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**The Role of The Jewish Lobby in Shaping The American Political
Attitudes Towards The Palestinian Cause**

**Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Master's Degree in Literature and Civilization**

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Dedication

This dissertation is dedicated to:

Our beloved parents, who are our pride and the reason for our lives, thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and support. We are forever indebted to you for accompanying us throughout our studies.

To our families, teachers, and close friends for their motivation, incredible help, and belief in us.

To all the people who left a special touch in our hearts, thank you.

We dedicate this work to our land, Palestine, which has endured greatly and continues to resist to this day.

﴿وَأَنْتَ لَيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَىٰ وَأَنْتَ سَعِيَهُ سَوْفَ يَرَىٰ﴾

Soundes & Isra

Acknowledgements

This research would not have been possible without the invaluable participation and cooperation of numerous individuals, some of whose names may not be disclosed here. Foremost, all praise goes to the Almighty Allah for giving us the strength, ability, and patience to complete this dissertation. Further, we are very grateful to our dear supervisor, Mister Tarek SEMMARI, for his constant support, recommendations, and advice, as well as his patience with us. We owe our Master's degree to his encouragement and efforts. We would also like to thank the administrative team for their support and assistance. Next, we appreciate the willingness of the members of the jury to review and evaluate this work. Our special thanks and gratitude go to all the teachers who taught us under their guidance. Nonetheless, with all of the above assistance, we assume full responsibility for all the errors and mistakes made in this dissertation.

Abstract

This dissertation investigates the Jewish lobby in America and its influence on dictating foreign policy. It begins by studying the origins of this minority group through a comprehensive explanation of the Jewish presence in America and its relation with Israel. The aim of this study is to understand the reasons that made the strength of Jewish lobbying, hence the unique interaction between these interest groups and the American government. The first step is to demonstrate the significance of lobbying in the United States and the necessity of its existence to complete the democratic process. Explaining the unique nature of Jewish lobbying and its power in reaching and gaining access to American government officials is inseparable. The main issue discussed in this research is the immense privileges that Jewish lobbies are favored with, unlike other ethnic-based interest groups in the American political scene. The study of lobbying in general and in America specifically will enable us to explore its origins and aims through an analysis of different political theories. In addition to the historical evolution, examining Jewish lobbying strategies and tactics will help to understand clearly the Jewish methods of influencing American decision-making offices, both domestically and internationally. Investigating Jewish lobby organizations and Jewish distinctiveness in response to unique conditions makes us more intrigued about the true relationship between America and Israel. Moreover, the impact of public opinion on the Palestinian cause may put the latter relationship in a critical situation, especially regarding its foreign policy-making with the Middle East and Israel's allies.

Keywords: Foreign Policy, Interest Groups, Jewish Lobby, Policymakers

United States.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIPAC	The American Israel Public Affairs Committee
AJC	The American Jewish Committee
AZC	The American Zionist Council
AZCPA	The American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs
BIRD	The Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation
FTA	Free-Trade Agreement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
JEDG	Joint Economic Development Group
JINSA	Jewish National Security Affairs Institute
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PR	Public Relation
QME	Qualitative Military Edge
UAE	The United Arab Emirates
UN	The United Nations
US	The United States
WINEP	Washington Institute for Near East Policy

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General Introduction

1. Background of the study

William Shakespeare's tragedy, *Macbeth*, showed a wonderful reality about existence. The insight applies not just to humans, but also to the world's superpowers and masterminds who cause countries to dance on the stage they have created. Two discrete variables in this study, the United States and the Israeli masterminds, are also two personalities on the world stage who fit perfectly into the above lines. This will unravel as the study progresses. Israeli-U.S. relationship is undoubtedly a contentious issue (Jukes, 2010), it is therefore important that it is dealt with straightforwardly. It is historically precise that Israel became the bully of the Middle East, starting even before May 15, 1948, when it declared itself a state (Bacon, 2007). Paul Findley, a member of the US House of Representatives, claimed, "There is an open secret in Washington that all members vow to serve the interests of the United States, but there is an unwritten and overwhelming exception: The interests of one small foreign country almost always subsidizes United States interests. That nation of course is Israel" (Findley, 2007).

America's foreign policy was primarily focused on its national interests. However, this has tragically changed particularly since the Six-Day War, when the US-Israel connection became the central focus of US Middle East policy. The combination of consistent US backing for Israel and efforts to extend democracy throughout the region has incited Arabs and indirectly threatened US security" (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2007).

Although it is reasonable to believe that the two countries are strategically linked due to shared strategic goals, other factors have a significantly greater influence.

"The overall thrust of U.S. policy in the region is due almost entirely to U.S. domestic politics and especially to the activities of the Israel Lobby"(Mearsheimer & Walt, 2007).

Lobbying is authorized within US legislative bodies, with some officially representing their clients, therefore groups and societies have been able to sway foreign policy. The Israeli lobby has successfully diverted attention away from the United States' national interests while

convincing Americans that their interests are mutual. their displaced people did not return to their homeland.

2. Statement of the Problem

The reason why we are proceeding with this research is to show the amount of pressure exerted by the Jewish interest groups upon American officials and politicians and whether they have really succeeded in dictating US foreign policy in favor of the land to settle a Jewish state despite all the objections from Arab nationalism. The effect of the Jewish lobby upon US foreign policy is not only a topic of research; in other words, it may not bring about an extraordinary discovery. However, we seek to know to what extent these lobby groups affect foreign policymaking and, most dangerously, international decisions. Also, we would provide our research with a detailed explanation of the development and power of the Jewish lobby in America and not in any other country.

3. Research Questions

The current study seeks to provide conclusive answers to the following questions:

- What is the historical role of the Jewish lobby in shaping US policy towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?
- How has the Jewish lobby influenced American political attitudes towards the Palestinian cause?

4. Research Hypothesis

To answer the questions of this research we suggest the following hypotheses:

- The Jewish lobby has played a significant role in shaping US policy.
- There is a possibily correlation between the activities of the Jewish lobby and American public opinion on the Palestinian Cause.

5. Research Objectives

Many political scientists are interested mainly in studying the Jewish activism around American foreign policy. However, if we look deeply at the issue of lobbying in general, we find it very difficult and unclear to study, similar to any topic that contains a social aspect to be investigated. So here, we are compelled to collect data that is mostly not publicly available.

Also, research is underway to examine, most of the time, to what extent these interest groups, most of them Jews, are influencing the American government. Thus, the study was conducted to prove the direct influence of lobby groups on US policymaking.

6. Research Methodology

This study is qualitative in nature. It adopts historical, descriptive, and analytical methods. Therefore, the data for the study is collected through books, articles, journals, and theses.

In the first chapter, historical and descriptive methods are used to investigate the historical context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This would provide us with generalizations and deductions through which we would better understand the past, and why not today's issues? In the second chapter, the descriptive method is used to explore the political theories on interest group influence in order to have a clear idea about political lobbying, its types, and how lobbyists engage in their activities at different levels of government. The third and final chapter adopts an analytical method to analyze political contributions and financial influence. Thus, by the end of the third chapter, we have a clearer picture of Jewish lobbying in the US and its far-reaching influence on its foreign policy towards Israel and the surrounding Arab countries.

7. Significance of the Study

It is known that relations between the US and Israel have always been in harmony; why not if Israel is the spoiled child of America? Furthermore, this research's importance lies in its contribution to the existing knowledge about the political interactions between America and Jewish lobbies, who in fact are considered Israeli unregistered foreign policy agents. This would create a kind of mutually beneficial relationship between the two countries.

8. Structure of the Study

This work would be threefold. The first two chapters are theoretical, while the third is practical. The first chapter, untitled "A historical context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict", represents an overview of the Israeli-Palestinian tension and focuses more attention on the early relations between the US and Israel and different information about the formation and evolution of the Jewish lobby in the US. The second chapter, entitled political theories on interest group influence. It explores the different strategies and tactics of that influencing group. The third chapter analyzes the application of theories. Besides, it examines the political contributions and financial support to Israel.

CHAPTER ONE: A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE
ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

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Introduction

For many decades in the history of armed warfare, the Israeli-Palestinian dispute has been one of the longest-discussed struggles in the Middle East. As with many complex issues, understanding the root of this conflict requires a journey into the annals of history.

The Israeli-Palestinian issue dates back nearly a century, when Britain, during World War II, pledged to establish a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine under the Balfour Declaration. After its establishment, there was a lot of resistance among the Arab population. Palestinians say that in 1948 they were forced to leave their homes and lands by the Jewish movements. At that time, the United Nations said that the land of Palestine should be divided into two states: an Israeli and an Arab state. However, the Arabs refuse the proposal because they believe that Palestine is of Arab origin. The majority of the Jewish people came back to live in the land of Palestine after the establishment of Israel. However, the borders of Israel did not stay within the 1948 lands and turned later to include the 1967 occupied lands of Palestine. Since 1967, the conflict has started to become more serious between the two, especially after the October 7, 2023, bloody attack between both sides. And today, after several attempts to solve the conflict through peace, both people still cannot solve the intense conflict. Both Israelis and Palestinians prefer to say that the reason for the conflict is related to the land itself, history, and patriotism.

The unrest spiraled out of control and sparked the biggest Middle East conflict. In early October 2023, a war broke out between Israel and Hamas, the militant Islamic group that has controlled Gaza since 2006, in the most significant escalation of Israeli-Palestinian conflict in several years. Thus, one day after the 7th attack, the Israeli cabinet formally declared war against Hamas, followed by military defense to carry out a “complete siege” of Gaza. Since then, the two sides have traded daily rocket fire. In

light of this, the first chapter attempts to shed light on the tension in relations between Israel and Palestine as well as the contentious issues that have exacerbated their conflict. This chapter contains two important sections. It discusses early relations between the United States and Israel. It also looks into the US political, economic, and geostrategic situation and examines Israel's political and economic position. The part also covers the formation of the Jewish lobby in the US. The chapter concludes with the gradual evolution of the Jewish lobby in the United States.

