

Beyond the Blocs

Jewish Settlement East of Israel's Security Barrier and How to Avert the Slide to a One-State Outcome

by [David Makovsky \(/experts/david-makovsky\)](/experts/david-makovsky)

Apr 26, 2022

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[David Makovsky \(/experts/david-makovsky\)](/experts/david-makovsky)

David Makovsky is the Ziegler Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute and director of the Koret Project on Arab-Israel Relations.



In-Depth Reports

Communities outside the West Bank security barrier constitute an obstacle to a future two-state solution and a potential source of friction between Washington and Jerusalem.

Springtime in Israel has been marked by instability, from a spate of deadly terrorist attacks to the resignation of Idit Silman from the coalition government and violent clashes in Jerusalem. Yet these developments do not change the fundamental challenges in U.S.-Israel relations: first, the shape of a new Iran nuclear deal, and second, Israel's West Bank policy, which has largely allowed the hardcore among Jewish settlers to pursue their ideological goals through the construction of settlements, outposts, and neighborhoods outside major blocs.

In this finely detailed Policy Focus—released in tandem with an update to his landmark [“Settlements and Solutions”](#) (<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/westbankinteractivemap/>) interactive map—Israel expert David Makovsky explains why communities outside the West Bank security barrier constitute a central obstacle to a future two-state solution. In making his case—aided by an assortment of charts and graphics—he explores settlers' voting patterns, discusses trends in violent activity on both sides, and explains why a quiet U.S.-Israel understanding could help preserve an outcome that advances both American interests and Israeli democracy. ❖

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Rise and Fall of the AKP's Islamist Appeal in Türkiye

Apr 22, 2024



Mustafa Gul

(/policy-analysis/rise-and-fall-akps-islamist-appeal-turkiye)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Coordinated Iran Sanctions Require Coordinated Enforcement

Apr 19, 2024



Matthew Levitt

(/policy-analysis/coordinated-iran-sanctions-require-coordinated-enforcement)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

China's Military Objectives and Operational Experience in the Middle East

Apr 19, 2024



Grant Rumley

(/policy-analysis/chinas-military-objectives-and-operational-experience-middle-east)

TOPICS

Arab-Israeli Relations (/policy-analysis/arab-israeli-relations)

Peace Process (/policy-analysis/peace-process)

U.S. Policy (/policy-analysis/us-policy)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

Israel (/policy-
analysis/israel)

Palestinians (/policy-
analysis/palestinians)