



Summary of the Geneva Accord

**Israeli-Palestinian Civil Society Initiative
Signed in Geneva December 1, 2003**

The Geneva Accord (or Initiative) is an unofficial framework for peace which has been negotiated by members and former members of the Israeli and Palestinian governments, hosted by Switzerland. The Israeli team was headed by Yossi Beilin, Minister of Justice in the Government headed by Yitzhak Rabin, and the Palestinian team was headed by Yasser Abed Rabbo, former senior official in the Palestinian Authority. This civil society initiative offers benchmark principles and ideas for realistic compromises for mutually acceptable peace, including on crucial, sensitive issues, i.e., borders, security, settlements, refugees and Jerusalem.

The Geneva Accord between Israel and Palestine includes:

“Reaffirming their determination to put an end to decades of confrontation and conflict, and to live in peaceful coexistence, mutual dignity and security based on a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace and achieving historic reconciliation;

“Recognizing that peace requires the transition from the logic of war and confrontation to the logic of peace and cooperation, and that acts and words characteristic of the state of war are neither appropriate nor acceptable in the era of peace;

“Affirming their deep belief that the logic of peace requires compromise, and that the only viable solution is a two-state solution based on UNSC Resolution 242 and 338;

“Affirming that this agreement marks the recognition of the right of the Jewish people to statehood and the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to statehood;

“Recognizing that after years of living in mutual fear and insecurity, both peoples need to enter an era of peace, security and stability, entailing all necessary actions by the parties to guarantee the realization of this era;

“Recognizing each other's right to peaceful and secure existence within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force;

“Determined to establish relations based on cooperation and the commitment to live side by side as good neighbors aiming both separately and jointly to contribute to the well-being of their peoples;

“Declaring that this Agreement marks the historic reconciliation between the Palestinians and Israelis, and paves the way to reconciliation between the Arab World and Israel and the establishment of normal, peaceful relations between the Arab states and Israel in accordance with the relevant clauses of the Beirut Arab League Resolution of March 28, 2002;...”

Representatives from Israel and Palestine signed the Geneva Initiative (Accord) which presents detailed maps and concrete arrangements and that constitute a final settlement of the major issues

between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples, including:

Israel will return to its pre-1967 borders with minor border modifications including the trade of land on a 1:1 basis.

Israel will withdraw settlers from the Palestinian areas.

Israel will create a corridor for travel between the West Bank and Gaza, which will remain under Israeli sovereignty and under Palestinian administration and run in accord with Palestinian law.

Israel and Palestine will establish cooperative security measures and disband all non-governmental armed bands or militias within their territories, and shall work together to create regional security free from all weapons of mass destruction. Palestine will be a non-militarized state with a strong security force that will maintain border security, police functions, and prevent terrorism.

Without prejudice to freedom of expression and other internationally recognized human rights, Israel and Palestine shall promulgate laws to prevent incitement to irredentism, racism, terrorism and violence and vigorously enforce them.

A Multinational Force will be established to provide security guarantees to the Parties, act as a deterrent, against external attacks on either party to the agreement, protect the territorial integrity of the State of Palestine, and oversee the implementation of the relevant provisions of this Agreement

Jerusalem will become capital of both states. The Temple Mount and East Jerusalem will be under Palestinian control and the Wall and West Jerusalem under Israeli control. The Old City will be open, weapons forbidden, free travel inside to all sectors guaranteed.

Refugees will be compensated both for loss of property and for their refugeehood. They can be resettled in Palestine, in host countries where they currently live, in other countries who agree to accept them, and Israel can, at its sovereign decision, bring in a number of refugees (though it is not mandated to do so at any particular number). An International Commission will be established to supervise the resettlement and compensation for refugees.

All Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons will be released over the course of the next 30 months after the governments agree to the Accord.

A Resource from the
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