1.1 Early Relations Between the U.S and Israel:

Comparable only to that which it has with Britain over a wide range of world affairs, President John F. Kennedy said in private to Israeli Foreign Minister Golda Meir in 1962 "The United States has a special relationship with Israel in the Middle East, really. The same statement was made in public by President Jimmy Carter fifteen years later: "We have a special relationship with Israel" (Little,1993). It is vitally important that no one in our nation or anywhere else in the globe ever question that defending Israel's right to exist—permanently and peacefully—is our top priority in the Middle East. Both sides generally accept the idea that Kennedy and Carter recognized that Israel and the United States shared a unique connection. The strength of the U.S.-Israel alliance have been influenced by moral, political, and strategic considerations. The United States' support for Israel took decades to change from "a moral stance" to considering it as a "strategic asset" to embracing "strategic cooperation."

The United States backed Israel's establishment in 1948 due to humanitarian concerns arising from the Holocaust as well as lobbying efforts by American Jews. Israel started attempting to present itself as an ally of the United States in the 1950s, citing their shared Judeo-Christian cultural history and status as liberal democracies. Israel was viewed as a Cold War-era strategic ally of US power in the Middle East by the middle of the 1960s (Little,1993). As the Palestinian "people's wars of national liberation"

against Israel were supported by the Soviet Union, the latter armed the Arab nationalist republics. Israel made repeated attempts in the ensuing decades to show that it was united with the US in fighting regional instability that could jeopardize US interests. In addition, Israel attempted to project an image of a liberal democracy even while it was still occupying areas it had won in the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and the emergence of tensions and instability in the Middle East as a result of the 2003 US invasion of Iraq and the 2011 Arab Spring, as well as Israel's proficiency in homeland security and counterterrorism, served as another justification for U.S.-Israel military-strategic collaboration. The interests of the United States and Israel are not the same, and there have been differences between the two nations about how to achieve both Israeli-Palestinian and Arab-Israeli peace, but the relationship's foundations are strong enough to weather storms that would threaten a weaker alliance (Bard & Pipes, 1997).

1.1.1 Political Relations

According to Bard and Pipes (1997), the two nations work together on a wide range of international issues in a fairly balanced manner. Naturally, the United States is Israel's major backer, providing billions to maintain Israeli-Egyptian peace and generally advocating for Israel's recognition across the globe. Furthermore, Israel also holds a great deal of power in Washington. Iran/Contra, the term for Washington's mid-1980s attempt to mend fences with Iran, started out as an Israeli initiative. Turkey's considerably better standing in the US than in Europe can be largely attributed to Israel's cordial relations with that country.

As it happens, vote patterns in the UN General Assembly provide a handy quantitative measure of how Israel differs from other American allies. When it comes to voting with the US most frequently, Israel has long since outperformed all other states. Based on data gathered by the United States government in 1996, Israel and Washington reached

a consensus on 95% of all key votes, far more than Latvia, which came in second, and other close allies of the United States, including the United Kingdom (79%), France (78%), Canada (73%) and Japan (72%) (Bard & Pipes,1997). In contrast, only 45% of votes cast by Kuwait, were with the US. Generally, Israel is one of the few states that supports Washington. For instance, only Israel and Romania joined the United States when the UN, by a vote of 59 to 3 with 79 abstentions, rejected the Torricelli Bill in November 1992, which outlawed overseas subsidiaries of American corporations from trading with Cuba (Bard & Pipes,1997).

1.1.2 Economic Relations:

Bard and Pipes (1997) states that the United States and Israel are now highly interconnected due to the expansion of aid programs, commerce, cooperative efforts, and American engagement in the Israeli economic system.

Firstly, the partnership was likewise delayed to begin in the financial domain. Over the 25 years between 1949 and 1973, the U.S. government gave Israel a total of \$3.2 billion in aid; in the 23 years after 1974, Israel has received approximately \$75 billion, making it by far the highest receiver per capita (Bard & Pipes,1997). The United States' readiness to give aid to Israel is no longer solely motivated by need, as Israel has grown into a wealthy nation with a personal income that rivals that of Great Britain. As an alternative, aid is strongly linked to the peace process today, and any suggestion of cutting it is met with resistance on the grounds that it jeopardizes Israel's self-confidence and, consequently, its readiness to take risks for peace. Because of this, American assistance to Israel is unique. Even though there are more people expressing doubts about aid continuing, particularly among conservatives in both nations, it is still a cornerstone of relations between them.

Secondly, in 1985, the United States and Israel signed the first free-trade agreement (FTA), allowing Israel access to the American market. This deal acted as a template for

other accords with Mexico and Canada. Everybody agreed on the Israeli FTA in spite of political opposition. In 1995, the two-way commerce reached over \$11 billion, with American exports to Israel having doubled over the previous ten years. (Bard & Pipes,1997).

Thirdly, to promote cooperative research and development between the US and Israel, governments have set up organizations like the Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation (BIRD). Thousands of jobs have been created in the US and over \$4.5 billion in sales and tax revenues have been generated by the approximately 400 high-tech projects that BIRD has financed. (Bard & Pipes,1997).

The American-Israeli Joint Economic Development Group (JEDG) was established by Secretary of State George Shultz in 1984 as a means of tackling Israel's economic problems, which included high rates of inflation and unemployment. The creation of Israel's economic stabilization strategy, which included devaluing the shekel, tightening controls over the money supply, and cutting spending, was greatly aided by the JEDG. Reagan launched an emergency aid program worth \$1.5 billion, preventing the collapse of the Israeli economy and promoting its recovery. Ten years later, Israel's strong development rate can be attributed to these actions. The negotiations with Israel are still ongoing, as seen by the 1996 accords to accelerate privatization and grow the capital market. (Bard & Pipes,1997).

Middle Eastern nation of Israel has been working with the US to formulate its macroeconomic strategy. Without much resistance, the U.S. Treasury gave Israel \$3 billion in non-emergency economic and military aid in addition to financial support. In contrast to Mexico's previous experience, Israel's exceptional cooperation with the United States underscores the nation's desire to work with the United States to stabilize its economies. (Bard & Pipes,1997).

1.1.3 Strategic Relations

As Bard and Pipes (1997) argues that the United States and Israel had tense military relations from 1948 until the middle of the 1960s, as the Pentagon and State Department opposed arming Israel with American weapons. They were worried that it might spark an arms race in the Middle East by encouraging Arabs to demand more weaponry. The goal of the Baghdad Pact was to unite the Middle East in opposition to the Soviet Union. In 1962, however, the Kennedy administration gave Israel permission to purchase HAWK anti-aircraft missiles with the intention of preventing any Middle Eastern state from acquiring a military superiority.

Israel now has a military edge over its neighbors thanks to changes in US policy made after the 1967 conflict. After Lyndon Johnson agreed to sell Israel Phantom jets in 1968, the United States became Israel's main arms supplier (The Washington Post, 1979). But rather than U.S. security interests, these purchases were motivated by domestic political concerns and Israel's requirements. According to US authorities, Israel lacked the military power to support NATO's containment strategy. The Nixon administration asked Israel to support King Husayn of Jordan, and as a result, the United States started to acknowledge Israel's significance in the Middle East in 1970. By permitting Israel to sell military hardware to the US and take part in sporadic joint drills, the Carter administration established strategic relations. Ronald Reagan stressed Israel's vital significance in the strategic calculations of the United States and considered it as a possible cold war contributor. The policy of the Reagan administration, which sought to thwart Moscow's plans for strategic areas and resources, was generally in line with this perspective. (The Washington Post, 1979).

All in all, Israel and the US have deepened their strategic partnership since the establishment of the Joint Anti-Terrorism Working Group in 1996. This outfit provides Israel with real-time missile warnings in addition to a Pentagon hotline. Israel's research

and production of armaments and military hardware is still supported financially by the United States. The numerous agreements and military-to-military contacts between two states create a unique web of connections, possibly unique for countries without a mutual defense treaty (Bard & Pipes, 1997).

To conclude, there are several other links between the two nations; these are only a few of the more prominent ones. For instance, more Israelis than any other nationality have close relatives living in the US, which contributes to the country's high level of familiarity. The only nation where Americans can maintain their U.S. citizenship while holding public office is Israel. The Israeli ambassador was the first foreign official with whom the Clinton transition team had formal contact in 1992. Middle Eastern politics permeate American public life so thoroughly, particularly in New York City.

1.2 Formation and Evolution of the Jewish Lobby in United States

A plethora of political scientists have produced extensive historical, sometimes technical, and empirical works about the subject of Jewish lobbying, with a primary focus on Jewish involvement in relation to US foreign policy. But like any subject having social components, a detailed analysis of the lobbying issue as a whole reveals that it is extremely difficult and ambiguous to analyze. Because they are compelled to obtain data that is usually inaccessible to the general public, writers in this field usually turn to historical event analysis in order to make inferences and offer insights into a certain subject. Among the writers in this specific field is Richard A. Smith, who has written a historical book titled *“Interest Group Influence in the US Congress (1995)”*, trying to gather as much evidence and literature as possible to prove the direct influence of lobby groups on U.S. policymaking. When doing so, the writer discusses each branch at a time, its tendency to be influenced by those lobby groups, and via which strategy. Also, Tony Smith among other authors, attempted to explore the American context that housed these interest groups and enabled their existence and operations in his book

Foreign Attachments: The Power of Ethnic Groups in the Making of American Foreign Policy (2000). Understanding the larger picture of lobbying in America and the conditions under which it has developed and thrived depends on reading the literature that addresses this type of analysis. Other authors who cover lobbying are typically far more technical in their analysis of this political issue. One author who has focused on discussing lobbying from a technical standpoint is Anthony J. Nownes. It is unique in that it covers a wide range of topics related to lobbying the various departments of government and the different types of lobbying that can be used based on the needs and goals of individual groups. But before delving into details, it is important to understand what a lobby is.

1.2.1 Definition of Israel Lobby

Various types of interest groups play an essential role in the development of US foreign policy. Among them are ethnic lobbying groups. McCormick (2012) claims that racial groups, as they have been referred as, are the oldest foreign policy lobby. These organizations' primary goal is to shape US foreign policy to reflect the concerns and interests of their native countries. Ethnic lobbies, in particular, have a strong influence on decision-making.

American ethnic lobbyists and foreign lobbyists have close connections to other groups, and these groups pressure the US government to exercise effective influence over decision-making and decision-makers on behalf of another country. McCormick argues that foreign lobbyists frequently support the actions of ethnic groups. When foreign lobbyists agree on key topics, they provide huge support to American ethnic lobbyists. American ethnic lobbyists were generously rewarded for directing foreign lobbyists' issues to Capitol Hill or the White House (McCormick, 2012).

