

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 144 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):
Atlantic Council N7 Initiative

Travel Dates:
08/17/2025 to 08/23/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
\$4,325.57	\$1,698.00	\$475.37	\$961.29

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.

09/22/2025

Date

Arden Hooper

Printed Name of Traveler

Arden Hooper

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.

09/22/2025

Date

JHS

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
Transportation	\$4,325.57	Includes actual flight (economy, refundable) and bus costs incurred on trip.
Lodging	\$1,698.00	Includes actual lodging costs incurred per person in Bahrain, UAE, Israel.
Meals	\$475.37	Includes actual meal costs incurred in Bahrain, the UAE, and Israel.
Misc. Expenses	\$803.68	Includes actual miscellaneous costs incurred in Bahrain, the UAE and Israel, calculated per person. These costs include: Bahrain: on-the-ground coordination services through the travel agency; airport expediting services (departure). UAE: private room rental for meeting with Chargé Gaudiosi; on-the-ground coordination services through the travel agency; private dining space for dinner with Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi; and entrance fees for the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque tour. Israel: porterage in and out of the hotel; private room rentals for meetings with Goldberg-Polins and Yesh Atid; airport expediting services (arrival and departure); on-the-ground coordination services through the travel agency; and the ETA-IL form.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

Yes No

Explanation: Flights: Aug 16 EY6/EY645 IAD–AUH–BAH; Aug 19 EY642 BAH–AUH; Aug 20 EY593 AUH–TLV; Aug 22 UA85/UA4432 TLV–EWR–DCA Bahrain (Aug 18): NAVCENT briefing, Vice Admiral George Wikoff; Ministry of Industry & Commerce, Shaikh Hamad bin Salman Al Khalifa and Dr. Khaled Al Alawi; Economic Development Board, Aurelio Castilla; Ministry of Sustainable Development, Dana Hamza; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Khaled Yousef Al-Jalahma; Prime Minister's Office, Yara Faraj; U.S. Embassy briefing, Ambassador Steven Bondy and DCM Elizabeth Litchfield UAE (Aug 19): Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Alsaghira Alahbab, Mohamed Almiddfa, and Afra Alhameli; Embassy briefing, U.S. Chargé Eric Gaudiosi; Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque; dinner, former MK Ghaida Rinawie Zoabi Israel (Aug 20–22): MFA, Ohad Zemet, Nevo Barchad, and Dor Shapira; National Security Council, Uri Resnik; Rachel Goldberg-Polin and Jon Polin; IDF Gaza Envelope tour; MK Shelly Tal Meron; dinner with DCM Stephanie Hallett

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

Yes No

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



The Office of the Honorable Ted Cruz
Arden Hooper, Foreign Policy Legislative Aide
United States Senate
Washington, District of Columbia

July 3, 2025

Dear Ms. Arden Hooper,

On behalf of the N7 Initiative, I am delighted to invite you to participate in the upcoming N7 Abraham Accords Congressional Education Mission.

The education mission will take place between **August 16th and August 23rd**, with expected travel to Bahrain, followed by the United Arab Emirates, and then Israel.

The purpose of the trip is to engage with strategic foreign leaders to demonstrate continued U.S. and Congressional interest in the Middle East, Middle East integration, and Arab-Israeli normalization. The mission will explore the potential for expanding the Abraham Accords, efforts by existing Abraham Accords partners to deepen the accords, and the obstacles countries face in developing regional ties with Israel. Through meetings with government leaders, military leaders, business leaders, and faith leaders, participants will gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities for regional integration. Further information on this Congressional Education mission, including a tentative itinerary, is forthcoming.

The N7 Initiative will cover all costs and expenses associated with the trip for you. Our team will follow up with you to share further details. Should you have questions in the interim, please reach out to Allison Minor, N7 Director, at +1-573-268-3177 or at aminor@atlanticcouncil.org. We greatly value your participation and hope that you can join us for this important trip.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'WFW'.

William F. Wechsler
Senior Director, N7 Initiative, Atlantic Council

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:

Arden Hooper

Employing Office/Committee:

CRUZ, TED

Private Sponsor(s):

Atlantic Council N7 Initiative

Destination(s):

Manama, Bahrain Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates Jerusalem, Israel

Travel Dates:

08/17/2025 to 08/23/2025

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.

