RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

Travel Dates:
10/28/2024 to 11/03/2024

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$3,550.00	$2,940.00	$1,035.00	$700.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

11-14-24
Date

KENDALL DEHNEL
Printed Name of Traveler

Kendall Dehnel
Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

November 14, 2024
Date

Joni K Ernst
Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

○ Yes ● No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
There were no changes to pre-approved travel expenses.		

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

● Yes ○ No

Explanation: Due to the increased threat of drone and missile attacks from the Hezbollah terrorist organization in Lebanon during the last few days of the trip, it was not safe to travel as far north to the Sea of Galilee region as JINSA originally intended for Saturday, November 3. The schedule was adjusted to see key historical and cultural sites in the south of Israel instead, including Qasr al-Yehud (the traditional site of the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist on the Jordan River), Masada (a UNESCO World Heritage site), and the Dead Sea. Participants were provided with the final full itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

○ Yes ● No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Kendall Dehnel

Employing Office/Committee:
Senator Joni K. Ernst

Private Sponsor(s):
Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

Destination(s):
Israel

Travel Dates:

October 26- November 3, 2024

NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

This trip correlates to my responsibilities as the foreign affairs advisor for the Senator. I am responsible to oversee and advise her on issues relating to Israel and the Middle East. During this trip we will be meeting with key stakeholders in the region in the defense and economic sectors that will highlight the importance of U.S. engagement in the region to support the ongoing war efforts and a major ally.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip? **Name and Relationship to Traveler:**

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

10/21/24 — Date

Kendall Dehnel — Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Senator Joni K. Ernst (Print Senator's/Officer's Name) hereby authorize Kendall Dehnel (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

10/24/2024 — Date

Joni K Ernst — Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA): JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel Oct. 2024

KENDALL DEHNEL

Title:
Foreign Policy Legislative Assistant

Employing Office/Committee:
ERNST, JONI

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):
Herzliya, Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

This trip relates to my official duties as I handle foreign policy issues for Senator Ernst. It will help me build relationships and acquire firsthand knowledge about key policy areas of interest to the Senator, including the Israel-Gaza War, the Abraham Accords, U.S.-Israel defense relationship, and CENTCOM efforts to work with allies and partners to counter Iran.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
○ Yes ● No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
N/A

Address
1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 1030

Address 2 (Optional)
None

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20005 United States

Phone Number
(703) 946-8363

Organization URL
www.jinsa.org

History of Congressional Travel

- JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel 2022 - JINSA Homeland Security Program to Israel 2022 (two participants from the House of Representatives) - JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel 2023

Educational Activities

JINSA has executed its education mission through unique programs that promote dialogue between prominent U.S. military leaders and government officials and their Mideast counterparts since 1981, such as by hosting regular webinars, monthly roundtable discussions and events, and annual educational trips to Israel.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ● I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ● I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ● I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

The goal of JINSA's Congressional National Security Program is to provide insight and understanding into Israel's security challenges, the shared threats facing Israel and the United States in the Middle East, and how U.S.-Israel security cooperation contributes to the defense of both nations. Participants meet with Israeli military and intelligence leaders and policy professionals, conduct field visits to key strategic locations such as Israel's northern and southern borders, and visit defense industrial and innovation sites showcasing the strength of the U.S.-Israel defense partnership. We will also visit the Knesset (Israel's Parliament), to understand the role in plays in developing and executing Israeli national security policy.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

For nearly 50 years, JINSA has been dedicated to educating congressional, military and civilian national security decision-makers on American defensive and strategic interests, primarily in the Middle East, the cornerstone of which is a robust U.S.-Israel security cooperation relationship. Organized and run entirely by JINSA, this trip directly supports our core educational mission.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- [x] The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- [x] The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- [x] No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- [x] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:		Trip End Date/Time:
10/28/2024 @ 03:55 AM	⇄	11/03/2024 @ 05:50 AM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $3,550.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$3,000.00
Note Round trip international flights from Washington, D.C. to Tel Aviv, Israel.		
Ground Transportation	Coach	$550.00
Note Bus transportation to and from the airport and to sites in Israel		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $2,940.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
10/27/2024	11/02/2024	Ritz Carlton	Herzliya	None	Israel	7	$420.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $1035.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
10/28/2024	$0.00	$60.00	$118.00	$0.00	**$178.00**	Herzliya	None	Israel	No
10/29/2024	$0.00	$40.00	$118.00	$0.00	**$158.00**	Herzliya	None	Israel	No
10/30/2024	$0.00	$60.00	$118.00	$0.00	**$178.00**	Herzliya	None	Israel	No