The list of American ethnic lobbyists is large, although their involvement and effectiveness vary greatly. According to James M., racial pressure in the American

political system has a lengthy history. Jewish, Irish, and Orientalist European lobbyists have historically been the most effective since they frequently attempt to influence foreign policy and actions that may endanger their interests (McCormick, 2012, p. 70).

In recent decades, new ethnic pressure groups have developed, including Arab lobby groups. It is also known as African lobby, Turkish lobby, or Mexican lobby. As the name suggests, this type of interest group focuses mostly on the United States' foreign policy and decision-making toward its country of origin. For example, Turkish lobbyists are concerned about US policies against Turkey (McCormick, 2012, p. 70).

Due to their limited scope of curiosity and movement, ethnic lobbyists paint with increasing strength, aspiration, and exhilaration. It cannot be argued that some ethnic groups have greater influence and management than others. As of now, the Jewish campaign is the most grounded ethnic group in the United States of America on issues concerning the distant association of the United States and the Middle East, the most pressing of which is Israel's security in the region. In their book *The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy*, John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt define the Jewish lobby as "a loose coalition of individuals and organizations that actively work to shape US policy in a pro-Israel direction" (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2010, p. 112).

1.2.2 Birth of the Jewish Lobby

The Israel lobby in the United States emerged not only from American needs and desires, but also from violence and division in a foreign country. This lobbying effort took place in a variety of locations, including Washington, DC and New York, as well as Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Jordan's occupied West Bank in Palestine. In the years immediately following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, the most passionate protectors of Israel in the United States were Jews, many of whom self-identified as Zionists. They couldn't ignore Israeli leaders' actions and demands, which occasionally crossed boundaries to intervene forcibly in American Jewish issues, and

had far-reaching consequences for the US government's foreign relations. At the same time, the internal dynamics of American Jewish life, as well as the complicated contacts between American Jews and Israeli leaders, shaped and influenced the formation of the Israel lobby (Cambridge,2018).

Moreover, the American "lobby for Israel," as I. L. Kenen described it, has been a source of great interest at least since the 1980s, but its true history, in particular its origins in the early 1950s, remains unclear (Gainesville,1993).

Kenen led the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) for two decades, making it the lobby's most well-known entity. The organization's original name was the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs (AZCPA), and it began activities in 1954. There is a wealth of great work on US-Israel ties throughout the 1950s (Yaqub & Salim, 2004).

The U.S. Israel lobby has its roots in Canada. with 1926, Isaiah L. Kenen left Toronto for Cleveland, where he worked as a journalist and grew increasingly involved with Zionism. In 1941, he was the president of the Cleveland Zionist District. Throughout the 1940s, he worked as the information director for the Jewish Agency and, later, the Israeli representation to the UN. Kenen went to Washington in 1951 to help the Jewish state lobby for economic and military assistance from the United States. Kenen was the American Zionist Council's Washington representative from 1951 to 1953. (Clark & Victoria, 2007).

Kenen established the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs (AZCPA) in 1954 to serve as a pro-Israel lobby with control and funding separate from the American Zionist Council. Its early years were fraught with bureaucratic conflict. "Its 1959 name change to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee isolated the Zionist Organization of America, one of the first official Zionist organizations in the United States and an important representative to the World Zionist Organization"

(Melvin,1995,p.88), which felt that AIPAC risked surrendering control to Jews who were willing to help fund Jewish charities, schools, developed between AZPAC/AIPAC and the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, created in 1954 but regarded by Kenen as irresolute on subjects of critical importance to Israel "because it could not move on any issue unless it had a consensus." They would only begin to work routinely after 1967, when the Six-Day War altered American perceptions of Israel's strength and relevance (Kenen,1982).

AIPAC expanded from a one-man show to an organization with several dozen employees, a budget of more than \$60 million, and more than 100,000 members (AIPAC.2019). Since Kenen's retirement in 1974, four men have influenced the organization's growth. AIPAC is far from homogenous. Despite the fact that the "Gang of Four staked out hawkish positions on Israel policy, many in AIPAC's leadership were liberal Democrats more inclined to compromise." (Goldberg,1996,pp.225–6).

Internal resistance remains. Beginning in the 1990s, liberal Jewish organizations declared that AIPAC supported the right and was not representative of the majority of American Jews' opinions on Israeli affairs. They further claimed that AIPAC preferred Republican candidates over Democratic candidates for electoral office. Such internal divisions have not harmed AIPAC's reputation as an influential and effective lobbying organization.

1.3 Israel Lobby Organizations

The Jewish Lobby is already an international organization because it is an non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to supporting all communities worldwide and providing guidance to other small NGOs. Their ideologies differ, but they are united in their belief in the importance of global political and social equality.

Lobbyist groups can be both formal and informal. Members of these organizations pursue their interests using a variety of 67 methods including media broadcasting,

student outreach, election campaign sponsorship, and lobbying individual politicians. The Jewish lobby is a group of people and organizations that are open, legitimate, sophisticated, and strongly involved in influencing policy in favor of Israel. (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2010).

Moreover, Jewish lobby groups have a diverse spectrum of interests, including political, economic, social, religious, educational, and others. The largest Jewish lobby organizations include AIPAC (American Israel Public Affairs Committee), AJC (American Jewish Committee), and the Evangelical Group. In theory, the Jewish lobby has something in common: it seeks to realize the Israeli nation's goals in the national interest.

However, Jewish lobby organizations apply these tenets in various ways, such as AIPAC, whose majority of members are Republicans, and Orthodox Jews, who favor Israel's total dominance of the Palestinian lands. Meanwhile, J Street and other Jewish lobbying organizations associated with the Democratic Party support the two-state solution. The Jewish Lobby includes individuals and movements that are not limited to Jewish groups or Jewish organizations. The Zionist stage was increasingly effective in supporting Israel, and the Evangelical Christian Zionist lobby in the United States permeated the Republican Party, which dominated Congress, resulting in the most powerful lobbying arrangements in 1990. (Fateh & Zoubir, 2022).

The Jewish lobby's influence has grown considerably after the election of Donald Trump to the presidency of the United States. First and foremost, it is because President Donald Trump's team includes many pro-Israel individuals. For example, David Friedman, the US Ambassador to Israel, and Jared Kushner, the president's son-in-law and top advisor, are both prominent supporters of pro-Israel policy.

1.3.1 American Jewish Committee (AJC)

The AJC is the world's leading Jewish advocacy organization. From city hall to Capitol Hill, at the United Nations, and in world capitals, the AJC works to shape policy and opinion on some of the most pressing issues confronting Jews. With daring ideas and an unrivaled track record, AJC combats anti-Semitism and all forms of bias, supporting Israel's global influence and protecting democratic ideals (AJC.2013). AJC owns several of the top mass media outlets in the United States, as well as government officials, successful businesses, bank owners, police officers, political parties, and labor unions (AJC.2013).

Every year, the AJC meets with more than half of the senior government officials from the 193 UN member countries. The AJC changes policy on essential issues through long-term strategic diplomacy and contact with key decision-makers. (AJC.2013). The AJC, like the Jewish lobby in general, views Iran as a threat to Israel; they consistently come out to the world community to reject and aggressively fight against Iran and its policies that endanger Israel.

It is obvious that the AJC has affected many countries, particularly the Arab and Islamic worlds, by portraying Iran as a government that supports terrorism and endangers the world's security.

Some Gulf countries, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain, have terrible relations with Iran. In this case, the UAE has succumbed to Jewish propaganda and ideological or sectarian divisions as the premise for claiming that Iran is a threat and that Israel and the UAE share common interests in normalization. The AJC's support for UAE-Israel normalization is reflected by the following statements:

“AJC celebrates today's historic peace agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates. Having engaged with states in the Arabian Gulf and throughout the Arab world for decades, we hope this opens the door to further agreements between Israel and her Arab neighbors.”
(middleeastmonitor.2013).

1.3.2 American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC)

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) created in 1959 by Isaiah L. Kenen, a Canadian-born Jewish journalist, during the Eisenhower Administration. (Bard,2007,p.207). Previously known as The American Zionist Council (AZC), the organization was created in 1951 as an officially recognized foreign lobbying group with a concentration on the executive branch. From 1953 to 1954, the name was changed to the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs (AZCPA). This was done in order to direct all resources and persons involved in all lobbying activities within the United States government. Kenen also increased his lobbying efforts to the United States legislature and broadened the scope of the AZCPA to promote long-term aid, economic growth, and national defense policies for Israel (Caverly,2014,p.3).

The Jewish lobby registered as the Capitol Hill Lobby and extended its activities. AIPAC's first objective is to ensure strong collaboration between the United States and Israel by giving military and economic assistance to Israel. In addition to that, AIPAC activists work with Congressional candidates to elect candidates whose views match the desired model of US-Israel relations through debates on Israel-related issues. Therefore, those who support the Preferred Relationship Program have the opportunity to receive financial assistance. The Israel Lobby influences lawmakers in other ways. (Olegovna, 2020).

AIPAC is the most powerful Jewish lobby in the United States, making it impossible for the President, Senators, and House of Representatives to oppose its lobbying efforts. AIPAC encourages the US government to support Israeli interests such as recognizing illegal Jewish settlements in the West Bank, making all Israeli actions legal, relocating the US embassy to Jerusalem, facilitating the Abraham Accord, and promoting the sale of advanced weapons such as the F-35, an expensive stealth fighter jet. Although the sale of the F-35 has been controversial, AIPAC strongly supports the transaction. Marshall Wittman, a spokesman for the AIPAC Jewish organization, stated:

"We do not oppose the proposed arms sale to the UAE, given the peace agreement reached between Israel and the UAE as well as the agreement reached between the US and Israel to ensure that Israel's Qualitative Military Edge (QME) will not be adversely impacted by the sale." (middleeastmonitor.2013).

AIPAC has obtained two of its top lobbying targets on Capitol Hill, including legislation that will expand the Abraham Deal. AIPAC, which consists of 18 senators, presented the Israel Relations Normalization Act. This would necessitate the Biden administration seeking to expand the Abraham Accord to countries that have not yet established relations with the close US partner. The Normalizing Relations with Israel Act is one of five primary issues on AIPAC's agenda. The bill would force the State Department, the Pentagon, and the US Agency for International Development to coordinate efforts to encourage other countries to normalize relations with Israel (Harris,2021). The law requires the State Department to report a strategy to Congress that includes a "detailed description" of how the US government might use diplomatic authority to convince other countries to establish relations with Israel (Harris,2021).

