

# Palestinian bid for statehood hampers a two-state solution

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advances the maximal Palestinian claims including the demand that Palestinian refugees be resettled inside Israel rather than in the new Palestinian state.

Abbas' U.N. bid also violates the past agreements between Israel and the Palestinian leadership in which we committed to solve our conflict by negotiation and compromise, rather than by forcing terms one on the other. The resolution will seek to define borders in a manner that makes half a million Israelis illegal residents and makes Israel's cities, airport and water sources almost impossible to defend. Once the resolution passes by their Palestinian automatic majority, Abbas has declared that he will seek legal action against Israel to enforce its terms in full. This is not the path to peace.

When the applause at the U.N. quiets down, when the festivities in Ramallah are over, the situation in the West Bank will remain much the same. Failing any security guarantees between us, the Israel Defense Forces will still be on patrol protecting Israel from terrorist infiltration. When the Palestinian public sees that the U.N. rhetoric does not match reality, the Palestinian Authority may face a violent and difficult to contain backlash, which will surely impact Israel and lead to clashes with our forces defending our population and cities. The resolution will also make returning to the table and achieving the needed compromise that much more difficult.

When Mahmoud Abbas addresses the U.N., it is my hope that he will pursue the true best interests of his own people, for this is intimately linked to the best interest of my own. The narrow piece of land on which we both live between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean can only be shared as a result of compromise, while the current Palestinian approach leads us nowhere. Only direct negotiations and a mutually agreed upon peace treaty can transform the lives of both our peoples for the better.



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Mahmoud Abbas

RESIDENT Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority has declared his determination to proceed with his appeal to the United Nations for recognition of a Palestinian statehood. Friday, if there is no last-minute change, Abbas will step on the podium of the U.N. General Assembly and unilaterally declare the establishment of an independent state of Palestine. For all decades, Israeli leaders have negotiated with Palestinians in order to reach a bitter struggle between peoples, one that will states living side by side to lasting peace, mission and security. Israel will vote "no" desire for a two-Palestinian bid. The initiative has been taken without any of the fundamental of the two sides on borders, security, recognition of Israel, but rather