

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A040
TITLE: Single Sovereign State of Palestine
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns
COMMITTEE: National and International Concerns

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A011 On the Topic of Peace Between Israel and Palestine (Rejected)
2006-A012 On the Topic of Israel's Occupation of Palestine (Rejected)
2006-A015 Encourage a Renewed Commitment to the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
1997-A107 Recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of Both Israel and Palestine

Indirectly Related:

2003-D081 Oppose Construction of the Israeli Security Wall
2000-B016 Affirm Refugee Rights of Palestinians and Israelis
1994-A103 Affirm 1993 Israeli-PLO Declaration of Principles
1994-D065 Recognize Illegality of Israeli Settlements in Gaza and the West Bank
1991-A147 Support a Two-state Solution for Israel and the Palestinian People
1991-B011 Urge Awareness of Anglican Primates' Statement on the Middle East
1991-D008 Urge a Peaceful Resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
1988-D053 Affirm Goals of Justice, Peace and Reconciliation for Israelis and Palestinians
1979-D089 Express Thankfulness for Israeli-Egyptian Peace Treaty

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A011
Title: On the Topic of Peace Between Israel and Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention reaffirm The Episcopal Church's commitment to:

1. the rightful existence of the State of Israel as a nation among nations;
2. the rightful existence of a State of Palestine as a nation among nations;
3. the recognition of Jerusalem as the shared capital of the two states;
4. the end of all violence and its crippling impact on Israeli and Palestinian societies;
5. the withdrawal by Israel from *all occupied Palestinian territories as established in 1967* ~~its settlements in the West Bank~~;
6. the return of all parties to the negotiating table rather than unilateral action by any party;
7. the eradication of the sin of anti-Semitism *and all other forms of racism*.



Resolution Number: 2006-A012
Title: On the Topic of Israel's Occupation of Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of the Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention declare that the following positions constitute policies of The Episcopal Church ~~and direct The Episcopal Church's Office of Peace and Justice Ministries to advocate:~~

1. an end to the isolation of East Jerusalem and Bethlehem from the West Bank created by the continued construction of Israeli settlements, settler roads and the *barrier Wall*;
2. removal of the *barrier Wall* by Israel where it violates Palestinian territory and termination of the policy and practice of terrorism by any constituency of the Palestinian Authority;
3. assurance of human rights for Palestinians *and Israelis*;
4. support for the return of sovereign control of Gaza's airspace *and coastline and borders* to the Palestinian people *and mutual respect for borders*; and
5. *elimination of corruption within the Palestinian Authority and appropriate financial transparency to better serve human and economic rights of Palestinians; and*
6. assurance that no U.S. tax dollars are used, *directly or indirectly*, to finance the building of the barrier and bypass roads that support the settlements ~~Occupation, directly or indirectly.~~



Resolution Number: 2006-A015
Title: Encourage a Renewed Commitment to the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention encourage the dioceses of The Episcopal Church to urge their congregations and institutions to pray for our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East; to visit the Christian congregations in the Holy Land; to receive visitors from the Holy Land; to work for justice, peace, and reconciliation in the Holy Land with renewed commitment; and to urge elected officials and policy makers to seek solutions that will realize these goals for all.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 531-532.



Resolution Number: 1997-A107
Title: Recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of Both Israel and Palestine
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 72nd General Convention recognize Jerusalem as the seat of the Abrahamic peoples, acknowledge the historic presence of Jews, Palestinian Christians and Muslims and affirm:

1. **that Jerusalem should serve as the capital for two sovereign and independent states, Israel and Palestine;**
2. **the government of Israel should remove forthwith all roadblocks and obstacles preventing free access to Jerusalem for Palestinians;**
3. **the government of Israel should change its planning policies so that Palestinians have equal rights to build housing in Jerusalem and develop their institutions which have been restricted since 1967;**
4. **East Jerusalem, as an integral part of the occupied territories, should be included in all political arrangements relating to those territories, including self-determination, release of prisoners, right of return, and eventual sovereignty; and be it further**

Resolved, That this convention urge the government of the United States to use its diplomatic and economic influence in support of the above and to demonstrate a firm commitment to justice for Palestinians as it does for the security of the State of Israel; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Israel, the President of the Palestinian Authority and appropriate members of the Congress of the United States.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, 1997* (New York: General Convention, 1998), p. 181.

09 - National and International Concerns

A040

TOPIC/TITLE: International Relations: Single Sovereign State of Palestine
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with
Justice Concerns
C&C PAGE:
BB PAGE: 99

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention, commend to
2 the attention of the President and Congress the hope of the Palestinian people for a single
3 sovereign state, independent of the State of Israel, and created from territory in the West Bank
4 and Gaza, with Jerusalem serving as the capitol of both Israel and Palestine, and urges the
5 Administration's immediate and continuous engagement with representatives of Israel, Palestine,
6 the Arab League and other countries in the region to achieve a comprehensive and enduring peace
7 in the region and in the world.
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