1.3.3 Think Thank

Another type of the Jewish lobby is the Think Thank. Think thank and public opinion groups are analytical organizations that execute public policy research, analysis, and policy-oriented suggestions on national and international topics, allowing decision makers and the general public to make judgments based on decision makers' needs. Think thanks can be associated or independent institutions, they have evolved from ad hoc groups into permanent institutions. These institutions typically serve as bridges between scholars and decision-making societies, as well as between the state and civil society, and provide independent voices for the public interest by transforming basic and applied research into understandable, reliable, and easy-to-understand research for decision-makers and the general public (onthinktanks.2024).

According to John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt's book *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy* (2007), pro-Israel forces dominate American think thanks, which have a significant impact on public debate and policy. Capitol Hill established its research center in 1985, when Martin Indyk helped launch the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (WINEP). Although WINEP minimized its relations with Israel and claimed to give a "balanced and realistic" assessment of the Middle East conflict, this is not the case. In truth, WINEP is sponsored and operated by individuals who are committed to supporting the Israeli agenda. (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2007,p. 20).

The lobby's impact in the sphere of think tanks much exceeds WINEP. Over the last 25 years, pro-Israel forces established up command structures at the American Enterprise Institute, Brookings Institution, Security Policy Center, Foreign Policy Institute, Heritage Foundation, Hudson Institute, and Foreign Policy Institute. Analysis of the Jewish National Security Affairs Institute (JINSA). These think tanks are definitely pro-Israel, and few critics agree with American backing for the Jewish state. (Mearsheimer & Walt,pp.20-21).

Conclusion

As this chapter has shown, the Israeli lobby is a collaboration of several interest groups that are politically, economically, and religiously engaged in the United States. The Zionist lobby is particularly active in the United States, with areas of influence including Congress, presidential elections, and the media. We cannot say that these forces are supporting Israel's interests. The various groups that form the Jewish lobby have differing reasons for supporting Israel. It is often assumed that the majority of Jews in the United States support Israel as a Jewish state simply because they are Jewish. This perspective is regarded as a reality, or, more broadly, a law.

This, however, is debatable. It is critical to explore the interests of the Jewish economic elite, which makes up a significant portion of the US economic elite. The idea is that while the mass of the Jewish community is religiously, philosophically, or emotionally devoted to Israel, this does not necessarily apply to the Jewish elite, whose support for Israel is motivated by interests rather than religion or feelings.

CHAPTER TWO: POLITICAL THEORIES ON INTEREST

GROUP INFLUENCE

Chapter Two: Political Theories on Interest Group Influence

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Introduction

This chapter discusses political theories on interest influence. Political theories offer contrasting views on how interest groups, which are associations of individuals or organizations advocating for a shared cause, impact government decisions. Pluralism sees them as promoting competition for influence, ensuring diverse voices are heard (Truman, 1951). Critics argue this overlooks the power imbalance between well-funded and less-resourced groups (Schattschneider, 1975). Elitism, in contrast, suggests a select few hold true power and use interest groups to advance their agendas (Mills, 1956). Neo-Marxists see this as a capitalist class controlling policy (Miliband, 1969). Other theories, like institutionalism, examine how formal structures shape interest group activity (Stone, 1996). These diverse perspectives highlight the complexity of interest group influence, its potential for both democratic participation and concentrated power.

Political theories concerning the influence of interest groups, particularly the Jewish lobby, center on their role in advocating for specific causes and shaping political decisions. As we mentioned before the Jewish lobby, composed of various organizations advocating for Jewish interests, has sparked debate. Some argue that the term "Jewish lobby" is interchangeable with the "Israel lobby," while others emphasize distinctions based on ethnicity and political agendas. Scholars like Mearsheimer and Walt (2007, 2009) have emphasized the impact of interest groups like the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on shaping U.S. foreign policy toward Israel.

2.1 Types of Political Theories on Interest Group Influence

Political theory is a branch of political science that examines the fundamental questions of politics, power, justice, and governance. It delves into historical and contemporary ideas about how societies should be organized, how power should be distributed, and what constitutes a just and legitimate political system (Dunn, 2007).

Interest groups, though common, have a strong influence on government. While some theories see them as positive forces for diverse voices (pluralism), others highlight the power imbalance favoring well-funded groups. There's also the idea of a privileged few using these groups for their own gain (elitism) or a capitalist class wielding undue control (neo-Marxism).

Simply put, political theory dives into the who, what, why, and how of governments. It explores what makes a good government, how power should be distributed, and, of course, to understand this vast field, we have a list of the main types of political theories.

First, Dahl's (1961) theory of **pluralism** envisions a society full of multiple groups of interests, each arguing for influence over government policy. These groups, representing an extensive spectrum of social, economic, and ideological perspectives, compete in an intellectual marketplace. The government serves as a neutral arbiter, ensuring that no single faction dominates. The best policies for the public are meant to emerge from this competition, as competing interests strike a balance. However, critics such as Bachrach and Baratz (1970) claim that pluralism ignores intrinsic power disparities. Wealthy or well-organized groups may wield excessive power, and the possibility of cooperation between interest groups and government officials raises questions about justice and accountability. Despite these limitations, pluralism provides an important framework for analyzing the function of interest groups in a democracy, highlighting the importance of citizen participation and the competition of ideas in shaping public policy.

Moreover, **pluralism** offers a dynamic perspective on how interest groups influence policy in democracies. Imagine a marketplace of ideas where diverse groups compete for the government's attention. The government acts as a neutral umpire, ensuring no single group dominates. Through this competition, the theory suggests, the best policies for the public good rise to the top. However, critics argue that powerful groups may hold an unfair advantage, and there's a risk of collusion between groups and government officials. Despite these limitations, pluralism highlights the importance of a bustling civil society and the clash of ideas for a healthy democracy to thrive (Bachrach & Baratz, 1970).

Second, **Informational** theories provide a unique perspective on lobbying power, emphasizing how interest groups employ knowledge as a weapon. These organizations are not primarily dependent on power or wealth. Instead, they offer legislators useful data, research, and expert testimony to help shape policy decisions (Austen et al., 1994). This "verifiable information" (Schnakenberg & Turner, 2019) is intended to educate policymakers about complicated issues and their potential implications (Groll & Ellis, 2020). Interest groups can also use "counteractive lobbying" (Austen et al., 1994) to contest opposing material or strategically target indecisive legislators with targeted information (jstor.org, 2019). However, there are concerns about confirmation bias among legislators (jstor.org, 2019) and the potential benefits special interests may have due to "asymmetric information" (Schnakenberg & Turner, 2019). Overall, informational theories emphasize the value of knowledge and skill in lobbying, but they also raise concerns about information access, openness, and potential conflicts between the public and special interests.

Third, we have the **Quid pro quo** theory based on the Latin phrase "something for something." Quid pro quo theories investigate corruption through the lens of a direct exchange between a public official and a person or an organization. Central to this concept is the idea that the official uses their position to provide a benefit, known as the "quo" (Latin for "that which"), in exchange for something of worth, the "quid" (Latin for "that which is given"). This "quid" can

include bribes, political favors, or whatever the official seeks (Greenawalt, 1983; Tulis, 1987). Quid pro quo theories highlight the intentionality of the exchange. The official must act knowing that their activity is contingent on obtaining the "quid," establishing a clear link between abuse of power and personal benefit. This focus on the explicit nature of the exchange distinguishes Quid pro quo from justifications that claim actions, even if benefiting the official, ultimately served the public good (Greenawalt, 1983).

2.2 The Role of Lobbying in Shaping Foreign Policy

Beyond official channels, lobbying acts as a powerful force in shaping US foreign policy. Interest groups, ranging from corporations to human rights organizations, engage in lobbying activities to influence the decisions of Congress and the Executive Branch (Kim & Milner, 2019). Through campaign contributions, informational briefings, and direct advocacy, these groups aim to align US foreign policy with their interests. While some argue this fosters a democratic exchange of ideas, concerns exist about the outsized influence of wealthy groups and the potential disconnect between lobbied interests and the national good (Beeson & Bloomfield, 2019). (Kim & Milner, 2019; Beeson & Bloomfield, 2019).

Lobbying groups have a substantial influence on decisions in the intricate environment of US foreign policy. These groups, which represent a broad range of interests from corporations to human rights organizations, actively shape policy through a variety of strategies (Kim & Milner, 2019). Their key strategies include campaign contributions, educational briefings for legislators, and direct advocacy efforts targeted at influencing congressional and executive branch decisions (Kim & Milner, 2019). The ultimate purpose of these lobbying efforts is to align US foreign policy with the specific interests of the organizations they represent.

Moreover, Lobbying advocates claim that it promotes a healthy democratic interchange of ideas. These groups help policymakers make more informed decisions by presenting a variety of opinions (Beeson & Bloomfield, 2019). However, critics express concern about the possibility of excessive influence, particularly from affluent and powerful groups. They claim that these

groups' financial resources give them an outsized voice, potentially drowning out the interests of the general people (Beeson & Bloomfield, 2019). Furthermore, some opponents raise concern that lobbying interests may not necessarily match with the national good, potentially leading to policies that favor the advantage of certain groups over the United States' overall strategic interests (Kim & Milner, 2019).

Furthermore, while campaign contributions and direct advocacy are well-known methods, lobbying also influences US foreign policy through more subtle tactics (Kim & Milner, 2019). Lobbying organizations can orchestrate grassroots movements, raising public awareness through social media campaigns and gathering supporters to contact lawmakers (Beeson & Bloomfield, 2019). The revolving door between government and lobbying firms creates familiarity, which may give lobbyists with specialized knowledge on complicated international issues unwarranted influence (Kim & Milner, 2019). This knowledge asymmetry is exacerbated by foreign governments actively influencing US officials, introducing their interests into an already complex web of policy considerations (Kim & Milner, 2019). Recognizing these multiple strategies provides a more complete view of how lobbying influences US foreign policy, often discreetly but consistently.