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
10/31/2024	$0.00	$40.00	$125.00	$0.00	**$165.00**	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
11/01/2024	$0.00	$60.00	$118.00	$0.00	**$178.00**	Herzliya	None	Israel	No
11/02/2024	$0.00	$60.00	$118.00	$0.00	**$178.00**	Herzliya	None	Israel	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $700.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Other ((Guides, entry fees, security))	$700.00	Expenses for guides, entry fees, and security for the delegation.

Additional Attachments

Document Name
There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel

Travel Date(s): October 26 to November 3, 2024

Travel Destination(s): Israel

Sponsor: The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA

Michael Makovsky — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

President and CEO — *(title)*

Michael Makovsky — *(signature of sponsor representative)*

9/1/24 — *(date)*

October 2024 JINSA Congressional National Security Program to Israel
Senate Participant List

The Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA) is dedicated to educating Congressional, military and civilian national security decision-makers on American defense and strategic interests, primarily in the Middle East, the cornerstone of which is a robust U.S.-Israeli security cooperation relationship. To help fulfill this mission, JINSA runs an annual Congressional National Security Program to Israel that equips legislative staff with greater insight and understanding into shared threats and opportunities facing the United States and Israel in the Middle East. Invitees are staff to Members of Congress with national security, foreign policy, or defense policy portfolios.

1. Natalie Burkhalter, Legislative Director to Sen. Markwayne Mullin (OK)
2. Jessica Hart, National Security Legislative Assistant to Sen. Tom Cotton (AR)
3. Kendall Dehnel, Military Legislative Assistant to Sen. Joni Ernst (IA)

Kendall Dehnel
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 260
Washington, D.C. 20510

September 18, 2024

Dear Kendall,

On behalf of the Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA), it is my pleasure to invite you to participate in this year's Congressional National Security Program to Israel, to be held **Saturday, October 26-Sunday, November 3, 2024.**

JINSA is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to working with military and civilian decisionmakers to ensure American strategic interests in the Middle East are defended. JINSA believes the cornerstone of this defense is a robust U.S.-Israeli security cooperation relationship. One of the ways JINSA executes its educational mission is through unique programs that promote dialogue between prominent U.S. government officials and military leaders and their Mideast counterparts. The Congressional National Security Program provides insight and understanding into Israel's security challenges, the shared threats facing Israel and the United States, the benefits of U.S.-Israel security cooperation and ways to deepen that cooperation, and insight into how collaboration between U.S. and Israeli defense industries contribute to the defense of both nations. JINSA will cover your lodging, tours, food costs, and round-trip international travel between the United States and Israel.

The program curriculum will feature visits to strategically important sites, such as Israel's borders with Gaza, Lebanon, Syria, and Egypt, where participants will be briefed by IDF commanders to better understand the security challenges Israel faces on each respective border, including its lack of strategic depth. Delegation participants will also visit the Knesset, to understand the role it plays in developing and executing Israeli national security policy, and key religious and historical sites to gain a deeper appreciation for the importance of the land to three of the world's great faiths and how this directly impacts the security environment in the Middle East.

The program will include briefings on topics such as:

- The impact of the Israel's war with Hamas in the aftermath of the October 7, 2023 terrorist attacks;
- Middle East regional security challenges confronting the United States and Israel;
- Prospects for U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation with Abraham Accords countries;
- Perspective on how the Arab world understands and perceives Israel; and

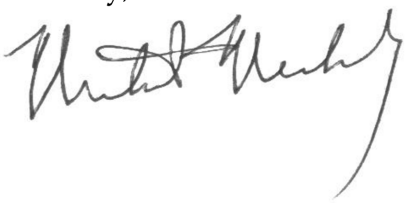
- Linkages between Israel's "Silicon Wadi," IDF weapons technology, and the U.S. defense establishment.

