

## **There is no consensus against a Palestinian state**

The proposed Israel Security Law would make a two-step solution all but impossible. Is that really what 'most Israelis' want?

Ted Sasson / Dec 24, 2024

As the US presidential transition approaches, indications are multiplying that the incoming Trump administration will seek a regional accord with Saudi Arabia and Israel. Building on the Abraham Accords and the work of the Biden team, the deal would include a defense treaty between the United States and Saudi Arabia, normalization between Saudi Arabia and Israel, and negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians toward the establishment of a Palestinian state.

To preempt the process, Simcha Rothman, chairman of the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, announced hearings on a law that would establish a substantial new obstacle in the way of Israel achieving a negotiated solution with the Palestinians. Sponsored by the Land of Israel caucus, the Israel Security Law would expand the scope of a 2014 Basic Law that mandates a national referendum or legislative supermajority on any negotiated agreement that cedes land in Israel, the Golan Heights, or East Jerusalem. The proposed change would extend the law to include the West Bank. According to a statement by the caucus, the effect of the legislation, if passed, would be to “prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state in any future arrangement.”

In a joint statement with caucus co-chairs Yuli Edelstein and Limor Son Har-Melech, Rothman declared that “there is broad consensus in Israel society” that a Palestinian state must not be established. Asked whether the proposed law was meant to prevent a Trump administration deal, Rothman said Israeli officials must “reflect to the world the deep consensus” in Israeli society against the possibility of a Palestinian state.

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