To summarize, lobbying influences US foreign policy in different ways. While it provides a space for various interpretations and encourages a possibly more informed decision-making process, worries remain about the possibility of excessive influence by powerful groups and a mismatch of lobbied interests with national good.

The way lobbyists influence US foreign policy goes deeper than just campaign funds and meetings. They can stir up public opinion through social media campaigns and grassroots movements. Additionally, the back-and-forth movement of people between government and lobbying firms can create cozy relationships, potentially giving undue sway to lobbyists with specialized knowledge. Even foreign governments get in on the act, lobbying US officials to

push agendas that benefit them. Considering these less-obvious tactics gives us a broader understanding of how lobbying shapes US foreign policy, often in subtle but significant ways.

2.3 Models of Interest Group Influence on US Foreign Policy

The US foreign policy landscape isn't solely shaped by government officials. Various models exist to explain how interest groups, from ethnic lobbies to think tanks, exert their influence. These models delve into the dynamics between groups, the government, and how they compete or collaborate to shape US foreign policy decisions. Some models focus on rational actors pursuing specific goals, while others highlight the bureaucratic hurdles and internal bargaining within government that interest groups must navigate. Understanding these models sheds light on the complex web of influences that shape how the US interacts with the world.

Several models exist to understand interest groups and US foreign policy. One prominent framework comes from Graham Allison's book "Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis" (Allison, 1971). This framework highlights three main models:

2.3.1 Rational Actor Model (Allison, 1971)

This model portrays the US government as a single, rational actor pursuing national interests in the international arena. Interest groups can influence this process in two key ways:

- **Information Provision:** Groups can provide policymakers with valuable information and expertise on specific issues, shaping their understanding of the situation and potential policy options.
- **Public Opinion Formation:** Interest groups can lobby and advocate for their positions, influencing public opinion and pressuring policymakers to act in a certain way (Allison, 1971).

2.3.2 Bureaucratic Politics Model (Allison, 1971)

This model challenges the idea of a unified government. It argues that power resides within various bureaucratic agencies (State Department, Defense Department, etc.) with their own goals, priorities, and standard operating procedures. Interest groups can target these agencies to:

- **Lobby for Specific Actions:** Groups can lobby specific agencies to advocate for policies that align with their interests.
- **Shape Agency Agendas:** By offering expertise or resources, groups can influence the issues that agencies prioritize and the solutions they propose.
- **Build Relationships with Key Officials:** Cultivating relationships with agency officials can grant groups access and potentially sway decision-making within those agencies (Allison, 1971).

2.3.3 Organizational Process Model (Allison, 1971)

This model focuses on the internal decision-making processes within the government. It argues that foreign policy decisions are often the product of bargaining and negotiation among various actors within the government. Interest groups can influence this process by:

- **Providing Expertise and Analysis:** Groups can offer specialized knowledge and analysis of specific foreign policy issues, informing internal discussions and debates.
- **Building Relationships with Key Decision-Makers:** By fostering relationships with key officials and advisors, groups can gain access to decision-making channels and potentially influence policy outcomes.
- **Shaping the Internal Agenda:** Through lobbying and advocacy efforts, groups can influence the issues that are prioritized within the government and the range of options considered (Allison, 1971).

In conclusion, understanding the relationship between interest groups and US foreign policy requires considering different models. The Rational Actor Model views the government as a unified entity influenced by information and public opinion. The Bureaucratic Politics Model highlights the power of individual agencies and how interest groups can target them. Finally, the

Organizational Process Model emphasizes internal government bargaining and how interest groups can influence it through expertise and relationships. These models offer valuable insights into the complex ways interest groups interact with US foreign policy decision-making.

2.4 Role of Interest Groups in Shaping US Foreign Policy

A wide variety of actors affect US foreign policy, and interest groups play an important role in this terrain. These groups, which represent various parts of American society, actively try to influence the direction of US foreign policy decisions (Truman, 1951). Their influence presents itself in a number of ways, including giving critical information and knowledge to policymakers (Allison, 1971) and mobilizing public opinion through lobbying and advocacy initiatives (Moravcsik, 1997).

All of this allows us to explore the different manners in which interest groups exercise influence over US foreign policy while acknowledging the limitations and difficulties involved with their impact. Based on important motives among them, we include the following:

2.4.1 Information and Expertise: Groups can provide valuable information and analysis on specific regions, issues, or potential courses of action. This expertise can inform policymakers' decisions and shape their understanding of the international landscape (Truman, 1951).

2.4.2 Public Opinion Formation: Interest groups can lobby and advocate for their positions, influencing public opinion through campaigns, media outreach, and grassroots efforts. This pressure can sway policymakers who are sensitive to public sentiment (Moravcsik, 1997).

2.4.3 Lobbying Bureaucracies: Interest groups can target specific government agencies (State Department, Defense Department) to push for policies that align with their interests. This lobbying can involve offering resources, expertise, or building relationships with key officials (Allison, 1971).

2.4.4 Internal Bargaining: Decision-making within the government often involves negotiation among various actors. Interest groups can influence this process by providing specialized knowledge or fostering relationships with key advisors, potentially swaying policy outcomes (Allison, 1971).

2.4.5 Campaign Contributions: While campaign finance is a complex issue, some argue that financial contributions from interest groups can create a sense of obligation among elected officials, potentially influencing their foreign policy stances (Milner, 1997).

In short, interest groups are undeniable players in the arena of US foreign policy. Their influence stems from their ability to provide valuable information, shape public opinion, lobby government agencies, and participate in internal policy discussions (Allison, 1971; Moravcsik, 1997). However, their impact is not without limitations. Competition between groups, a focus on domestic issues by some, and the varying power dynamics at play all contribute to a nuanced picture of interest group influence, simply because understanding the multifaceted role of interest groups is crucial for a comprehensive analysis of US foreign policy decision-making.

2.5 Lobbying Strategies and Tactics: Influencing Policy Decisions:

According to Peterson (2020), lobbying strategies and tactics involve influencing the policymaking process to achieve a particular goal for an individual, organization, or cause. Lobbyists employ various tactics, such as direct communication with policymakers, grassroots mobilization, and campaign contributions, to shape legislation and secure favorable outcomes (Berry, Hacker, & Peterson, 2020).

These **lobbying strategies and tactics** encompass the methods used by individuals and groups to influence policy decisions. However, the specific strategies developed and tactics deployed vary greatly among and within political systems.

Effective lobbying requires a well-defined strategy and a toolbox of tactics to achieve desired outcomes. To facilitate this concept, the researchers tried to divide this element into two parts: strategies and tactics.

2.5.1 Strategies

Lobbying strategies outline an interest group's approach to influencing policy makers. To be successful, these plans involve careful preparation, identifying key decision-makers, and choosing the most effective tactics, which can range from direct communication with legislators to grassroots movements and media campaigns (Hojnacki & Kimball, 1999). Building trust and rapport with policymakers is also a critical element in achieving lobbying goals. And from many strategies we mention:

2.5.1.1 Target Selection

A crucial element of successful lobbying is **target selection**. MacMillan (2017) argued that choosing the right decision-makers to focus on is important. This could be legislators, regulatory agencies, or executive officials depending on the specific policy. Understanding the political landscape and who holds power is essential, and This involves identifying the individuals or groups who hold the most influence over the desired policy decision (Schattschneider, 1960). Lobbyists must strategically choose their targets to maximize their chances of impacting the outcome through three key factors which are formal authority, informal influence and public opinion (Griesemer, 2017).

2.5.1.2 Building Relationships

Another important element in lobbying strategies is building relationships. Trust and credibility are key components. So, lobbyists need to cultivate relationships with decision-makers through regular communication, briefings, and demonstrations of expertise on the issue (Victor, 2017).

2.5.1.2.1 Israel Lobby in Barack Obama Administration

One of the ways used by the Israel lobby to influence the U.S. foreign policy is lobbying the Executive and legislative branch. Under Barack Obama's administration, the lobby continues to influence U.S. foreign policy to advance Israel's national interests. Barack Obama seems to continue the tradition of the previous presidents of the U.S. Barack Obama's administration's foreign policies seem to fully support Israel's interests politically, diplomatically, and militarily.

The Israel lobby's influence in Obama's administration was evident in Obama's government working team, which included a lot of pro-Israelis as well as Jews in key positions. As described in the preceding chapter, pro-Israeli actors hold key positions such as Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Treasury, Vice President, and White House Chief of Staff. In his campaign, Barack Obama actually once mentioned that if he were to be president, he would not give lobbyists a chance to work in the White House (Washington Post.2013). He also said that he doesn't receive money from the oil company or the Washington lobbyist and will not let the lobbyist block change (Newsweek.2013). Shortly after being elected, Obama issued restrictions prohibiting lobbyists from donating or seeking money during the administration's transition period. But how effective is the regulation? The Washington Post analyzes, "It appears ridiculous to restrict lobbyists from providing counsel in their fields of expertise; well-qualified advisers will undoubtedly be eliminated as a result. According to the Washington Post (September 17, 2013), lobbyists are prohibited from providing advice on the Labor Department transition, while union leaders and pharmaceutical executives are allowed to participate in the health-care review. When Obama chose Chas W. Freeman as Director of International Intelligence, the Israel lobby fought back. Freeman was regarded as anti-Israel. He once stated that Israel's aggression against Palestinians is the primary barrier to Middle East peace. Soon after, Freeman faced criticism and assaults from pro-Israel politicians. As a result of the demands, Freedman withdrew his nomination in a letter that specifically identified the pro-Israel lobby as the source of all attacks.

Generally, Congress members are too busy with their business in handling the arrangements of the constitution and give their duty to the congressional staff to assist, which sometimes means "they do not read what they signed." Aside from that, the Jewish group is an experienced at developing power relationships with Congress members, therefore they were able to secure congressional support for its Jewish-related plans.

Building relationships is fundamental to effective lobbying. Lobbyists must cultivate trust and rapport with their targets, whether it be legislators, agency officials, or key opinion leaders (Berry, Hacker, & Peterson, 2020). This involves not just advocating for their cause but also understanding the target's perspectives and priorities. Regular communication, demonstrating expertise on the issue, and offering valuable information can build goodwill and create a sense of partnership (Schlozman & Tierney, 1986). By fostering strong relationships, lobbyists can gain access to decision-makers, secure their ear for their arguments, and ultimately increase their chances of influencing policy outcomes.