I am a foreign policy staffer for Sen. Ted Cruz, and part of my official duties include crafting legislative, policy-based and communications options that advance Sen. Cruz's policy agenda, particularly in the Middle East foreign policy space. The N7 Congressional Fellowship Educational Mission to the Middle East offers participants the opportunity to engage with key figures from government, civil society, and the private sector in the Middle East about trending foreign policy topics in the region, namely the Abraham Accords, a topic that Sen. Cruz discusses frequently and engages with actively.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?

No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

N/A

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

14 JULY 2025

Date

Arden Hooper

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)

1 Senator Ted Cruz

(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize

Arden Hooper

(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)

14 JULY 2025

Date

7-18

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc: N7 Middle East Educational Mission Aug 2025

Arden Hooper

Title:

None

Employing Office/Committee:

CRUZ, TED

Duty Station:

WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Manama, Bahrain

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Jerusalem, Israel

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

I am a foreign policy staffer for Sen. Ted Cruz, and part of my official duties include crafting legislative, policy,-based and communications options that advance Sen. Cruz's policy agenda, particularly in the Middle East foreign policy space. The N7 Congressional Fellowship Educational Mission to the Middle East offers participants the opportunity to engage with key figures from government, civil society, and the private sector in the Middle East about trending foreign policy topics in the region, namely the Abraham Accords, a topic that Sen. Cruz discusses frequently and engages with actively.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:

None

Organization Information

Organization Name

Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?

Yes

No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type

Public Charity

Address

1400 L Street NW

Address 2 (Optional)

None

City, State Zip

Washington, District Of Columbia 20005 United States

Phone Number

573-268-3177

Organization URL

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/>

History of Congressional Travel

The Atlantic Council has previously sponsored several Congressional trips, including staff trips in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023 and a trip with members of the House of Representatives and staff in June 2025.

Educational Activities

The Atlantic Council regularly hosts events for the general public and publishes reports that are freely available to the public. The Atlantic Council's Middle East Programs regularly publishes reports and holds events for the general public focused on the Middle East.

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 purpose of the trip is to engage with strategic foreign leaders to demonstrate continued U.S. and Congressional interest in the Middle East, Middle East integration, and Arab-Israeli normalization. The mission will explore the potential for expanding the Abraham Accords, efforts by existing Abraham Accords partners to deepen the accords, and the obstacles countries face in developing regional ties with Israel. Through meetings with government leaders, military leaders, business leaders, and faith leaders, participants will gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities for regional integration.

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

The Atlantic Council promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs through publications, convening meetings, engaging global leaders and experts, and building communities. The Council has a program - the N7 Initiative - that is specifically focused on promoting regional integration in the Middle East with the goal of supporting a more secure and prosperous region. This educational mission will directly support that goal.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

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

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

The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

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

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:
08/16/2025 @ 10:05 PM

Trip End Date/Time:
08/22/2025 @ 08:41 PM

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: \$2,810.95 | Accompanying Family Member: \$0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	\$2,399.00
Note Includes airfare from United States to Bahrain, from Bahrain to UAE, from UAE to Israel, and from Israel to the United States		
Ground Transportation	N/A	\$411.95
Note Estimated cost for private bus transportation between meetings and to/from airport in each location		

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$1,611.78)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
08/17/2025	08/19/2025	Intercontinental Bahrain	Manama	None	Bahrain	2	\$223.39	No
08/19/2025	08/20/2025	St. Regis Abu Dhabi	Abu Dhabi	None	United Arab Emirates	1	\$285.00	No
08/20/2025	08/22/2025	David Citadel	Jerusalem	None	Israel	2	\$440.00	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$734.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
08/17/2025	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$-20.00	\$60.00	Manama	None	Bahrain	No
08/18/2025	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$126.00	Manama	None	Bahrain	No
08/19/2025	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$148.00	Abu Dhabi	None	United Arab Emirates	No
08/20/2025	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$180.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
08/21/2025	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$180.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No
08/22/2025	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$40.00	Jerusalem	None	Israel	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: \$961.29)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes
Other (Logistical fees)	\$953.79	This includes the cost for a local coordinator who will oversee transportation, hotels, and manage any logistical issues that may arise as well as the cost of private meeting rooms at the hotel for meetings/briefings
Visa Fees	\$7.50	This will cover the cost of an Israel visa

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: N7 Middle East Educational Mission Aug 2025

Travel Date(s): August 16-22, 2025

Travel Destination(s): Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Israel

Sponsor: Atlantic Council of the United States, Inc.

