



הארגון הבינלאומי של עורכי-דין ומשפטנים יהודים (ע"ר)
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS (R.A.)

IAJLJ Statement on The Declaration by President Donald J. Trump Regarding Jerusalem

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (IAJLJ) welcomes the statement by United States President Donald J Trump, officially recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel and his commitment to relocating the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

President Trump's statement with respect to the status of Jerusalem recognizes the historical, moral and religious ties of Israel and the Jewish people to Jerusalem and further reflects the factual and legal realities that have existed for the nearly 70 years of Israel's existence as an independent state. The US position, as expressed by the President, upholds Israel's right as a sovereign nation, to determine the location of its capital city and its right that this determination be recognized by the international community. It is also a true expression of the will of the American people as expressed by Congress in the adoption of the Jerusalem Embassy Act.

The IAJLJ notes President Trump's important clarification, namely that the US recognition of the status of Jerusalem does not imply recognition of specific international boundaries or obviate the need for Israel and the Palestinians to reach a negotiated agreement on this and other contested issues. In this sense, we believe the current US position does not depart from the status quo accepted by the parties and by the international community and reflected in the Roadmap for Peace and other international peace initiatives.

The IAJLJ recognizes the deep historical and religious ties of Jews, Muslims and Christians to Jerusalem, and strongly supports the continued protection of the sites of religious significance in Jerusalem, and freedoms of access and peaceful worship at the holy sites to members of all faiths. We welcome the renewed commitment of Prime Minister Netanyahu to this important principle, as expressed in his comments on 6 December 2017.

Jerusalem has been the heart of the Jewish People for millennia. Its significance to members of other religions and its key importance to resolution of the Middle East's conflicts can never be discounted.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee." (Psalms 122)