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## Support HR 8050: U.S. Tax Dollars Must Not Be Used For Illegal Annexation

Annexation or “applying sovereignty” is illegal under international law. However, Israel, as an occupying power, has routinely illegally annexed parts of the Middle East since 1967 and continues to seek to annex parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The United States should protect the rights of Palestinians and hold its allies like Israel accountable to international law.

[H.R. 8050](#), the **Israeli Annexation Non-Recognition Act** includes a Sense of Congress statement that rejects Israel’s illegal unilateral annexation of Palestinian land in the West Bank. Moreover, the bill prohibits the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the “Foreign military financing program” account, or otherwise authorized to be appropriated or made available via the Arms Export Control Act ([22 U.S.C. 2763](#)) for any Israeli actions that facilitate or support annexation. U.S. aid to Israel is not affected unless Israel annexes any part of the West Bank. Additionally, the bill allows the President a national security waiver that would permit the use of military funds in the West Bank after annexation. The waiver can be canceled by a joint resolution of Congress if that resolution is passed within 30 days of the waiver being certified.

Please join Rep. McCollum, Rep. Tlaib, Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Rep. Pressley, Rep. Pocan, Rep. Omar, Rep. Carson, Rep. Pingree, Rep. Payne, Rep. Rush, Rep. Jayapal, and Rep. Grijalva in cosponsoring H.R. 8050

**Please Cosponsor H.R.8050: Israeli  
Annexation Non-Recognition Act**

The bill is necessary despite the recent normalization agreements between Israel and the [United Arab Emirates](#) and [Bahrain](#) as part of the Abraham Accords which are contingent on Israel temporarily suspending its proposed annexation of the West Bank. While Israel has, for now, suspended de jure annexation, de facto annexation is a continued lived reality for Palestinian people experienced through border walls, fragmented communities, a system of military checkpoints, forced displacement, and home demolitions. The conditions of de facto annexation have even worsened recently and continue to threaten peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

- From Mar.-Aug. 2020, Israel demolished or confiscated 389 Palestinian-owned structures in the West Bank, the highest rate in 4 years ([OCHA](#))
- October approvals brought the 2020 total for new settlement construction to 12,159 units, a record-breaking figure that beat out last year's number by nearly 4,000 according to the Israeli human rights group, Peace Now ([Times of Israel](#))
- Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu publicly stated that Palestinian residents in the areas to be "annexed" would be denied Israeli citizenship ([Haaretz](#))
- On Oct. 28, the U.S. altered its policy and authorized U.S. taxpayer-funded science programs in Israeli settlements in the West Bank, conferring de facto U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty over settlements ([Washington Post](#))
- Unilateral annexation of an occupied territory violates: UN Charter Art. 2(4); Fourth Geneva Convention Art.47, 49; Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court Art. 8 War Crimes; Hague Relations Art. 43,46,55,56 ([HRW](#); [Amnesty Int.](#))
- Israel rejected 98% of building permits for Palestinians in Area C between 2016-2018 ([Israeli Civil Administration in the West Bank](#))
- Since 2009, Israel has demolished nearly 7,000 Palestinian structures in the West Bank that has displaced over 10,000 Palestinians ([OCHA](#))
- From 1993, at the advent of the Oslo Accords, to 2017, there was over a 310% increase in the number of Israeli settlers in the West Bank, not including East Jerusalem ([B'Tselem](#); [Foundation For Middle East Peace](#))

Furthermore, President Trump's [Peace to Prosperity Proposal](#), introduced in January 2020, endorses Israel's illegal de jure annexation of up to 30% of the West Bank that Prime Minister Netanyahu announced his plans for in May 2020. Even after normalization, [Prime Minister Netanyahu](#), along with other top Israeli officials, voiced continued commitment to sovereignty over the West Bank. Furthermore, after the Abraham Accords were signed, U.S. Ambassador to Israel, David Friedman, [said](#) "sovereignty will be postponed . . . but it has not been canceled." Indeed, annexation is still not off the table. Therefore, it is imperative to co-sponsor legislation that guarantees security and upholds human rights and international law.

