

American Thinker

February 11, 2024

Sanctioning Settlers for Peace

By [Gamaliel Isaac](#)

On Feb 1, 2024 President Biden signed an [executive order](#) that imposes sanctions “on persons undermining peace, security, stability, in the West Bank.” Biden explained in the order that:

The situation in the West Bank -- in particular high levels of extremist settler violence, forced displacement of people and villages, and property destruction -- has reached intolerable levels and constitutes a serious threat to the peace, security, and stability of the West Bank and Gaza, Israel, and the broader Middle East region.

One of the incidents of violence that led to Biden signing the order was the [shooting of a 17-year-old American](#) by the name of Tawfiq Abel Jabbar two weeks before. After the shooting U.S. National Security Council spokesman John Kirby extended Washington’s “deepest condolences” to his family and insisted on the killing being investigated even though the reason he was shot was known, Tawfiq was shot by an Israeli he was stoning on Route 60, the main north-south highway in [Judea and Samaria](#).

Jabbar’s mother told Al-Araby Al Jadeed that since the family returned to Samaria from Gretna, La. Tawfiq had regularly attacked Jewish drivers in the area of Wadi Haramiya. Her son was “always talking about martyrdom,” she noted. “Tawfic was an outstanding student in school, and he hoped to become an engineer, but he obtained the greatest certificate in the world by his martyrdom,” Mona Abdel Jabbar said.

Since the 1980s, at least [16 people have been killed](#) as a result of car crashes caused by Palestinian rock-throwers, including 11-year-old Chava Wechsberg, five-month-old Yehuda Shoham, and Asher Palmer and his one-year-old son -- all four of them dual Israeli-American citizens. No sanctions were imposed on the Palestinians for those attacks.

On February 26, 2023 there was a traffic jam on Route 60 near the town of Hurwara. A Palestinian took advantage of the stopped cars and opened fire on them [killing two brothers](#). Their parents said that nothing would fill the hole in their hearts after losing their sons. Settlers reacted by rioting later that day in Huwara. One of those settlers, David Chai Chasdai was sanctioned by the U.S. State Department for doing so.

The Palestinian Authority pays stipends to terrorists in Israeli jails as well as to their families. Palestinian terrorists can commit mass murder knowing that their families will be well taken care of. On March 8, 2016, a 21-year-old Palestinian man from Qalqilya killed Taylor Force, an American tourist and wounded ten civilians in a stabbing spree in Jaffa and Tel Aviv. Then-vice president Joe Biden [was in Israel](#) when Taylor Force was stabbed to death there. In fact, he was in Tel Aviv, where the murder occurred. Even more coincidental, he was in the immediate vicinity. He personally “condemned in the strongest possible terms the brutal attack,” adding that “there is no justification for such acts of terror.” [President Trump signed](#) the Taylor Force Act into law which cut aid to the Palestinian Authority until they stopped funding individuals who commit terror and their families. In Biden’s first 100 days in office Biden resumed funding the Palestinians in violation of the Taylor Force Act.



There is a pattern emerging here which is that it is not the settlers who are instigating the violence “that is a serious threat to peace” -- but it is the settlers who are being sanctioned.

Mizpeh Yericho is a town next to Jericho in Judea. Aliza Pilichowski, the mayor of Mizpeh Yericho, [wrote in the Jerusalem Post](#) that:

While the world is making a big deal out of “settler violence” it’s ignoring the daily Palestinian terrorism in the West Bank. Palestinians attempt and commit three to six terror attacks a day in Israel. These are targeted attacks against innocent civilians. Last week a Palestinian terrorist shot two Jews in Samaria, one died. The headlines on that same day omitted the Palestinian terror attack and instead focused on “settler violence” that in actuality was graffiti.



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Settlers are an easy community to pick on and an easy way to score points with Palestinian sympathizers demanding the media, government, and activists balance their strong support for Israel in its war in Gaza.

Mayor Pilichowski hit the nail on the head, Biden’s sanctions are meant to score points with American voters who are anti-Israel. [Massive demonstrations](#) against Israel demonstrate just how large that voter bloc is. There is, however, another more pernicious reason for Biden to publicly condemn the settlers, and that is his illusion of a two-state solution that will bring peace to the Middle East. In his executive order Biden wrote that the actions of the settlers “undermine the foreign policy objectives of the United States, including the viability of a two-state solution.”