Please reach out to Matt Kenney at mkenney@jinsa.org or (703) 946-8363 if you have any questions about this invitation or travel arrangements.

Information which participants will be required to submit to the Senate Ethics Committee no later than September 24 will be provided upon confirmation of participation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael Makovsky, Ph.D.
President & CEO
Jewish Institute for National Security of America (JINSA)

JINSA

The Jewish Institute for National Security of America
2024 Congressional National Security Program to Israel
October 26th –November 2nd, 2024

TRAVEL: Saturday, October 26th

21:20 Departure from Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C., USA

TRAVEL: Sunday, October 27th

09:50 Arrival at De Gaulle Airport, Paris, France

22:40 Departure from De Gaulle Airport, Paris, France

Day 1: Monday, October 28th
Grand Strategy and Regional Perspective, Israel's Policy and Defense Strategy Day

03:55 Arrival at Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, Israel.

04:30-05:30 Depart to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 4 HaShunit Street, Herzliya.

05:30-13:00 Executive Time

13:00-14:30 Lunch at Benny the Fisherman, Ritz-Carlton Hotel complex, Herzliya (no speakers)

14:30-16:00 Briefing by **MG Yaacov Ayish**, former Israel Defense Forces (IDF) Defense Attaché to the U.S. and Canada and JINSA's Senior Vice President for Israeli Affairs at the Ritz-Carlton complex, Herzliya.
Topic: "The State of Israel," a strategic overview of Israel including a discussion of population concentrations, key strategic infrastructure, and current security threats. Discussion of how the mil-to-mil partnership between the Unites States and Israel strengthens the ability of both nations to address shared security concerns

16:00-17:00 Briefing by **Mr. Elad Strohmayer**, Director of Congressional Affairs Department at the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Topic: Overview of the current state of U.S. / Israel relations from the Israel perspective.

17:00-18:00 Briefing by **MG (ret.) Amikam Norkin**, former Head of the IDF Air force and A JINSA's Distinguished fellow
Topic: Discussion of Iran's ballistic missile attacks against Israel in April and October and how they emphasize the need for a region-wide air defense

network to help deter and defeat the escalating missile and drone threat posed by Iran and its terrorist proxies to Israel (and America's other CENTCOM partners).

18:00-19:00 Briefing by a **senior IDF officer** at the Ritz-Carlton complex, Herzliya.
Topic: "The State of U.S. / Israel Relations," a strategic overview of how the mil-to-mil partnership between the United States and Israel strengthens the ability of both nations to address shared security concerns

19:00 – 20:00 Briefing by **Stephanie L. Hallett**, Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in Israel, at the Ritz-Carlton complex, Herzliya.
Topic: Overview of U.S.-Israeli relations from the American perspective, including an explanation of U.S.-Israel defense and security priorities with regards to the current conflicts with Hamas and Hezbollah and the regional impacts of those conflicts, and highlighting the challenges and opportunities they present.

20:00 - 21:30 **JINSA Delegation Welcome Dinner** with **Stephanie L. Hallett** at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.
Topic: Further discussion on the current state of U.S.-Israeli relations.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 7+*

Day 2: Tuesday, October 29th
Southern Command and the Gaza Strip

06:30 Breakfast Available

08:00-09:00 Briefing by **MG Amidror**, former National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Israel at the Ritz-Carlton complex, Herzliya.
Topic: "Israel - 2,000 Years of Dreams," an overview of the history of Israel touching on the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE, the rise of Zionism in the 19th century, the Balfour Declaration issued by Great Britain during WWI pledging the establishment a Jewish homeland, and the declaration of Israeli independence in 1948 in the aftermath of WWII, followed by a broad strategic overview of the U.S. / Israel defense cooperation and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

09:00–10:00 Screening of the **IDF Spokesperson office video "Bearing Witness"** about the massacre of October 7th at the Ritz-Carlton complex, Herzliya.
Topic: The video is a sequential collection of raw footage of the Oct. 7 Hamas terrorist attack painstakingly compiled and put together by the IDF. It includes videos taken by terrorists themselves from their own body cameras and dashcams, data from the phones of victims, and security camera footage.

