

## **LA Jews for Peace Welcomes U.N. Security Council Resolution 2334 Bolstering the Two-State Solution**

**LA Jews for Peace** welcomes United Nations Security Council resolution 2334, Dec. 23, 2016, demanding cessation of Israeli settlement construction in the West Bank, that the parties take immediate steps to end terror and incitement, and reaffirming the international community's support for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict.

**LA Jews for Peace** applauds the Obama Administration's decision to abstain from the resolution, allowing the Security Council to adopt it. The Administration held firm to the long-held American position that the Israeli settlements are illegal. The Administration also withstood intense pressure to veto the resolution from Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, AIPAC and the Israel lobby, President-elect Trump, and Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer.

- The resolution<sup>1</sup> opposes Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and it demands that Israel halt all settlement expansion as a necessary step towards a two-state solution.
- The resolution also calls for an end to violence against civilians and all acts of terror and incitement.
- The resolution promotes the two-state solution by calling on the parties to engage in meaningful negotiations on all final status issues, to refrain from provocations to build trust, and for the international community to remain engaged to achieve a just and lasting peace.

**LA Jews for Peace** notes that the resolution is weak in that it does not include consequences should any party violate its provisions. Nevertheless, **LA Jews for Peace** calls on all organizations and individuals who oppose the settlements and support a just peace between the Palestinians and Israel to support this resolution.

**LA Jews for Peace** also notes that the United States' abstention does not formally change U.S. policy because our government's military and economic aid to Israel is unconditional. It will continue unabated, despite this abstention and despite continued Israeli settlement construction.

Although some Israeli and American politicians, and much of the Israel lobby call the resolution "anti-Israel," **LA Jews for Peace** and other members of the Jewish peace camp reject that claim. This resolution reiterates the international consensus that is grounded in previous Security Council resolutions and international law dating back to the 1967 war. Importantly the resolution emphasizes the commitment of the international community to the rule of law, and it encourages Israeli and Palestinian officials to follow suit.

Los Angeles, Dec. 24, 2016

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<sup>1</sup> Full text of resolution: <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/12/23/world/middleeast/document-security-council-draft-resolution-israel.html>