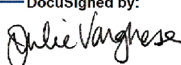
Julie Varghese

(printed name of sponsor representative)

Chief Operating Officer

(title)

DocuSigned by:


97BADA8C38194F8...

(signature of sponsor representative)

7/14/2025

(date)

US Senate

Committee on Ethics

Primary Trip Sponsor Form supplemental documentation

Atlantic Council of the US, Inc.

Senate employees invited and attending:

1. Samantha Schifrin
 - a. Foreign Policy and Defense Advisor, Office of Senator Cory Booker
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.
2. Marcos Ibarra
 - a. Senior Policy Advisor and National Security Advisor, Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.
3. Luis Reyes
 - a. Military Legislative Assistant, Office of Senator Eric Schmitt
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.
4. Callahan Stoub
 - a. Senior Policy Analyst, Senate Foreign Relations Committee
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.
5. Jose Villalvazo
 - a. Defense and Foreign Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Alex Padilla
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.
6. Arden Hooper
 - a. Foreign Policy Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Ted Cruz
 - b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.

Invited and cannot attend:

7. Kendall Dehnel

- a. Foreign Policy Legislative Assistant, Senator Ernst (R-IA)
- b. Reason for inviting: Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel are each Abraham Accords countries and are playing a critical role in the expansion and deepening of the accords across defense, political, and trade nexuses. The Abraham Accords and the Middle East on the whole are relevant to the staffer's official professional portfolio in the Senate.



N7 Initiative Congressional Education Mission

Hosted by the Atlantic Council

August 16-22, 2025

Mission goals: The goal of this trip is to educate and inform Congressional Staff with portfolios covering national security and the Abraham Accords on emerging developments within the Abraham Accords and how they relate to U.S. foreign policy, trade, and defense goals. The trip includes stops to meet with the senior officials in current Abraham Accords countries who can discuss the status of the Abraham Accords, the prospects for expanding and strengthening the Abraham Accords, and the impacts of current dynamics in the Middle East on U.S. and partner cooperation related to the Abraham Accords. The Atlantic Council will demonstrate through engagements with both U.S. officials based in the region and foreign government officials how the expansion and deepening of the Abraham Accords will transform U.S. policy and opportunities within the Middle East in the near future.

Relevance to official duties: The subject matter of the trip is important to Staffers supporting Members of Congress on the Armed Services, Homeland Security, Intelligence, Foreign Affairs, Ways and Means, Appropriations, and Financial Services Committees as they are likely to encounter future legislation concerning the expansion and deepening of the Abraham Accords.

Location: The purpose of travel to Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Israel is to meet with regional leaders and U.S. officials who are working to strengthen the Abraham Accords.



Itinerary

Saturday, August 16, 2025: Travel

22:05

Primary Delegation Flights depart from United States

Etihad Airways (EY 645)

Departure: Saturday, August 16 at 22:05 (IAD)

Layover: 1 h 50 min (AUH)

Arrival: Sunday, August 17 at 21:05 (BAH)

Dress Code: Casual/Comfort

Travelers: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Jesse von Stein, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Sunday, August 17, 2025: Travel

12:45

Hernandez Gulf Air flight departs from Manila

Gulf Air (GF 155)

Departure: Sunday, August 17 at 12:45 (MNL)

Arrival: Sunday, August 17 at 17:05 (BAH)

Dress Code: Casual/Comfort

Traveler: Roland Hernandez

14:50

Gitter Etihad flight departs from Tel Aviv

Etihad (EY594/EY645)

Departure: Sunday, August 17 at 14:50 (TLV)

Layover: 1 h 45 min (AUH)

Arrival: Sunday, August 17 at 21:05 (BAH)

