

Why Does Israel Need Judea and Samaria?

Giving Judea and Samaria to the Palestinian-Arabs for a new state would devastate both Israelis and Palestinian-Arabs.

If Israel handed Judea and Samaria to the Palestinian-Arabs, the Jewish State would have indefensible borders.

- **The geography of Judea and Samaria gives Israel a necessary quantitative military edge against terrorism.ⁱ**
 - At its narrowest point without the areas of Judea and Samaria, Israel is only **nine miles wide**,ⁱⁱ just under one quarter of the width of Rhode Island.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - The mountain ridge in Judea and Samaria provides a natural steep **military barrier** that is 4,200 feet tall.
 - From the tops of this barrier, terrorists would have line-of-sight access to Israeli population centers - an imminent military danger in enemy hands.
 - Israeli control of the Jordan River Valley (the Eastern border of Judea/Samaria) protects both Jewish and Arab Israeli citizens from illegal weaponry and from terrorists entering from Syria and Lebanon.

If Israel relinquished control of Judea and Samaria, history shows that terror and bloodshed would increase, not decrease.

- **There has been an increase of terror attacks since the Oslo Peace Accords.**
 - The Oslo Accords passed in 1993, and gave Palestinian-Arabs autonomy in areas of Judea and Samaria.^{iv} 1994 saw the largest number of terror attacks since 1947 when the War of Independence began.
- Israel relinquished control of Gaza in 2005,^v in an unprecedented effort towards peace. Instead of peace, however, Israel **received more terrorism and wars** with Hamas, the U.S.-designated terrorist organization that took over Gaza after Israel left.^{vi vii}
 - Since Israel's withdrawal from Gaza, Hamas has fired more than **11,000 rockets into Israeli civilian areas**.^{viii}
 - This example is representative of Israel's failed policy of land for peace. When Israel gives up land, it receives more terrorism instead.

Experts hypothesize that if Israel was to relinquish Judea and Samaria, Hamas would take over.^{ix} This would in turn, cement the future of Palestinian-Arab civilians under the terrorist regime.

- In 2007, Hamas violently ousted Fatah leadership in the Gaza Strip, and took full control over the area. The following are a few examples of how Hamas treats its civilians:
 - Hamas requires all male children to attend a military training camp in an effort to create **child terrorists** to annihilate the Jewish State of Israel.^x Training **child soldiers** is a violation of International Law.
 - Hamas stores weapons in UN schools, effectively using it's own **children as human shields** against Israel, another war crime.^{xi}
 - Hamas employs a "morality police force." This force beats women who commit **crimes such as riding motorcycles or wearing t-shirts and jeans.**^{xii}
 - In March of 2011, Hamas police smashed computers, beat, and threatened to throw journalists out of the window of a Reuters office in Gaza for reporting on political divisions in the region.^{xiii}

ⁱ "Military-Strategic Aspects of West Bank Topography for Israel's Defense," *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, January 11, 2008.

ⁱⁱ "To John Kerry, United States Secretary of State: A Secure Israel is a Condition for Peace," *Myths and Facts*, December 16, 2013.

ⁱⁱⁱ "Rhode Island Facts and Figures," *Rhode Island Department of State*.

^{iv} "Terrorism deaths in Israel-1920-1999," *Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, January 1, 200.

^v "Shadow of Israel's pullout from Gaza hangs heavy 10 years on," *Reuters*, August 10, 2015.

^{vi} "A year since the Hamas takeover of Gaza," *Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, June 18, 2008.

^{vii} "The Gaza Strip: History of Jewish Settlement," *The Jewish Virtual Library*.

^{viii} "Rocket Attacks on Israel From Gaza," *Israel Defense Forces*.

^{ix} "Israel reportedly fears Hamas making move for control of West Bank," *The Times of Israel*, December 23, 2012.

^x "Hamas Forces Schoolchildren Into Terrorist Weapons Training," *Israel Defense Forces*, April 29, 2013.

^{xi} "UN report outlines how Hamas used kids as human shields," *New York Post*, May 2, 2015.

^{xii} "Israel: A Guide for Activists," *Anti-Defamation League*.

^{xiii} "West Bank/Gaza: Stop Harassing Journalists," *Human Rights Watch*, April 6, 2011.