestinian uprising)
- 2005: Israeli withdrawal from Gaza Strip (blockade remains)
- 2008-09: Operation Cast Lead (military attack on Hamas infrastructure)
- 2012: Operation Pillar of Defense
- 2014: Operation Protective Edge

Further Resources

J Street U does not endorse any of the following resources, and their ideas do not reflect J Street U's views. We believe strongly in the value of education from a variety of perspectives, however, and thus the following list provides a small sample of the range of narratives and opinions regarding this conflict.

- ActiveStills: Photographic collective on issues of inequality and injustice in Israel and the Palestinian territories activestills.org
- The Electronic Intifada: Palestinian online news publication electronicintifada.net
- Haaretz: Israel’s oldest daily paper; politically liberal haaretz.com
- Israel HaYom: Politically conservative Israeli daily paper israelhayom.com
- Jerusalem Post: Israeli politically centrist daily paper jpost.com
- Ma’an News Agency: Palestinian news agency maannews.net
- The Times of Israel: Independent Israeli online paper timesofisrael.com
- Ynetnews: English site for Israel’s most-read paper ynetnews.com
- +972Mag: Politically liberal Israeli and Palestinian web magazine 972mag.com

J Street U Stanford is a pro-Israel, pro-Palestine, pro-peace student group dedicated to supporting a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and a nuanced and productive campus conversation. Contact us to learn more or get involved!

jstreetu.stanford.edu • stanfordjstreetu@gmail.com • @jstreetstanford