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## Opinion

## He's Not the Messiah: American and Israeli Right-wingers May Come to Regret Trump's Reelection

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These are somber and perilous days for the United States, the international community and Israel, a particularly close and dependent ally. The American people have elected a president who has been described by his closest associates as a fascist, unfit for the office to begin with and already exhibiting signs of cognitive decline. Donald Trump is a capricious, narcissistic and vindictive person by nature. It's unclear which version we will encounter this time – especially now that he is free of electoral considerations and even many of the traditional checks and balances of American democracy. Trump has already gained control over the Supreme Court, enjoys a majority in the incoming Senate and almost definitely the House of Representatives as well, meaning domination of all three branches of government. It's our prime minister's dream come true.

The incoming administration will face a packed Middle East agenda with numerous critical issues. Contrary to what many expect, a second Trump term does not necessarily portend a <u>new</u> <u>era of harmony with Israel</u> and in those areas where it does, it may not be in our best interests. Trump's personal commitment to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is nonexistent and at least partly transactional toward Israel.

Trump is splenetic toward the American Jewish community, which has once again failed to show him the gratitude he believes he deserves and continued to vote overwhelmingly for the Democrats. He also continues to nurse a grudge against Netanyahu for having had the audacity to congratulate President Joe Biden on his victory four years ago and for reneging on the "deal of the century" he proposed for resolving the Palestinian conflict, as well as for the assassination of Iranian Revolutionary Guards leader Qassem Soleimani.

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Maj. Gen. (res.) Yair Golan is chairman of the Democrats party and former deputy IDF chief of staff.

Prof. Chuck Freilich is a senior researcher at INSS and former deputy national security advisor.

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