10:00-11:30 Depart to **Kibbutz Kfar Aza**, in southern Israel.

11:30-13:00 Visit **Kibbutz Kfar Aza**
Topic: Tour led by IDF Maj. Liad Dimont of the one of the focal points of the October 7th Hamas attack, to see the extent of the destruction and the impact on the community first-hand.

13:00-13:30 Depart for **Kibbutz Eivim**. Brief by **MG Ayish** en route.
Topic: The role played by Iron Dome missile defense system in the 2024 "Iron Swords" war and more recent Iranian missile attack of April 14th, 2024 in protecting Israeli and Arab civilians.

13:30-14:15 Briefing at the **Iron Dome** missile defense battery site by an **IDF officer**, the Defense Ministry's Administration for the Development of Weapons and Technological Infrastructure (MAFAT), near Kibbutz Eivim.
Topic: The value of this critically important joint-U.S. / Israeli produced system in protecting civilian life and infrastructure.

14:15-15:00 Drive to **Israeli Air Force (IAF) Base Palmachim** near Kibbutz Palmachim.

15:00-16:30 Briefing by **IAF Squadron at Palmachim Air Force Base**
Topic: Discussion of day-to-day base operations and the squadron's role in current wartime operations. Further discussion of the evolving threats in the air domain from cruise and ballistic missiles, manned and unmanned aerial systems, and rocket attacks from Iran and Iranian proxies like Hamas and the Houthis.

16:30-18:00 Drive to Dinner, Concierge, Dizengoff 95, Tel Aviv.

18:00-19:30 Dinner at Concierge, Tel Aviv (no speakers).

19:30-20:00 Return to the Ritz-Carlton Hotel

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 6+*

Day 3: Wednesday, October 30th
Northern Command Day- Syria-Lebanon-Hezbollah

06:30 Breakfast available

08:30-09:00 Depart Hotel for War Reserves Stockpile Allies-Israel (WRSA-I). Brief by **MG Ayish** on bus.
Topic: Israel's lack of strategic depth in the north, highlighting economically important strategic sites including Haifa Port and offshore natural gas platforms.

09:00-09:30 Briefing by **MG Ayish** on the War Reserves Stockpile Allies-Israel (WRSA-I), one of the United States' largest collections of warfighting material pre-positioned to be used in wartime at a WRSA-I observation point.
Topic: How WRSA-I functions and serves as an example of U.S. / Israel security cooperation.

09:30-11:00 Depart to IDF 91st Division

11:00-12:00 Briefing by **BG. (res.) Yuval Bazak IDF 91st Division** at Northern Command
Topic: The strategic threat Israel faces on its northern border facing Lebanon from Hezbollah (and Iran)

12:00-13:15 Depart for Lunch at Biga Restaurant, Ha-Melakha 20, Aufula

13:15-14:30 Lunch at Biga Restaurant, Aufula (no speakers)

14:30-15:00 Depart to Camp Naura of the IDF 36th Division. Briefing by MG Ayish on the bus.
Topic: Overview of the contentious history between Israel and Syria, who have technically been at war since 1948, and have fought each other in three major wars: the 1948 Arab Israeli War, the 1967 Six-Day War, and the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

15:00-16:00 Briefing by **Col. Boris Tishko IDF 36th Division**
Topic: Briefing on the battles between Israel and Syrian forces during the Six-Day War in 1967 and Yom Kippur War in 1973 on the Golan Heights. Further discussion of the complex evolving threat Israel faces from the north today from Hezbollah in Lebanon, Syria, and Iran.

16:00-17:00 Depart for old Caesarea Port, Caesarea.

17:00-18:30 Executive time in Caesarea.

18:30-20:00 Dinner at Hazalbanim Restaurant (or Crusaders Restaurant), Caesarea Port Caesarea. **MG Ayish** led roundtable discussion.
Topic: Summary of the key points from the day's briefings and site visits in the north, open conversation and dialogue on topics including the Hezbollah terror tunnel system and the role of Caesarea as the principal port in the Roman-era and how this compares to the Haifa Port complex of today. Guidance and preview the next day's events.

