

CONCLUSION

Implementing the plan may manifest an optimal balance between Israel's security needs and what Israel is prepared to allow the Palestinians in order to alleviate the burden of civil control over the Palestinian population, as well as to outline political prospects. This is despite the fact that implementation is expected to involve addressing significant challenges to security and political stability, as well as socio-political considerations within Israel.

As part of the separation framework, promoting the Palestinian Authority to the status of a Palestinian entity with limited sovereignty supports the State of Israel's vision as Jewish, democratic, secure, and prosperous, and should be presented and understood as a transitional arrangement on the path to a comprehensive settlement in the future. To ensure its implementation, Israel will need to continue strengthening security cooperation with regional entities, significantly improve living conditions and the economic situation within the Palestinian Authority territories, and collaborate with Palestinian internal security and policing apparatuses. This will be until the parties are ready to discuss the details of Palestinian sovereignty, which in any case will not include military forces or capabilities.

Israeli public opinion is critically important for the future of the conflict, particularly regarding the prospect of a political arrangement. Most of the Israeli public does not believe there is a stable and sustainable solution to the conflict. They perceive the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in Judea and Samaria as a threat to the State of Israel, as it is expected to act as a terrorist entity (similar to the Gaza Strip under Hamas's control) and serve as a hostile platform for attacking Israel. This constitutes a significant threat.

However, a one-state reality also entails threats, in addition to the clear threat to Israel's character as a state with Jewish dominance and a democratic regime, it also entails terrorism within its territory, hostility against Israel in the regional arena, and harsh international criticism with its diverse practical

implications. Figuratively speaking, instead of pushing the problem as far away as possible, we choose to contain the problem within ourselves in the one-state reality.

The recommended steps to prevent the drift toward one inequalitarian state and to preserve an opening for a future political arrangement:

- **Political, demographic, and territorial separation from the Palestinians:** Administrative and physical-geographical separation between Israel and the Palestinians, without relinquishing Israeli responsibility for increased security and freedom of security and operational action from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea. Meanwhile, avoiding the creation of deep interdependence between the two populations (in spheres such as employment and infrastructure, for example) and fostering separate economic development for the Palestinian areas to enable the Palestinian entity's future functional independence.
- **Preserving political prospects for a future settlement based on the two-state solution, with a demilitarized Palestinian state.**
- **Strengthening the Palestinian Authority:** Preventing its collapse and irrelevance by granting control authorities, including in the Gaza Strip, in combination with a pan-Arab force, while maintaining focused and effective security cooperation. Financial assistance to the Authority from wealthy Arab states will strengthen its legitimacy in the eyes of the Palestinian public and help it operate effectively.
- **Establishing an interim state of an independent Palestinian entity with limited sovereignty:** To encourage and enable the Palestinian Authority to implement the necessary reforms to improve the effectiveness of its functioning in accordance with the "one authority, one law, and one weapon" principle, while committing to refrain from terrorism and violence.
- **Halting the processes of de jure and de facto annexation by Israel:** Preventing legislation or measures leading to the unilateral application of

sovereignty in Judea and Samaria. Halting the validation of illegal outposts, establishing agricultural farms, and expanding settlements deep within Palestinian territory. Adhering to international law in the territories, ensuring legal and institutional separation between the civilian system in Israel and the military system in Judea and Samaria.

- **Combating Israel's image as an apartheid regime in Judea and Samaria:** By rectifying distortions including a dual legal system and imposing restrictions on movement or rights for Palestinian citizens and residents.
- **Strengthening Israel's international legitimacy:** Establishing dialogue channels with the international community based on the two-state solution (two nation-states). Implementing separation measures will signal Israel's serious intentions toward an agreement—even in the absence of an immediate partner—as part of a long-term strategy.
- **Restoring the value of peace to public discourse in Israel.** Education and communication: Campaigns to clarify the dangers inherent in continuing the drift toward a one-state reality. Recruiting forces within civil and political society to promote dialogue on separation and the pursuit of peace.

The drift to an inequalitarian one-state reality is not merely a theoretical scenario but rather an evolving current reality. A direct line is drawn between the judicial reform plan which the current Israeli government is advancing and its policy implemented in Judea and Samaria, which aims for annexation (at least of all Area C territories) and the denial of civil and national rights to the Palestinians, effectively leading to a one-state reality. Understanding the fundamental contradiction between governing approximately three million Palestinians and upholding the democratic-liberal values of the State of Israel will likely not emerge from this government, but rather from a public that will present a clear stance and decisive preference in the spirit of the Zionist vision, aimed at preserving the Jewish-democratic character of the state and striving to improve Israel's strategic position and its readiness to face present

and future challenges. Therefore, preventing the drift toward a one-state reality requires proactive measures and widespread public awareness, not merely the prevention of specific political moves.

Every political, legal, or public step concerning the relations between Israel and Judea and Samaria and the Palestinian residents of the area will be examined in light of the central question—**will its adoption by Israel bring about separation from the Palestinians or entrench inequalitarian control over a binational population?** The response to this fundamental question should serve as the cornerstone of Israeli policy in the coming years.