Traveler: Manya-Jean Gitter



- 17:05 ***Hernandez Gulf Air Flight arrives at Bahrain International Airport (BAH)***
- 17:30 ***Hernandez transport to the InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***
Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain
- 18:00 ***Hernandez check-in at InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***
Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain
- 20:15 ***Dagul Turkish Airways flight departs from Istanbul***
Turkish Airways (TK 778)
Departure: Sunday, August 17 at 20:15 (IST)
Arrival: Monday, August 18 at 0:15 (BAH)
Dress Code: Casual/Comfort

Traveler: Reid Dagul
- 21:05 ***Primary Delegation and Gitter Eithad Flight arrives at Bahrain International Airport (BAH)***
- 21:35 ***Transport to InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***
Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain
- 22:10 ***Check-in at InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***
Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain

Monday, August 18, 2025: Bahrain

- 0:15 ***Dagul Turkish Airways flight arrives***
- 1:00 ***Dagul Transport to InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***
Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain
- 1:30 ***Dagul Check-in at InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel***



Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain

8:30 – 9:30

Breakfast at InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel

Location: King Faisal Hwy, Manama, Bahrain

9:30 – 10:00

Transportation by bus to NAVCENT, U.S. Fifth Fleet Headquarters

10:00 – 11:30

Briefing with Leadership from NAVCENT and U.S. Fifth Fleet

Rationale: Senior NAVCENT Leadership for U.S. Fifth Fleet and CENTCOM Naval Command will provide a briefing to congressional staff on the U.S.'s military activities and posture in the region. The delegation will engage with the NAVCENT team on the U.S.'s military relationships with the kingdom and ongoing activities to support regional integration. It was relevant to the trip's mission as the Staff are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Bahrain ties as well as legislation related to regional military stability.

Participants: CENTCOM Naval Command Officials, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: U.S. Fifth Fleet Headquarters, Manama

Dress Code: Business Professional



11:30 – 11:45

Transportation by bus to Qudaibiya Palace

11:45 – 13:00

Meeting with the office of the Prime Minister, H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

Rationale: The Office of the Prime Minister, Crown Prince, H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, is best positioned to share the policies of the Kingdom of Bahrain across diplomatic, defense, trade, and investment nexuses. Members and staff will engage with H.R.H.'s team on the importance of the Abraham Accords across multiple nexuses and on the hostilities between Iran and Israel and how it affects regional normalization. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.- Bahrain ties and regional developments. The Office of the Prime Minister, Crown Prince, H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, can authoritatively speak to Bahraini positions on the Bahrain-U.S. relationship.

Participants: Officials from the Office of H.R.H. Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Qudaibiya Palace

Dress Code: Business Professional

13:00 – 13:15

Transportation by bus to Nomad Urban Eatery

13:15 – 14:00

Lunch at Nomad Urban Eatery

14:00 – 14:15

Transportation by bus to meeting with The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

14:30 – 15:30

Meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Rationale: Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will provide a briefing to the staffers on the Kingdom's current diplomatic relations with the United States and developments on supporting the expansion of regional relations with Israel. The delegation will engage on diplomatic topics such as intra-gulf relations, updates to the Bahrain-Israel Free Trade Agreement negotiations, and the status of the Abraham Accords. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Bahrain ties, regional trade and investment developments, and the Abraham Accords.



Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 7th Floor

Dress Code: Business Professional

15:30 – 15:45

Transportation by bus to meeting with Bahrain Economic Development Board and Minister of Industry and Commerce

15:45 – 16:20

Meeting with Officials from the Ministry of Sustainable Development and the Bahrain Economic Development Board and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

Rationale: The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Bahrain Economic Development Board and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce will provide a briefing to congressional staff on Bahrain's investments in the U.S., Israel, and across the region. The briefing will also include elements of trade friction, such as aluminum tariffs, and investment and financial tools and positions. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Bahrain ties, regional trade and investment developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Bahrain Economic Development Board, Officials from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: EDB, Arcapita Building