2.5.1.3 Level of Engagement

Branches the level of engagement with a target audience is critical in lobbying. For that one, lobbying efforts can target local, state, or federal levels, depending on the scope of the policy. Some issues might require a multi-pronged approach across different governments. Lobbyists must tailor their approach based on the target's existing knowledge and level of interest. Highly engaged targets, such as legislators championing the issue, require in-depth briefings and strategic collaboration. Conversely, less engaged targets might need introductory outreach and clear demonstrations of how the policy impacts their constituents or area of influence (Berry, Hacker, & Peterson, 2020). By strategically calibrating their level of engagement, lobbyists can efficiently use their resources and maximize the impact of their efforts.

In short, successful lobbying hinges on a well-defined target selection process, relationship building with key players, and strategic engagement based on the target's existing knowledge and

interest. By employing these strategies effectively, lobbyists can navigate the complexities of the policymaking process and increase their chances of influencing decisions in their favor.

2.6 Tactics

Lobbying tactics are the specific tools and methods employed to influence policymakers and the policymaking process (Berry, Hacker, & Peterson, 2020). These tactics go beyond simply presenting an argument and encompass a diverse range of activities. Some common tactics we include:

2.6.1 Coalition Building

Coalition building in lobbying strengthens a group's influence by uniting diverse organizations with shared interests in a particular policy. This powerful tactic allows lobbyists to pool resources, amplify their collective voice, and present a more comprehensive perspective to policymakers. By demonstrating broad public support and potential impact on multiple constituencies, coalitions can significantly increase their chances of swaying policy decisions in their favor (Schlozman & Tierney, 1986).

2.6.2 Public Relations and Advocacy

Public relations and advocacy are a powerful duo in the lobbyist's toolkit. Through press releases, media outreach, and strategic messaging, lobbyists cultivate a positive public image for their cause, shaping public opinion and pressuring policymakers to acknowledge widespread support (Walker, 1991). This strategy not only garners public attention but can also indirectly influence policymakers who are sensitive to voter concerns.

2.6.3 Public Relations

Public relations (PR) acts as a powerful tool within the lobbying toolbox. PR professionals leverage various communication channels to cultivate a positive public perception of an organization's position on a policy issue. This can involve crafting press releases and media outreach to educate journalists and generate favorable news coverage (Binderkrantz, 2012). PR

also plays a role in grassroots mobilization, where supporters are encouraged to contact lawmakers directly through phone calls, emails, or rallies (Berg, 2009). By shaping public opinion and mobilizing a base of support, PR helps sway policymakers towards the desired legislative results.

2.6.4 Testimony and Participation in Hearings

Testimony and participation in hearings represent a cornerstone of the lobbying process, offering a direct platform to influence policymakers. Individuals or representatives from organizations can be invited to present their perspectives on a proposed bill or regulation before a legislative committee. Delivering well-researched and concise testimony that highlights the potential impact of the legislation is crucial (Smith, Jones, & Robinson, 2023). Lobbyists may also advise witnesses on how to navigate the hearing format, which often involves answering questions from committee members. Beyond invited testimony, some hearings allow for public comment periods where citizens can voice their opinions. This grass-roots participation demonstrates the level of public support or opposition to a policy, potentially swaying undecided lawmakers (Walker, 2020). However, securing a spot for testimony can be competitive, and navigating the formalities of hearings requires preparation and strategic communication.

2.6.5 Grassroots Mobilization

For that specific one, it is the engine that drives many successful lobbying efforts. It involves engaging everyday people in the political process to amplify an organization's message and put pressure on policymakers. Tactics can range from voter registration drives to phone banking campaigns where supporters contact their representatives directly. Social media plays a key role in mobilizing geographically dispersed groups, allowing for rapid message dissemination and the organization of events like protests or rallies (Chadwick, 2013). Effective grassroots movements cultivate a sense of community and shared purpose, motivating individuals to take action and raise awareness about the issue. This groundswell of public

support can be a game-changer for lobbyists, demonstrating to lawmakers the depth of feeling on a particular issue and potentially tipping the scales in favor of their desired outcome.

Conclusion

US foreign policy is not made in a bubble. Different ideas about how countries should interact, like focusing on national interest (realism) or promoting democracy (liberalism), all play a role. But it's not just academics influencing these decisions. Lobbyists, from big businesses to human rights groups, push for policies that benefit their cause. They use campaign donations, meetings, and even social media movements to get their way. Some say this is just democracy at work, with different voices being heard. But others worry powerful groups might have too much sway, or that lobbyists might prioritize their own interests over what's best for the country. By considering all these factors, we get a clearer picture of the complex forces shaping US foreign policy.

CHAPTER THREE: EMERGENCE AND GROWTH **OF THE JEWISH LOBBY**

CHAPTER THREE: Emergence and Growth of The Jewish Lobby

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Introduction

Going deeper and concrete is what this chapter would normally provide. In the third chapter, we will discuss the relationship between the United States and the Israeli government in the occupied Palestinian territories. Through this research, we will learn about the mutually advantageous relationship between these two states, as well as the causes for Jewish influence on American foreign policy. Furthermore, reasons exist for the United States' political, military, and financial support for Israel on nearly every occasion.

The primary focus of this third chapter is on Jewish lobbying efforts to influence American policy, particularly foreign policy, and especially as it concerns Israel. As we saw in the last chapter, these lobby groups represent a significant ethnic Jewish minority that is socially, economically, intellectually, and hence politically superior.

After seeing Jewish support for American politicians, we'll see American support for Israel. Throughout history, America has consistently shown overwhelming support for Israel. America has always been an active ally of Israel, supporting it diplomatically, militarily, and financially when necessary, while overlooking its violations of international law and terrorist actions in the occupied Palestinian lands. Also, at the end, we will discuss the impact of the media on public opinion.

3.1 Analysis of the Jewish Lobby's Influence on US Foreign Policy

American Jews and their Christian allies who are interested in the American political agenda, particularly foreign policy toward Israel or Israel's enemies in the region, make every effort to contact decision-makers in the United States Congress or government. The ambitious Jewish minority in America had been very conscious and engaged in supporting their newly established homeland, Israel.

Over-representation of specific issues discussed in the House of Representatives is frequently beneficial to certain lobby groups which have actively contributed to a particular political campaign. These interests are frequently prioritized over those of the general American people, who are unorganized citizens in comparison to lobby groups. Jewish lobbyists use a variety of tactics to persuade the American government to direct, alter, or shape its policy toward Israel and neighboring countries, primarily in favor of Israel. Among such efforts, Jews rely heavily on money to reach or gain access to American officials. When we talk about politics, we are referring to people, specifically politicians. These politicians are, for the most part, members of the American elite, and influencing them sometimes needs more than simply financial support for their campaigns. In this situation, the Jewish lobbying technique addresses the intellectual aspect of the political process. Influencing think tanks is a critical method for reaching the political arena and getting your perspective out more cheaply.

3.1.1 AIPAC As a Major Contributor:

Since the establishment of the Jewish state on May 14, 1948, the United States and Israel have maintained close ties. The country has received considerable aid, particularly military and economic aid. This willingness to take risks and abandon American interests in favor of a newly formed state demonstrates the extent to which American foreign policy is controlled, particularly in relation to Israel and its continuing conflicts with Arab neighbors.

Israel's lobby in America had become so sophisticated as a result of the establishment of massive organizations like AIPAC, which had established an organized presence in Washington and across the country, backed by large campaign contributions and intensive lobbying efforts.

AIPAC is the most powerful lobbying group advocating pro-Israel policies to Congress and the executive branch, and it is regarded as the most influential organization shaping and leading America's relationship with Israel. AIPAC was created in 1953 by Isaiah L. Kenen, former head of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs (AZPAC). In the twenty years since its inception, AIPAC has developed enough financial and political strength to sway Congress' thinking, becoming, as Stephen Lendman (2008) described it, "an unregistered foreign agent." This quotation indicates how this lobby group violates the core concept of special interest groups in a democracy: lobby groups must collaborate with citizens and the government to achieve shared interests and the general good.

These organizations are essential to the democratic process; however, if their efforts are directed toward promoting another country's interests, particularly if their actions are negative, pervasive, or will have any negative consequences for the state's welfare, they must be viewed as dangerous and threatening. Grant Smith's book *Foreign Agents* presented his readers with much knowledge and history about AIPAC, allowing them to comprehend the threat and current risk that this organization poses to the American political process. AIPAC became a foreign agent for Israel by using money and political influence to aid a foreign government, at the expense of American democracy and the military. Even legislators cannot fight such authority because it could end their careers. The organization's early founders recognized the importance of money in the continuity and survival of the Jewish lobby, as well as Jews in America and their home state. Aside from financial power, a crucial component of the lobby's efficacy is its capacity to dominate political discussion by preventing critical statements or experts from receiving a fair hearing in the political and media spheres, that's why AIPAC is one of America's first and most influential lobby groups, had long sought to influence US policy toward the Middle East.

Goldberg explores the efforts of AIPAC and its president, Kenen, to persuade Congress to provide immediate financial and military aid to Israel. Following the Egyptian-Syrian attack, Kenen gathered Jewish community presidents, politicians, and legislative assistants to write statements and petitions, drawing similarities between the attacks and the Pearl Harbor attack. AIPAC is an essential feature of an institutionalized ethnic interest group” (Goldberg ,1993).

Jews in Eastern Europe have a long history of discrimination by Germans, as well as persecution during the re-conquest of the Iberian Peninsula. Finding fresh land with new chances away from oppression was the beginning of Jewish "revenge" and the only option to create a state exclusively for Jews. These circumstances were, in reality, motivations for the Jewish people to eventually settle, at the expense of indigenous Palestinians who are now subjected to Israeli persecution, with full American assistance.

David Verbeeten (2006) wrote an article for the Middle East Quarterly that emphasized American financial support for Israel and the role of AIPAC in developing American aid, particularly during times of war. Verbeeten based this graph on data from Abramo F.K. Organski's book The \$36 Billion Dollar Bargain .