A two-state solution entails [uprooting Israeli communities](#) from Judea and Samaria in order to create yet another Palestinian state (There are already [four de facto Palestinian states](#)). Uprooting settlers from their homes is immoral. Contrary to what President Biden would have us believe the majority of settlers are peaceful. Aliza Pilichowsky pointed out that:

There are more than 500,000 Jews who live in the region of Judea and Samaria... They aren’t ideologues and they’re not violent. They believe they have a right to live in this area just as much as Jerusalem or Tel Aviv... There’s rarely any evidence of crimes committed by settlers that substantiate these crimes. Instead of the lack of evidence setting off alarm bells that Palestinians and their apologists are falsifying reports, the media points to the lack of arrests and convictions as evidence of Israel not doing enough to stop the violence.

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politicians from the Hamas massacre of October 7, 2023, it is that Israel uprooting its citizens and turning their land over to Palestinians to create a state does not bring peace, harmony, and goodwill. ×

Anti-Semitism is growing rapidly all over the world, including the United States. The golden age for Jews in America is coming to an end. The importance of land in Judea and Samaria as a land of refuge for Jews the world over is growing. Instead of demonizing and sanctioning settlers the United States should be sanctioning the Palestinians who attack them. The United States should not pressure Israel into repeating the terrible mistake it made in Gaza in Judea and Samaria.

Image: [Central Intelligence Agency](#)

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Jeffry Rogers 1 day ago

The myth that the Jews are colonizers is the problem, the fact of the matter is the Arabs and the Muslims are the colonizers, the last of many colonizers in the part of the world Greeks, Romans and Muslim Ottoman Turks. Those last guys are responsible for the Armenian slaughter. They randomly pole hanged Armenian women. The Romans were in control when Jesus was crucified. Jesus was a Jew, he was crucified six hundred years before Islam even raised its head. There were no Arabs or Muslims there but there were Jews. The partition was meant to provide the Jews who had been slaughtered everywhere but the worst was at the immoral hand the little Austrian who took the name Hitler. Hitler was among the losers who had a grievance with successful people because he was loser. Islam sided with Hitler in this well documented mass murder.

When the Parton was made the Arabs were told to leave by other Arabs who said it would only be a short time before they would destroy Israel. Didn't nhappen even though they tried. Israel built a successful productive country in not to hospitable land. The Palestinians suffered in spleen of massive much of which lined the pockets of the leaders. The current residents of Gaza, Hamas created disunity in Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt, they are not welcome there, they are destructive. The only way forward is the destruction of the thugs and rescue of the innocent if there are any. It is a benefit to everyone Jew or Muslim. The real nemesis is Iran, why are we appeasing them Chamberlain?

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Ele Bienenfeld 1 day ago

Well said sir. Well said.

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Jeffry Rogers 22 hours ago

Most folks have no clue of the history. Nasser tried twice to end Israel that I can remember and one other time before it was held in my memory. He got Handly defeated all times. It is sad because the so-called Palestinian folks would be so much better off with peace and cooperation but they have been tainted by the thuggish part of Islam. We can argue about Jesus, but Islam seems to me to created out of thin air for the benefit of a few. In always has a strong man.

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Emeline Diener 2 days ago

I am SO glad you mentioned 2005, which everybody in the world seems to have forgotten about, when the Israeli government forcibly uprooted Jews who had settled in Gaza from their homes. Those Jews pleaded, they hoped against hope—but in the end they went, leaving the Gazans their infrastructure, their citrus groves...I cried watching. And Gaza has been under Muslim control since then. There is and since then has been no "occupation"—although everybody in the world thinks there is! There were no conditions to the Israeli withdrawal. A "two-state " solution could not be negotiated, so the Israelis single handedly effectuated it. Here you go: your own state!

And look what they made of it: nothing more than a giant launching pad for attacking Israel with missiles. And terrorists. Somehow, though, that isn't the fault of the people who received and proceeded to govern the territory back in 2005: no, it's the fault of the Israelis who gratuitously and unconditionally gave them what they so ardently desired. Jew hatred forever!

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Balzoa 1 day ago

One thing about it, when it comes to so-called "Palestinians," the United States and the rest of the world as well have the highest of double standards.

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Edward F H

"The Unitec

ria."

And yet this administration will continue to do so and "our" Department of State careerists will continue pushing their "solution" through further administrations.

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