Dress Code: Business Professional

16:20 – 16:30

Transportation by bus to meeting with Minister of Finance and National Economy

16:30 – 17:15

Meeting with the Ministry of Finance and National Economy

Rationale: Officials from the Ministry of Finance and National Economy will provide a briefing to Members and staff on Bahrain's investments and



broader national development and integration strategy. The briefing will include elements of U.S.-Bahrain relations and mutual defense relations due to the Ministry's high standing within the government. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Bahrain ties, regional trade and investment developments, mutual defense ties, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, The Minister of Finance and National Economy, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Many-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Ministry of Finance and National Economy

Dress Code: Business Professional

17:15 – 17:30

Transportation by bus to U.S. Embassy, Bahrain

17:30 – 18:30

Briefing with Ambassador Steve C. Bondy, United States Ambassador to Bahrain

Rationale: Ambassador Steve Bondy will provide a briefing to staffers on the U.S.'s current diplomatic relationship with Bahrain. The delegation will be able to engage with the Ambassador on the U.S.'s political and military relationships with the kingdom as well as gain important insights on the upcoming meetings throughout the day. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the staff are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Bahrain ties as well as legislation related to regional military, political, and economic stability.

Participants: Ambassador Steve C. Bondy, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Many-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

18:30 – 18:45

Transportation by bus to House of Ten Commandments

**18:45 – 19:45****Guided Tour and Briefing of the House of Ten Commandments**

Rationale: Congressional staff will receive a guided tour and briefing at the House of Ten Commandments, the only functioning synagogue in Bahrain and a symbol of the country's longstanding Jewish heritage and commitment to religious pluralism. Supported by the Bahraini Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this visit will offer insight into the country's evolving interfaith landscape and the role of Jewish life in Bahraini society. The discussion will also touch on how Bahrain's leadership views religious tolerance as a foundation for broader regional integration, particularly within the context of the Abraham Accords. The visit is relevant to the trip's mission as it underscores the cultural and societal dimensions of normalization and offers valuable context for U.S. policy discussions around interfaith engagement and regional cooperation.

Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: House of Ten Commandments, Manama

Dress Code: Business Professional

19:45 – 20:00***Transportation by bus to Mirai Restaurant*****20:00 – 21:00*****Dinner at Mirai Restaurant*****21:00 – 21:15*****Transportation by bus to InterContinental Bahrain, an IHG Hotel*****21:15*****End of Meetings/Day*****Tuesday, August 19, 2025****7:30 – 8:30*****Check-out of hotel and breakfast***

Location: Selections, InterContinental Bahrain

8:30 – 9:00***Transportation by bus to Bahrain International Airport*****10:40*****Delegation Flight to Abu Dhabi***

Etihad (EY 642)



Departure: Tuesday, August 18 at 10:40 (BAH)
Arrival: Tuesday, August 18 at 12:50 (AUH)

Travelers: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

10:50

Jose Juan Villalvazo arrives at Zayed International Airport

Qatar Airways (QR 710/QR1044)

Departure: Monday, August 18 at 11:00 (IAD)
Arrival: Tuesday, August 19 at 10:50 (AUH)

Traveler: Jose Juan Villalvazo

13:10 – 14:00

Transportation by bus to Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abu Dhabi

14:00 – 15:00

Meeting with Moath Alwarai, Director of the Policy Planning Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Rationale: The Director of the Policy Planning Department, Moath Alwarai will provide a briefing to staff on the UAE's current diplomatic relations with the United States and developments on supporting the expansion of the Abraham Accords. The Director will also discuss the UAE's interfaith efforts to support the Abraham Accords and their position on the recent conflict between Israel and Iran. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-UAE ties and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Moath Alwarai, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick



Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dress Code: Business Professional

15:00 – 16:00

Meeting with H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Rationale: H.E. Reem Al Hashimy is one of the UAE's most prominent foreign policy leaders, known for her strategic role in shaping the country's international development agenda and its regional diplomacy. In this meeting, Minister Al Hashimy will offer congressional staff insight into the UAE's broader vision for cooperation with the United States, the advancement of the Abraham Accords, and the country's response to shifting regional dynamics, including recent tensions involving Iran and Israel. She is also expected to highlight the UAE's efforts to promote interfaith dialogue and regional economic integration as part of a long-term strategy for Middle East stability. The meeting will give staff an opportunity to better understand Emirati priorities and policy tools, directly informing U.S. legislative considerations related to regional partnerships, normalization, and U.S.-UAE bilateral relations.

