

Israeli-Palestinian Peace Before It's Too Late: Strong U.S. Leadership Needed Now.

Mr. President,

We are Jewish, Christian and Muslim national religious leaders united in support of strong U.S. leadership for a two-state solution before it is too late.

We urge you to visit Jerusalem and the region soon to meet with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to restart negotiations focused on the principles and ideas in the Israeli Peace Initiative, the earlier Arab Peace Initiative and the Geneva Accord.

We believe the United States, in coordination with the Quartet, should continue to respond carefully to the new Palestinian unity agreement and not act precipitously to cut off aid to the Palestinians. The unity government must commit itself to rejecting violence and negotiating a two-state peace agreement with Israel.

We pledge our prayers and public support for active, fair and firm U.S. leadership for peace and we will urge Congress to support this effort

(See the full text of the Letter at the website of the *National Interreligious Leadership Initiative for Peace in the Middle East*: www.nili-mideastpeace.org.)

List of Endorsers

Christian Leaders:

His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick, Archbishop Emeritus of Washington *

Bishop Howard Hubbard, Chairman, International Committee, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Archbishop Vicken Aykasian, Director, Ecumenical Affairs, Armenia Orthodox Church in America*

Fr. Mark Arey, Director, Ecumenical Officer, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America*

The Reverend Peg Chamberlin, President, National Council of Churches of Christ USA*

The Reverend Michael Kinnamon, General Secretary, National Council of Churches of Christ USA*

Bishop Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop and Primate, Episcopal Church*

The Reverend Geoffrey Black, General Minister & President, United Church of Christ*

The Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister, President, Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ)*

The Reverend Grady Parsons, Stated Clerk, Presbyterian Church (USA)*

Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader, Council of Bishops, United Methodist Church*

The Reverend Leighton Ford, President, Leighton Ford Ministries, Board Member, World Vision US*

Richard J. Mouw, President, Fuller Theological Seminary*

David Neff, Editor in Chief and Vice-President, Christianity Today*

The Reverend John M. Buchanan, Editor and Publisher, Christian Century*

Jewish Leaders:

Rabbi Peter Knobel, Past President, Central Conference of American Rabbis*

Rabbi Paul Menitoff, Executive Vice President Emeritus, Central Conference of American Rabbis*

Rabbi Alvin Sugarman, Vice President, A Different Future*

Rabbi Elliot Dorff, Rector, American Jewish University*

Rabbi Burton Visotzky, Professor of Midrash & Interreligious Studies, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Rabbi Freddi Cooper, President, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association*

Rabbi Amy Small, Past President, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association*

Rabbi Shawn Zevit, Director of Congregational Services, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*

Dr. Carl Sheingold, Former Executive Vice President, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*

Muslim Leaders:

Dr. Sayyid Muhammad Syeed, National Director, Islamic Society of North America*

Imam Mohammed ibn Hagmagid, Vice President, Islamic Society of North America*

Naeem Baig, Executive Director, Islamic Circle of North America*

Dawud Assad, President Emeritus, Council of Mosques, USA*

Eide Alawan, Interfaith Office for Outreach, Islamic Center of America*

*Organizations for Identification Only