

The Two-State Coalition “TSC” Calls upon the International Community:

Respond to the deaths of Palestinians, Israelis, and democracy in the Middle East

The Two-State Solution Coalition, representing twenty-six Palestinian and Israeli civil society organizations, met this week in Nazareth, in the midst of daily killings of Palestinians, institutional threats against Israeli democracy, and the recent fatal shootings of Israeli residents of Jerusalem.

The international community continues to repeat their mantra of support for the two-state solution, but takes no steps to realize this goal. After more than fifty-five years of Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories, the international community continues to treat the occupation as a temporary arrangement while waiting, passively and indefinitely, for the two sides to reach a bilateral agreement. The new Israeli government has declared that it has no intention of reaching an agreement, but rather, according to the coalition agreements, intends to annex large sections of the West Bank and treat the Palestinians residents (including East Jerusalem) as inferior to Jews, on a de jure basis.

It is time for the international community to act. The “status quo” in this region has changed beyond recognition, and we are now at a historic crossroads. No international supporter of democracy, Israel, or Palestine can continue to promote peace through lip service alone. We call upon the international community to recognize a Palestinian State within 1967 borders until a negotiated solution is achieved, and to demand elections in Palestine in order to provide the Palestinian people with legitimate leadership over the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem.

The consensus in the international community in support of the two-state solution must be translated into proactive policy. The ongoing violations of Palestinian rights must have consequences. Failure to act at this time will not only lead to greater instability and violence; it will have an impact on the very possibility of a peaceful resolution to the conflict, the democratic nature of Israel, and the right of self-determination for Palestinians. Both Israelis and Palestinians deserve democracy and equality. The actions of the new Israeli government call for a clear and immediate response from the free world.

To know more about the Two-State Coalition, visit: <https://geneva-accord.org/two-state-coalition/> or <https://www.ppc.org.ps/tsc>