Participants: Reem Al Hashimy, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Dress Code: Business Professional

16:00 – 16:15

Transportation by bus to the U.S. Embassy Abu Dhabi

16:15 – 18:00

Meeting with Ambassador Martina Strong, Ambassador of the United States to the United Arab Emirates and Eric Gaudiosi, U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission

Rationale: U.S. Ambassador Martina Strong, military officials from Al Dhafra Air Base, and the State Department County Team will provide a briefing to Congressional Staff on the U.S.'s current diplomatic relationship with the UAE, security risks and an assessment of the conflict between Israel and Iran, and other developments. The delegation will with the Ambassador on the U.S.'s political, economic, and financial relationship with the UAE. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation related to U.S.-UAE ties.

Participants: Ambassador Martina Strong, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil



Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: U.S. Embassy, Abu Dhabi

Dress Code: Business Professional

18:00 – 18:10

Transportation by bus to the Abrahamic Family House

18:10 – 19:15

Guided Tour and Briefing of the Abrahamic Family House

Rationale: Guides supported by UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff, will provide a guided tour of the Abrahamic Family House, a first-of-its-kind multi-faith facility in the UAE and the broader gulf region. Congressional Staff will tour the facility, learned of the interfaith work being conducted on the site and engaged in discussion with the guides and staff on the impact of this work on the Abraham Accords. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-UAE ties as well as investment restrictions or incentives related to foreign sovereign wealth funds.

Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Abrahamic Family House, Abu Dhabi

Dress Code: Business Professional

19:15 – 20:00

Transportation by bus for dinner



20:00 – 22:30

Working dinner with H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid al Nuami, Chairman of the UAE Federation National Council Defense Affairs, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee

As one of the UAE's leading voices on interfaith dialogue, regional diplomacy, and national security, H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi offers a valuable perspective on the strategic outlook of the United Arab Emirates, especially in the context of the Abraham Accords. In his capacity as Chairman of the Federal National Council's Defense, Interior & Foreign Affairs Committee, Dr. Al Nuaimi plays a central role in shaping the UAE's legislative approach to foreign policy and regional security cooperation. This meeting will allow congressional staff to engage directly on topics such as UAE-Israel normalization, regional integration efforts, countering extremism, and the future of U.S.-UAE collaboration. It is highly relevant to the delegation's focus on advancing U.S. policy related to the Abraham Accords and deepening understanding of Emirati priorities in a rapidly evolving Middle East.

Participants: H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid al Nuami, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Palace Restaurant

The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

Dress Code: Business Professional

22:30 – 23:00

Transportation by bus to St. Regis Abu Dhabi

Location: The St. Regis Abu Dhabi, Nation Towers - Corniche St - Al Bateen - W44 - Abu Dhabi - United Arab Emirates

23:00

End of Meetings/Day

Wednesday, August 20, 2025



6:00 – 6:30

Breakfast

6:30 – 7:00

Transportation by bus to the airport

8:35

Delegation Flight to Tel Aviv

Etihad (EY 593)

Departure: Wednesday, August 20 at 8:35 (AUH)

Arrival: Wednesday, August 20 at 11:00 (TLV)

Travelers: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

12:00 – 13:00

Transportation by bus to meeting at the Ministry of Defense

12:00 – 13:00

Working Lunch Briefing

Rationale: Atlantic Council staff will brief Congressional Staff on the regional and internal dynamics of Israeli policy and recent developments in retaliation to the Abraham Accords. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Israel ties, regional security developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Cassidy McGoldrick

Presenter: Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken

Location: Bus En-Route to Tel Aviv

Dress Code: Business Professional

The entirety of the allotted time for the working lunch will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

13:00 – 14:00

Meeting with Ministry of Defense

Rationale: Officials from the Ministry of Defense will provide a briefing to Congressional staff on the IDF's recent and ongoing operations in Lebanon, Syria, Gaza, Iran, and Yemen and the military and political objectives of each operation. The delegation will have a chance to engage on the IDF's effort following October 7th as well as on broader U.S.-Israel defense cooperation. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the



Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Israel ties, regional security developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Defense, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Ministry of Defense

Dress Code: Business Professional

14:00 – 14:30

Depart for meeting to the Office of H.E. Yair Lapid

14:30 – 15:30

Meeting with the Office of H.E. Yair Lapid, Yesh Atid Party Leader and Leader of the Opposition in Israel's Knesset

Rationale: The Office of the Leader of the Israeli Opposition and former Prime Minister of Israel, H.E. Yair Lapid will provide a briefing to congressional staff on the official opposition's view of the Israeli Government's ongoing military operations and actions following Hamas's October 7th attack. The delegation will have a chance to engage on the domestic political situation in Israel and its impact on Israel's policies towards the United States and regional partners. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Israel ties, regional security developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Officials from the office of H.E. Yair Lapid, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Knesset, Eliezer Kaplan St 1, Jerusalem, 9195000, Israel

Dress Code: Business Professional

15:30 – 16:30

Transportation by bus to Jerusalem

16:30 – 17:45

Meeting with the Office of H.E. Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel

Rationale: Officials from the office of Prime Minister of Israel, H.E. Benjamin Netanyahu will share the position of the current Israeli government across diplomatic, defense, trade, and investment nexuses.



Congressional Staff will have the chance to engage the Office of the Prime Minister on any issue touching U.S. – Israel relations with a focus on the four nexuses outlined. It is relevant to the trip’s mission as the Members are likely to encounter legislation related to U.S.- Israel ties, the ongoing war in Gaza, and regional developments. The Office of the Prime Minister of Israel, H.E. Benjamin Netanyahu, will be able to authoritatively speak to the current official Israeli position on Israel-U.S. ties.

Participants: Officials from the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Office of the Prime Minister of Israel, Jerusalem

Dress Code: Business Professional

17:45 – 18:15

Transportation by bus to David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

Location: King David St 7, Jerusalem, 9410119, Israel

18:15 – 18:45

Check in to David Citadel Hotel, Jerusalem

18:45 – 21:00

Working Dinner with Ambassador Mike Huckabee, Ambassador of the United States to Israel

Rationale: The U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Mike Huckabee will brief the Congressional staff on U.S.-Israel relations, the ongoing security situation in Israel and the region, and U.S. diplomatic efforts to advance the Abraham Accords. Staff will have the chance to engage the Ambassador on any issue related to U.S.-Israel relationship including political, military, economic, and investment efforts. It is relevant to the trip’s mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation related to U.S.- Israel ties and regional developments.

Participants: Ambassador Mike Huckabee, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: King David Citadel Restaurant

Dress Code: Business Professional



The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

21:00

End of day

Thursday, August 21, 2025

8:30 – 9:30

Working Breakfast Briefing with Atlantic Council Experts

Rationale: Atlantic Council Senior Non-Resident Fellows Ambassador Amir Hayek and Itai Melchoir will brief Congressional Staff on the regional and internal dynamics of Israeli policy and recent developments in retaliation to the Abraham Accords. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.-Israel ties, regional security developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershom Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Presenter: Amir Hayek, Itai Melchoir

Location: Private Room, David Citadel Hotel

Dress Code: Business Professional

The entirety of the allotted time for the working breakfast will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

9:30 – 9:45

Transportation by bus to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

9:45 – 11:00

Meeting with the Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gideon Sa'ar

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will brief the staff on Israel's current international developments from a diplomatic perspective. Staff will have the chance to engage with the Ministry on any issue touching U.S. – Israel relations with a focus on diplomatic engagements. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.- Israel ties, regional developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: The office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed,



Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem

Dress Code: Business Professional

11:00 – 11:15

Transportation by bus for meeting to Israeli Ministerial Complex

11:15 – 12:00

Meeting with Ron Dermer, Minister of Strategic Affairs

The Minister of Strategic Affairs, Ron Dermer, will brief the Congressional staff on Israel's current international and domestic situation. Staff will have the chance to engage the Minister on any issue touching U.S. – Israel relations with a focus on diplomatic, military, trade, and investment nexuses. Minister Dermer is tasked with leading the most sensitive and important topics for the government, including hostage negotiations, the Abraham Accords, and the U.S.-Israel relationship. It is relevant to the trip's mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.- Israel ties, regional developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: Ron Dermer, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schiffrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Locations: Israeli Ministerial Complex

