



USA's Comprehensive Plan to End Gaza Conflict

For Prelims: [Gaza Strip](#), [Hamas](#), [Mediterranean Sea](#), [India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor](#), [Chabahar Port](#), [Haifa Port](#).

For Mains: The US President unveiled a 20-point Gaza Peace Plan titled “Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict” aimed at stabilizing the region, disarming Hamas, and rebuilding the Gaza strip.

[Source: IE](#)

Why in News?

The **US President** unveiled a **20-point Gaza Peace Plan** titled “**Comprehensive Plan to End the Gaza Conflict**” aimed at stabilizing the region, disarming Hamas, and rebuilding the [Gaza strip](#).

- While [Hamas](#) has **not yet accepted** the plan, it has been welcomed by several **Arab nations** and carries important implications for **regional stability** and **Indian interests**.

What are the Key Highlights of the USA's Gaza Peace Plan?

- **Disarmament and Surrender of Hamas:** The plan's core goal is the **disarmament of Hamas**, making Gaza a **terror-free zone**. Hamas members will receive **amnesty** for peaceful coexistence or **safe passage** to countries like **Jordan, Egypt, Qatar, and Iran**, with **no forced eviction** of Gaza residents.
- **International Security Force:** A temporary **International Stabilization Force (ISF)** will be deployed to **train Palestinian police** and **secure Gaza**.
 - The **Israeli Defense Forces (IDF)** will **withdraw** based on agreed **milestones**, maintaining only a “**security perimeter**”—a potential **buffer zone**—until the **threat** is neutralized.
- **A New Governance Structure:** Gaza will be governed by a temporary, “**technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee**” overseen by an international “**Board of Peace**,” to be chaired by **Trump** himself.
- **Humanitarian Aid and Hostage Exchange:** The plan mandates an immediate surge in **humanitarian aid** for **rebuilding infrastructure**.
 - A **hostage-prisoner swap** is also outlined: all **hostages** will be returned within **72 hours** of **Israel's acceptance**, in exchange for the release of **Palestinian prisoners**.
- **Regional Guarantees:** Many **muslim and Arab nations**, including **Qatar, Jordan, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan**, have jointly welcomed the plan, providing **regional backing** to ensure **compliance**.

Israel-Gaza Conflict

- **Historical Background:**
 - **Balfour Declaration (1917):** Issued by **Britain**, supporting the establishment of a **Jewish**

homeland in **Palestine**, heightening tensions between the **Jewish minority** and **Arab majority**.

- **Creation of Israel (1948):** Following a 1947 **UN proposal** to divide **Palestine**, **Jews** declared **Israel's independence**. **Arabs** rejected the plan, leading to multiple **Wars**.
- **1967 Middle East War:** **Israel** gained control of the **West Bank**, **Gaza**, and **East Jerusalem**, affecting about a **million Palestinians**.
- **Yom Kippur War (1973):** Led to the **Camp David Accords** (1978), where **Egypt** became the first **Arab country** to recognize **Israel**. **Israel** returned the **Sinai Peninsula** to **Egypt** in 1979 but retained control over the **West Bank**.
- **Location:** The **Gaza Strip** is a densely populated **coastal territory** in **west Asia**, measuring about **41 km in length** and **10 km in width**, located along the [Mediterranean Sea](#).
 - It shares borders with **Israel** to the north and east, and **Egypt** to the southwest.
- **Role of Gaza in Israel-Palestine conflict:** As a strategically important region, the **Gaza Strip** remains at the heart of the **Israeli-Palestinian conflict**, facing ongoing **humanitarian, political, and security challenges**.
 - The **United Nations** has officially declared a [famine in Gaza](#) following a sharp escalation of the [Israel-Hamas conflict](#), widespread **displacement**, and severe restrictions on **humanitarian and commercial food supplies**.





What Has Been India's Policy on the Israel-Palestine Conflict?

- **Historical Support for Palestine:** India was among the first **non-Arab countries** to recognize the **Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)** as the sole legitimate representative of the **Palestinian people** in **1974**. It also recognized the **State of Palestine** in **1988**.
- **Two-State Solution:** India has consistently advocated for a negotiated [two-state solution](#), emphasizing the establishment of a **sovereign, independent, and viable Palestinian state** alongside **Israel** within recognized borders. This position is reflected in its **voting patterns at the United Nations**.
- **De-hyphenation Policy:** India has consciously moved to treat **Israel** and **Palestine** as separate,

independent **relationships**, rather than a **zero-sum game** where support for one means opposition to the other.