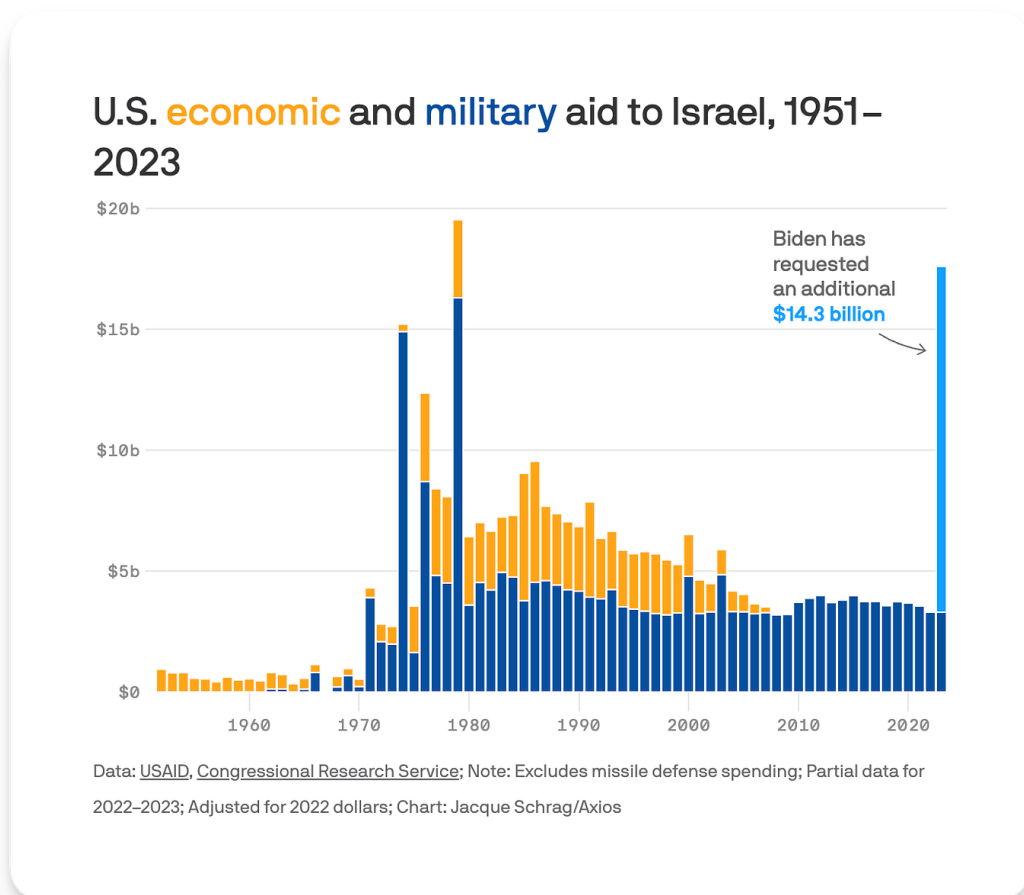


Figure 3.1: U.S. Economic and Military Aid to Israel,1951-2023

Source: Retrieved from:

https://www.google.com/collections/s/list/GLkmPTt_dEz5wnZMeSI5mSINIAWO-Q/7VhjkZbTsVQ

If we look closely at this graph, we will see a significant discrepancy in the quantity of financial aid provided to Israel and other Arab countries. The significant disparity in aid provided by the American government demonstrates American intentions toward the causes and crises in the Middle East. Especially when we consider that all cases requiring financial or military assistance are directly or indirectly related to the Arab-Israeli conflict, which appears to be continuous and infinite.

The huge amounts of money provided to Israel as a foreign country in need of support appear to be an American obligation to Israel, as does the legislative practice of adopting financial and military aid legislation in favor of Israel rather than any other country.

AIPAC is instrumental in persuading congressmen to sponsor and support annual aid legislation to Israel, as if this country is a vital base to be protected and supplied financially and

militarily if necessary. As previously stated, AIPAC is the primary group in the American Jewish lobbying system. This power derived from AIPAC's ability to promote other Jewish interests and, more crucially, from being so close to the legislative body in charge of starting measures in support of Israel and the Jewish population in America.

3.1.2 Influencing Think Tanks

When studying Jewish influence on the American government and, hence, policies, one must examine the fact that American Jews have managed to retain unwavering support for Israel. Despite Israel acquiring land and forcefully oppressing Palestinians in the occupied territories over the past 37 years, the US government has shown incredible deception and indifference and the world has been left wondering about the secrets underlying America's unwavering supporting for Israeli injustice and defying international law. The mystery surrounding the unexplained supporting encouraged the public and scholarly studies to seek out and study American politics behind the scenes in order to analyze such a relationship.

If we look at the definition of the term 'think tank', we can see how closely it is related to the government and how near it is to decision-making offices. Think tanks can be individuals, companies, institutions, or organizations dedicated to a specific government's public policy. Pro-Israel think tanks and the Jewish lobby now have a powerful intellectual tool to influence American policies by changing both the public debate and actual policy. In 1985, the Israel lobby in America formed WINEP, aiming to provide balanced Middle East policy insights. However, it is funded and run by those committed to advancing Israel's interests, presenting an image that serves the American public good.

The Jewish lobby's influence on these think tank organizations undoubtedly extends beyond the 'WINEP'; several other institutions are run and controlled by Jews, who determine precisely their leanings, opinions, and activities. Over the last 25 years, Jewish lobbyists have founded numerous think tank institutions to complete the lobbying process using intellectual means.

These institutions include 'The Brookings Institution', 'The Center for Security Policy', 'The Foreign Policy Research Institute' and 'The Heritage Foundation. If we look at the nature of these think tanks and institutions, we can clearly observe their political leanings; such organizations gather to provide advice and work on political issues in the United States of America, and they are very close to government officials. These pro-Israel think institutes have few, if any, critics of the US support for the state of Israel (Pokrivack,2015).

Members of these institutions, who belong to the ruling intellectual or business elite, affect public opinion by producing books, publications, websites, holding columns, and authoring journal articles. The most notable task that think tank institutions perform is to give the political sphere with future government and public officials. The formation and recruiting of these future politicians, according to the traditions of these organizations, is crucial to policy formulating and controlling.

From our perspective, it is obvious that the image of what is going on in the world is given to the American population, and why not the government? One example of what is known as 'international terrorism' is that no one has ever objectively analyzed the core causes of terrorism, defined terrorism, or state terrorism.

What all Americans know about Hamas and other groups is their cruelty and unreasonableness in fighting wars and murdering for nothing. On the other side, these Think Thank organizations work hard to persuade the public and government of the heroic role performed by the United States and its armed forces in Middle Eastern regions, seeking to spread democracy and peace at all times.

Therefore, these Jewish American think thanks influence American perception and knowledge of international issues, which helps to explain the lack of social and civic movements in forming and deciding American foreign policy toward the Middle East.

Think tanks offer the government with fresh political solutions to presumed problems; these institutions are then primarily supported by private companies and businessmen, thus they will eventually push what this elite class proposes.

Everything in political circles appears to be tied to various social, financial, and authoritarian situations; we must consider all of these aspects when studying a specific phenomenon. Domhoff's book *"Who Rules America"* (1967) provides a comprehensive overview of policymaking, emphasizing the importance of think tanks in the process. Also Think tanks play a crucial role in US domestic and foreign policy, but they often have political biases due to leadership orientation and financial support. These biases can be seen in policies, programs, and recommendations to government and officials, with lobbying being a significant and easy way to reach government offices.

To conclude, Jewish lobbying has been recognized for its vast financial resources, which increase its chances of gaining access to decision-making corridors. When we consider that the majority of think tanks are financially supported by private foundations, we wonder about the nature of those providers and why they would invest money in this manner. The circle of Jewish lobbying in America includes numerous ties and features that must be researched in order to completely understand this political topic.

3.2 Political Contributions and Financial Influence

Presently, the United States is the sole superpower. The common concept about U.S.-Israel relations is that Jews have a hold on the American government. The Jewish lobby's financial power is the primary source by which Jewish lobby groups may influence nearly all US policy, both in academics and in government. This financial power is closely linked to the economic dominance of pro-Israel Jewish groups and the role of Jewish businessmen, who have managed to control nearly every key area of the US economy (Sasono,2022). Jews dominate American society, accounting for 94% of the country's wealthiest families. They control industrial and business companies that provide access to political decision-making circles (Omar & Zoubir,

2022). Jewish businessmen use their financial power to contribute campaign funds for presidential candidates, governors, and congressmen in the United States.

3.2.1 American Political and Diplomatic Support to Israel

The idea that American support for Israel is motivated by specific American interests in the Middle East is not entirely convincing given the various American interventions in order to protect the forcefully formed Jewish state. During crises and wars with indigenous Palestinians, Americans provide obvious political and diplomatic support. For example, on June 26, 1982, the US was the only country to veto a UN Security Council resolution directing the simultaneous departure of Israeli and Palestinian military forces from Beirut. A few hours later, the United States and Israel voted against a General Assembly resolution that called for a halt to military operations in Lebanon (Chomsky, 1999).

The relationship between America and Israel has taken on a unique character over time, particularly since the 1967 conflict. The diplomatic backing that Israel receives from the United States has few, if any, counterparts, particularly given the United States' weight in world politics. Some members of Congress and political scholars criticize the United States' backing for Israel for failing to scrutinize its actions or the impact on US interests. The political and diplomatic support for Israel's policies toward the Palestinians and neighboring countries is critical to Israel's survival, strength, and influence over the Middle Eastern political scene. Aside from Israel, American diplomatic standing is a first step toward other areas of cooperation, opening the door to financial and military support.

This massive and ongoing support is based on the belief that arming and backing Israel will benefit the United States' essential interests, allowing it to prepare for any future potential threats. In its violation of Palestinian territories, Israel has found a very strong supporter who has diplomatically supported Israel's misguided and distorted interpretation of international law and human rights.

Signing contracts and acts demonstrates the depth of the American-Israeli political alliance. We use the example of "The United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act" (Sharp,2006). In March 2014, the American Congress enacted a bill establishing mutual partnership with Israel. The bill is titled 'the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act'. The bill's third provision describes Israel as a "major strategic partner of the United States." (Sharp,2006).

3.2.2 Financial Support; Financial Supplying

When it comes to the financial contributions of any lobby group in America, this example of influence is tough to investigate and develop. The primary challenge that academics face in this part of Jewish lobbying is the undeclared real amount of money provided, to whom, and under what conditions. Of course, lobbyists have the right to emerge and push for their causes using a variety of techniques; nevertheless, when there is a large lobby in America, such as the Jewish one, it becomes difficult to manage the level of interference and hence influence.

