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# How Trump Could Surprise the World on Israeli-Palestinian Peacemaking

by [Dennis Ross](#)

Nov 30, 2016

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## ABOUT THE AUTHORS



### [Dennis Ross](#)

Dennis Ross, a former special assistant to President Barack Obama, is the counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute.



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**Reconciling Israeli security with Palestinian sovereignty will likely require a fresh U.S. approach, so the incoming administration would be wise to heed certain lessons from past failures.**

**L**ike many of his predecessors, Donald Trump aspires to Middle East peacemaking: "I would love to be able to be the one that made peace with Israel and the Palestinians," he said recently, adding, "I have reason to believe I can do it." Bringing peace to the Holy Land has clearly had an allure for American presidents.

Can the Trump administration succeed where others have failed? Trump surprised the world by getting elected; if he is to surprise the world on Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking, he will need to keep the following guidelines in mind...

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