- **Consistent Diplomatic Support:** India has actively supported Palestinian self-determination at the **UN General Assembly and UN Security Council**.
 - India voted in favor of Palestine's **UNESCO membership in 2011**, including contributions to the **United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA)**.
- **Developmental Cooperation:** India has provided **USD 141 million** in aid, including projects like the **Palestine-India Techno Park** and **Jawaharlal Nehru Secondary Schools** in Gaza.
 - India signed **Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)** like the rehabilitation of **Yasser Arafat Square** and the **solar grid system in Nablus**.
- **Strategic Importance for India:** India's engagement with Israel and Palestine supports its **energy security** and **economic ties** with the Middle East, while fostering **regional stability**



ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT

The Israel-Palestine conflict is a long-standing geopolitical dispute over territory and self-determination in the Middle East.

BEGINNING

- UN adopted **Resolution 181** – the Partition Plan in 1947
- State of Israel created in 1948, sparking the **first Arab-Israeli War** (Israel won)
 - Palestinians displaced
 - Division of territory into – State of Israel, West Bank and Gaza Strip

INITIAL TENSIONS AND CONFLICTS (1956-1979)

- Suez Crisis** and Israeli **invasion of Sinai Peninsula** in 1956
- Six-Day War (1967)** – Israel gained control over Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, East Jerusalem and Golan Heights

Controversy over Jerusalem as Capital

- Israel view:** Complete and united Jerusalem
- Palestinians view:** East Jerusalem future capital

- Yom Kippur War (1973)** – Surprise attack by Egypt and Syria
- Camp David Accords (1979)** b/w Egypt and Israel

Intifada (Arabic for 'shake off')

- First Intifada** – 1987 to 1993
 - Led to the foundation of Hamas (1987) – a Palestinian political party designated as a foreign terrorist org by US
 - Response – **Madrid Conference 1991** (chaired by the US and Russia)
- Second Intifada** – 2000-2005
- The latest escalation (2023) is being called the beginning of "Third Intifada"

OSLO ACCORDS (MEDIATED BY US)

- First (1993)**
 - Estd framework for **Palestinian self-governance** in West Bank and Gaza
 - Enabled mutual recognition between Israel and Palestine

Second (1995)

- Expanded on Oslo I Accords
- Mandated **complete Israeli withdrawal** from several cities and towns in **West Bank**

POST 2000 CONFLICT AND RESPONSES

- 2013** – US-led peace process began
- 2014-18** – Gaza Conflict (2014)
 - Palestine announced break from territorial divisions under Oslo Accords (2015)
- 2018-20** – US Cancelled funding for Palestinian refugees under UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)
 - US proposed **"Peace to Prosperity"** plan
- 2020** – **Abraham Accords**
- 2022-2023:**
 - Israel raids on **Jenin refugee camp**
 - Hamas launched **"Operation Al-Aqsa Flood"** and Israel launched **"Operation Iron Swords"** (both in 2023)
 - Israel declared a **State of War**
 - India's Stand:**
 - Supports a **Two State solution** for Israel and Palestine
 - Condemned the recent attack** by Hamas on Israel



Conclusion

US's 20-point Gaza Peace Plan, if successfully implemented, could stabilize the **region**,

ensure **diaspora safety**, and bolster **India's energy** and **economic interests**. However, challenges like **Hamas acceptance**, **Iran's exclusion**, and **Pakistan's involvement** create **strategic uncertainties**. **India** must carefully navigate **regional dynamics** to safeguard its **long-term projects** and **strategic interests**.

Drishti Mains Question:

Examine the implications of the Gaza Peace Plan for India's strategic, economic, and diaspora interests.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the Gaza Peace Plan?

It is a 20-point US proposal by Trump to stabilize Gaza, disarm Hamas, rebuild infrastructure, and ensure regional security.

2. What role will international forces play in Gaza?

A temporary International Stabilization Force (ISF) will train Palestinian police, secure Gaza, and oversee IDF withdrawal.

3. How will Gaza be governed under the plan?

A technocratic, apolitical Palestinian committee, supervised by the Board of Peace chaired by Trump, will run Gaza temporarily.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries? (2017)

1. Jordan
2. Iraq
3. Lebanon
4. Syria

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Ans: (c)

Q. The term "two-state solution" is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of (2018)

- (a) China
- (b) Israel

(c) Iraq

(d) Yemen

Ans: (b)

Mains

Q. "India's relations with Israel have, of late, acquired a depth and diversity, which cannot be rolled back." Discuss. **(2018)**

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/usa-comprehensive-plan-to-end-gaza-conflict>