20:00-20:45 Return to Ritz-Carlton, Herzliya

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 6+*

Day 4: Thursday, October 31st

Parliament & Ministry of Foreign Affairs

06:30 Breakfast Available

08:00-09:30 Depart for the Knesset, Jerusalem

09:30-10:30 Tour of the Knesset (Parliament) with **Liat Margalit**, Foreign Affairs Department of the Knesset
Topic: The role of the Knesset in the Israeli system of government and the role it plays in the development and execution of Israeli national security policy.

10:30-11:30 Briefing by **Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee official** at the Knesset in Jerusalem.
Topic: Brief on how the 120 members are elected, and the role the Knesset plays in developing and executing Israeli national security policy. Discussion of how the legislative process operates in Israel, challenges in designing and executing policy within the Israel system of government, and discussion of similarities and differences to how the U.S. Congress operates

11:30-12:30 Round Table discussion with **Members of the Israeli Knesset**
Topic: Insights into how the Israeli legislative process operates, current national security issues under active consideration by Knesset members, and how members incorporate foreign diplomatic considerations into their deliberations.

12:30-13:30 Depart to the Prime Minister's office, Kiryat Ben-Gurion, Jerusalem. Lunch on the bus

13:30-14:30 Meeting with **Mr. Josef Draznin**, Deputy National Security Advisor for Foreign Policy for Prime Minister Netanyahu
Topic: Briefing on the value of the strategic relationship between the United States and Israel and insight into how that relationship impacts the decision-making process of Israeli senior leadership in the context of Israel's conflict with Hamas, Hezbollah, and Iran.

14:30-15:00 Depart for Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Kiryat HaLeom, Jerusalem

15:00-16:00 Meeting with **Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs North America Bureau** official at Kiryat HaLeom, Jerusalem.
Topic: Briefing of U.S.-Israeli relations from the Israeli perspective, including a challenges and opportunities presented by the current ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran and its proxies Hamas and Hezbollah.

16:00-17:00 Meeting with the **Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs Middle East Bureau** official at Kiryat HaLeom, Jerusalem.
Topic: Briefing on Israel's perspective of the Middle East, the current state of efforts to build out a regional air defense architecture, how to respond to the Iranian nuclear program, and emergent opportunities to expand and deepen the

Abraham Accords diplomatic agreements.

17:00-18:00 Dinner on your own in Jerusalem \ Tel Aviv – A list of recommended restaurants will be provided.

18:00-19:30 Return to Ritz-Carlton, Herzliya.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 6+*

Day 5: Friday, November 1st

Israel's Roots, Heritage, and the Impact on National Security

06:30 Breakfast Available

08:00-09:00 Depart Hotel for Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum.

09:00-11:00 Visit and guided tour through **Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial Museum, Jerusalem**
Background: By 1945, the Nazi's Third Reich had killed the majority of Europe's Jewish population, destroying a civilization that had flourished for centuries. Yad Vashem encapsulates and memorializes this tragic history. The visit will provide participants with an unparalleled opportunity to learn about the Holocaust, how it is perceived and understood through the eyes of Israelis, and how it significantly impacts Israel's national defense posture and diplomatic relationships today.

11:00-11:30 Depart for the City of David, Jerusalem

11:30-14:00 Visit and guided tour through the **City of David, Jerusalem**
Background: The United States Embassy in Jerusalem, together with the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, have recognized the City of David as a testament to America's Judeo-Christian heritage and founding principles. The archeological discoveries at the City of David bring Biblical Jerusalem back to life and reaffirm the prophetic messages of freedom, justice and peace that inspired America's founders. The City of David is an archaeological excavation of the city of ancient Jerusalem, prior to the Jewish–Roman wars and the destruction and the Second Temple in 70 CE. Participants will learn how Israelis, from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds, perceive their history and connection to the land of Israel. A key focus will be how this history and the interpretation of it strongly manifests itself in the political and religious challenges that Israeli experiences today in the modern world and how this impacts Israel's national defense posture.

14:00-15:00 Lunch at Panoramic Golden City, Old City, Jerusalem (no speakers).

