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Support Peace: oppose Palestinian UN gambit

David Harris | [Huffington Post](#) | 28 August

For those interested in a two-state outcome, the Palestinian UN gambit should be opposed. It does an end-run around face-to-face talks. Responsible political leaders should be encouraging the Palestinians to return to the table with Israel, not undermining the prospect of direct negotiations.

Countries should consider carefully if "Palestine" today has the necessary elements of statehood. If every secessionist, insurgent, or so-called independence group felt it might get validation from the UN General Assembly, regardless of actual conditions on the ground, all hell could break loose.

We'll know soon enough what democratic nations have the courage to embrace principle in the pursuit of Israeli-Palestinian peace, and what countries are ready to throw it to the wind. [READ MORE](#)

The Republic of anti-Israel

David Warren | [Ottawa Citizen](#) | 1 September

On September 20, as the next UN session opens, Mahmoud Abbas will present a declaration of statehood to the General Assembly, on behalf of the Palestinians of Gaza and the West Bank. The Palestinians, so far as they are a people, have now a long history of being able to do things without consequences. Under the direction of a succession of "reformed" or unreformed terrorist leaders, from the Mufti of Jerusalem to Yasser Arafat to Hamas, they have "evolved" a polity which may itself be defined as "the Anti-Israel." [READ MORE](#)

The wake-up call no one wanted

Micah Halpern | [The Australian](#) | 2 September

The horror we, citizens of a free and democratic world, are still reeling from as a result of the atrocity called 9/11.

Terror would have been one of those unfortunate world events the Israelis deal with on a regular basis and the Europeans deal with every once in a while. But 9/11 changed us all. It awakened Westerners to a new reality. [READ MORE](#)

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Top 10 non-Jews positively influencing the Jewish future

Dovid Efune | The Algemeiner | 29 August

Last year, following the release of the Jerusalem Post's first annual list of the world's 50 most influential Jews, I was inspired to create a list of my own, not of Jews, but of non-Jews, specifically those that are having the most positive influence in shaping the Jewish future. [READ MORE](#)

Board's CEO on BDS

The Board's CEO, Vic Alhadeff, spoke to John Laws of Radio 2SM on Thursday 1 September, responding to Laws' interview with Green's Senator Lee Rhiannon on the previous day regarding her support and advocacy of Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions campaign against Israel. Listen to Vic [here](#) (go to 1 Sep audio, at about 20:00 min)

Senator stands by Israel boycott

Christian Kerr | The Australian | 25 August

Greens senator Lee Rhiannon has again refused to back away from the anti-Israel boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign, despite opposition from her leader, Bob Brown. [READ MORE](#)

Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence responds to Elizabeth Farrelly

Elizabeth Farrelly's Op-Ed (SMH, Keeping quiet allows intolerance to thrive, 1 Sep) makes a stunning segue from the Jewish Bar Mitzvah (which she attended as an invited guest) to her main focus, the conclusions drawn in and from Maryam Nazawie's lecture on Islam and Sharia law.

There is no segue from one to the other. In a free society, religious groups ought to be able to conduct their services and ritual in their places of worship according to their traditions so long as they do not impose their values on anyone who does not wish to participate and they do not violate the law. [READ MORE](#)

Rabbi Lawrence's piece was edited and published as a letter to the editor '[Religious facts tell a very different story](#)' in today's Sydney Morning Herald.