Dress Code: Business Professional

12:00 – 12:15

Transportation by bus to Israel National Library

12:15 – 13:45

Guided Tour and Briefing of the October 7 Memorial Wall and Swords of Iron Memorial Monument

Guides will lead a tour and briefing at the October 7 Memorial Wall and the Swords of Iron Memorial Monument, both of which honor the victims of the October 7 attacks and those who served in the subsequent conflict. Congressional staff will gain a deeper understanding of how Israel commemorates national trauma, the societal impact of the conflict with Hamas, and the evolving Israeli security posture. This visit provides important context for understanding regional dynamics and is directly relevant to the trip's mission, as staff are likely to engage in legislation related to U.S.-Israel relations and the advancement of the Abraham Accords.



Participants: Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Israel National Library, Jerusalem

Dress Code: Business Professional

13:45 – 15:00

Lunch on your own in downtown Jerusalem (“The Shuk”)

15:00 – 15:15

Transportation by bus for meeting to the President’s Office

15:15 – 16:15

Meeting with the Office of H.E. Isaac Herzog, President of Israel

The Office of the President of Israel, H.E. Isaac Herzog, will brief the Congressional staff on Israel’s current international and domestic situation. Staff will have the chance to engage the Office of President Herzog on any issue touching U.S. – Israel relations with a focus on diplomatic, military, trade, and investment nexuses. It is relevant to the trip’s mission as the Staffers are likely to encounter legislation relating to U.S.- Israel ties, regional developments, and the Abraham Accords.

Participants: The Office of the President of Israel, Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick

Location: Beit HaNassi

Dress Code: Business Professional

16:15 – 16:30

Transportation by bus to the hotel

16:30 – 18:30

Free time

18:30 – 20:00

Working Dinner and debrief with Atlantic Council on the trip.

Rationale: Atlantic Council Staff will debrief the trip and discuss key insights learned across the various countries. This capstone dinner will allow Atlantic Council experts to answer questions on statements and engagements throughout the trip and reflect on how the briefings, meetings, and engagements indicate the current status of the Abraham Accords.



Participants: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Arden Hooper, Valerie Foy, Gil Thompson, Manya-Jean Gitter, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Cassidy McGoldrick

Presenter: Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken

Location: Private room, The David Citadel Hotel

The entirety of the allotted time for the working dinner will be spent covering officially-connected activity.

Dress Code: Rugged Casual/Casual

20:00

End of day

Friday, August 22, 2025

00:30

Valerie Foy departs to Vietnam (sponsored by CARE)

EI AI/THAI (EY 85 / TG 564)

Departure: Friday, August 22 at 00:30

Layover: 2 h 55 min (BKK)

Arrival: Friday, August 22 at 19:40

Traveler: Valerie Foy

8:00 – 9:00

Breakfast

9:00 – 9:40

Transportation by bus to the airport

11:00

Depart to Washington, DC

United (UA 85/UA 4432)

Departure: Friday, August 22 at 11:00 (TLV)

Layover: 2 h 5 min (EWR)

Arrival: Friday, August 22 at 19:26 (DCA)

Travelers: Callahan Stoub, Samantha Schifrin, Marcos Ibarra, Jose Villalvazo, Arden Hooper, Gil Thompson, Andrew Bohn, Luis Reyes, John Bleed, Reid Dagul, Jesse von Stein, Roland Hernandez, Gershon Sacks, Emily Milliken, Cassidy McGoldrick



Saturday, August 23, 2025

11:00

Gitter depart to Washington, DC

United (UA 85/UA 4432)

Departure: Saturday, August 23 at 11:00 (TLV)

Layover: 1 h 44 min (EWR)

Arrival: Saturday, August 23 at 19:05 (DCA)

Traveler: Many-Jean Gitter

End of Trip

Non-Congressional Meeting Participants

- Gershon Sacks, N7 Initiative Deputy Director
- Emily Milliken, N7 Initiative Associate Director
- Cassidy McGoldrick, N7 Initiative Assistant Director