15:00-17:00 Guided tour of the **Old City, Jerusalem** with Ibgy Eliyahu, Israeli Ministry of Tourism Certified Guide #022114755
Background: Participants will be exposed to Jerusalem as city of continuing vital importance to three of the world's great faiths. The walk through of the Old City will include an overview of government administration of the West Bank and a discussion of the current political dynamics in the West Bank, specifically the relationship between the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority and the ongoing security challenges that affect Israelis and Palestinians, and how this impacts the broader security environment in the Middle East.

They will start with a visit to the **Jewish Quarter** of the Old City and learn about the layers of Judaism from the time of the First Temple until the present day, including the **Cardo,** the main thoroughfare of Roman Jerusalem. Participants will then continue to the traditional **Via Dolorosa**, the Way of the Cross, to the **Church of the Holy Sepulchre,** to gain a greater appreciation of the importance of Jerusalem to the Christian world.

17:00-18:00 Return to the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.

18:00-19:00 Voluntary review of trip by participants at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.

19:00-19:30 Executive Time

19:30-22:00 Shabbat Dinner with **Stephanie L. Hallett**, Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in Israel at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya.
Background: Shabbat is a day of rest that lasts from sundown on Friday evening through nightfall on Saturday night. Friday night dinner consists of a traditional meal and guests are considered an integral part of the weekly ritual. The Shabbat ceremony will consist of hymns, recitations, blessings, and eating, and provide participants with a unique window into modern Israeli cultural practices. Participation is an opportunity to strengthen ties with American foreign policy partners in Israel on a personal basis and gain a deeper understanding of each nation's rich heritage through participation in a shared communal experience.

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 6.5+*

Day 6: Saturday, November 2nd
Day of Departure / Israel's Roots & Heritage, the Impact on National Security

06:30 Breakfast Available

08:00-10:30 Drive to the city **Tiberias**, founded in the year 20 CE and named after the Roman Emperor Tiberius.

Topics: Briefing en route on the importance Christians have placed on the Holy Land over the centuries and how this has impacted military and political decision making from diverse groups including Crusaders in the Middle Ages and Great Britain in World War I.

10:30-12:30 Guided tour of the Sea of Galilee region by with Ibgy Eliyahu, Israeli Ministry of Tourism Certified Guide #022114755 visiting Christian holy sites including the **Tabgha,** site of the Multiplication of the Loaves and Fish, and **Capernaum,** one of the first villages where Jesus taught to gain a fuller understanding of the importance of the Holy Land to the Christian world, the security implications of the religious importance of the region, and how this impacts the global political landscape.

12:30-13:30 Participants will gain a fuller understanding of the importance of the Holy Land to Christians and Jews today and how this impacts the global political landscape, via a guided tour of the **Magdala Home** of Mary Magdalen and recently uncovered 2,000-year-old village which provides a window into the world of Jesus and his disciples in Magdala, Galilee with Daniel Gershon. Magdala is a unique Holy Land site with a first century city where the Jewish residents gathered in a synagogue where Jesus visited and taught. Discussion will also provide an overview of the vibrant Christian community in Israel, the only place in the Middle East with a growing Christian population.

13:30-15:00 Lunch, Magdalena Restaurant, Migdal Junction, Magala Center Migdal (no speakers).

15:00-16:00 Guided tour of the **Kinneret,** also known as the Sea of Galilee, with Ibgy Eliyahu, Israeli Ministry of Tourism Certified Guide
Topic: Briefing on the importance of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan River as both a border and a key water source for Israel and Jordan and the impact this plays in Israeli national security strategy. Discussion of the sea's historic importance, including to Christians for its connection to Jesus, who spent much of his life on or near it, and to late 19th century Zionists, who's dream of settling the Land of Israel became reality as pioneers and their families returned to the land and created a new form of agricultural settlement, the kibbutz.

16:00-17:00 Return to Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

17:00-18:00 Voluntary review of trip by participants at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya

18:00-20:00 Dinner (no speakers)

Overnight: Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Herzliya *Total Hours of Programming: 6.5+*

TRAVEL: Sunday, November 3rd

03:30	Depart to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv.
05:50	Departure from Ben Gurion Airport, Tel Aviv, Israel.
10:00	Arrival at De Gaulle Airport, Paris, France.
16:40	Departure from De Gaulle Airport, Paris, France.
19:25	Dulles International Airport, Washington, D.C., USA.

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