Between 1990 and 2008, the Center for Responsive Politics collected data on Jewish contributions to campaign elections and concluded that "pro-Israel interests have contributed \$56.8 million in individual, group, and soft money donations to federal candidates and party committees since 1990". Another source is the Washington Post (2015), which claims that 60 percent of Democratic presidential contenders' funding comes from Jewish donors. The overwhelming participation and involvement of Jews in the most important and significant

electoral campaign demonstrates their qualitative political interaction that therefore has an influence.

American presidential candidates clearly require massive amounts of money to finance their political campaigns in order to reach and persuade the American people. Contributing money is thus essential for launching and managing a successful campaign. As previously stated, Jewish lobbying organizations and private foundations provide the vast majority of this funding.

Understanding the flow of political power in America, or any democracy, needs a thorough examination of campaign money as a more measurable means of tracing political influence and the circle of political-financial interaction. Jews, in reality, had melted into American culture; their complete absorption into this multiethnic society permitted Jews to be an important member of the community rather than just an ethnic-centered group. Jews had established a powerful minority of their own, surpassing the lofty expectations of the dominant white Anglo-Saxon population. MacDonald, in his paper "*Understanding Jewish Influence*"(2006), explains Jewish dominance in American society:

" Jews constitute 45% of the top forty of the Forbes 400 richest Americans. Fully one-third of all American multimillionaires are Jewish. The percentage of Jewish households with income greater than \$50,000 is double that of non-Jews; on the other hand, the percentage of Jewish households with income less than \$20,000 is half that of non-Jews. Twenty percent of professors at leading universities are Jewish, and 40% of partners in leading New York and Washington, D.C, law firms are Jewish " (MacDonald,2006,p.14).

Democrats typically receive more Jewish support, whether in financial matters or during presidential election voting. Because they are interested in financial causes, many American and even Jewish researchers have investigated the volume of these contributions and the party to

which they are directed. Carlson (2023) explains in his essay about Jewish contributions to presidential campaigns, stating that the number '60%' of Jewish donations to the Democrats did occur and was cited by "respectable mainstream sources," citing several, including Jews. To demonstrate the importance of Jewish influence on American governance, consider the consequences of a financial decrease in Jewish donations to predict the future of any ruling party.

Moreover, Haim Saban, an Israeli billionaire, is the single biggest donor to American politicians. In January 2007, it was revealed that he had donated around \$13 million to several US political candidates (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2009). Businessmen's significant investments indicate the true nature of the Jewish political community and their commitment to shaping American policy. These investments, most of which are monetary in nature, and the direct attachment to American politicians at the highest levels of decision-making provide an additional incentive for the Jewish lobby to make friends with American decision-makers in order to further their interests. In his first volume, *"Understanding Jewish Influence"* (2006), McDonald cited over 300 national Jewish organizations in the United States, with an estimated budget of \$6 billion. Additionally, these enormous amounts of money possessed by Jewish interests are carefully invested in Jewish causes both within and beyond the borders of the United States. Funding pro-Israel groups and think tanks is a first step toward reaching decision-makers.

More specifically, Jewish lobby groups in America, unlike other interests, had a long history of making financial contributions to American politicians and potential decision-makers. This lavish gift of money at every political event has never been done for free. Jews, particularly those who are emotionally connected to their "homeland," invest their money in influencing decision-makers to act in favor of the lobby's interests, and hence Israel's. Following the 1967 war, which was viewed as critical to the US-Israeli alliance, American foreign aid to Israel increased by 450% (Zunes, 2002). Following Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, American support rose as the two countries signed a treaty emphasizing military and strategic cooperation,

as well as an additional \$1.5 billion in economic aid. Chomsky assumes in his book *'The Faithful Triangle'*(1999) that recent aid amounts to something like \$1000 per year for each citizen of Israel.

Although Israel's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) exceeds that of Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, and Gaza combined, overall US aid to Israel accounts for around one-third of the American foreign aid budget. In addition to government aid, Israel receives a significant amount of funding from private sources (Zunes, 2002). The amount of money received from the United States has been viewed in terms of common strategic goals. The enormous aid is motivated by a strategic desire to maintain Israel's place as a Middle Eastern powerhouse. Because this region was and continues to be critical to American interests, Israel is a vital ally and permanent strategic base for the country. Because of the warlike nature of the Middle East, America must secure Israel's military and financial superiority; this superiority will prevent the Palestinian resistance and Arab alliance from engaging or even opposing Israeli forces throughout the region.

According to Zunes (2002), no one can doubt the strength of AIPAC and other Israeli lobbying groups. These organizations are then key contributors to this massive financial help, are accountable for the maintenance of these habits, and increasingly claim that this funding is an unavoidable responsibility of the US government to the state of Israel.

Additionally, the level of U.S. military support reflects Israel and America's particular connection. Despite the fact that the specific number of weapons delivered to Israel is unknown, Israel has relied heavily on American arms to protect its military assets for the past 67 years (Chomsky, 1999). Israel is well-known for its flagrant violations of international law and human rights in Palestine's occupied areas. America has contributed more than \$3 billion in military and economic aid to Israel each year. This amount of money is rarely questioned in Congress, even by liberals who often oppose US help to countries that violate international law (Zunes, 1999).

3.3 The Application of Theories to The Jewish Lobby and Palestinian Cause

Using the recent developments in the Gaza Strip on October 7th as the beginning point for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict ignores a long history of occupation, expulsion, and systemic injustice, and it is the incorrect way to explain the current deteriorating. This legitimizes the targeting and killing of civilians and invites bias for one narrative while ignoring the other. The accurate and balanced perspective on current and recent events should be used for many years. It must begin with the creation of the occupation, followed by the international community's failure to fulfill its duty to serve a just and fair solution to the Palestinian issue based on international legitimacy and international law. Dealing with simply a few occurrences can lead to frustration and discomfort, exacerbating the general sense of hopelessness and undermining trust in the international community and human rights system.

There are numerous ways in which pluralist theory can be used to examine the Palestinian issue, and we have proposed a number of viewpoints that could be useful in understanding the intricacy of these theories.

First, political and social elites have a significant influence on decision-making in both Israeli and Palestinian society. In a variety of circumstances, these elites try to speak for their groups' and their own interests. Second, there is an imbalance in the level of influence that different factions within Israeli and Palestinian society have over decision-making. Certain groups hold greater power than others, including the financial and political elites. Third, the function of institutions: both official and unofficial institutions are significant in the process of making decisions pertaining to the Palestinian question. Governments, international organizations, political parties, and civil society organizations are some examples of these institutions. One other important factor is group competitiveness. Israelis and Palestinians are the two primary sides competing in the Palestinian problem. Every organization aims to convince worldwide and regional decision-making in favor of its own objectives and ambitions. Simply because, the Palestinian issue is characterized by constantly changing political, social, and economic

dynamics. These changes affect the distribution of power between different groups and shape the course of the decision-making process.

In our opinion, propaganda is a weapon in the battle for narrative control in information warfare. Social media adds fuel to the fire by enabling manipulation using sophisticated techniques like customized messages and deep fakes. This has an opportunity to stir discontent, destroy governments, and destroy democratic processes. In order to be informed citizens in this environment, we must be critical information consumers who check the reliability of sources and refine our media literacy abilities to spot the fallacies of propaganda. Propaganda is a weapon in the battle for narrative control in information warfare. who check sources and create media. Additionally, in the context of **Palestine**, pluralism could be reflected in the political landscape, where multiple factions and interest groups, such as different political parties and civil society organizations, engage in the democratic process to advocate for their respective agendas.

3.3.1 The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and Quid Pro Quo Theories

As we mentioned, the concept of "something for something," or quid pro quo, assumes a complicated significance in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. An examination of the theory and how it relates to the conflict is provided below:

There are occasions when Israel and the Palestinians participate in reciprocal diplomacy. Concessions (land, settlements, recognition) may be offered in return for desired results (peace negotiations, security assurances, financial assistance).and the most famous example of that is the hostage exchange deal. Hamas stated that the basic principles underlying its conception of the negotiation file that it presented to mediators in Egypt and Qatar were based on five main points: the ceasefire, the unconditional return of displaced persons, the withdrawal of the Israeli occupying army from Gaza, the entry of aid and relief items, and reconstruction.

Hamas stressed that those principles and the foundations she had presented were essential to the agreement and the prisoner exchange file, and that she would remain partial to the rights and

concerns of the Palestinian people. Understanding these theories and examples can provide insight into the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and challenges of achieving peace. It is a multifaceted issue with deep historical roots and significant implications for regional and global politics.

According to Neuman and Morgenstern (1953), an analysis of a game must consider various factors and their interdependence: the categories of players, their strategies, the decisions made, the chosen standard of behavior with effect probability, and the predicted outcomes. Depending on these conditions, the theory describes a variety of games that could be used in the lobby. The goal of this study is to demonstrate, through a comparative examination, how lobbying may be represented using the criteria of this political science theory (Kyriakidis, 2018).

Realizing how lobbying works goes beyond just following the money. Theories like rational choice and game theory offer valuable tools. These frameworks suggest lobbyists and politicians act strategically, calculating costs and benefits to influence policy in their favor. By analyzing interactions as a series of moves and counter-moves, these theories predict lobbying success based on factors like resources and access. However, it's important to remember these are just models, and the real world of lobbying is more nuanced. While theories such as rational choice and game theory might offer light on lobbying activities, their use is not without criticism. We consider some important aspects that need to be mentioned:

The first one is **oversimplification**, criticisms regarding the oversimplification of lobbying through rational choice theory and game theory center on the assumption of purely rational actors (Moe, 2005; Schattschneider, 1975). These models posit that lobbyists and politicians act solely to maximize personal gain, often measured by economic benefit. However, critics argue this neglects the influence of ideology, personal relationships, bureaucratic inertia, and even psychological factors on decision-making (Hacker & Pierson, 2010). Real-world lobbying is a messy process, often driven by a complex interplay of these elements, making the portrayal of actors as purely rational calculators an oversimplification (Verba & Scholzman, 1997).

Moreover, While the application of rational choice theory and game theory to lobbying techniques is informative, it has been criticized for being overly simplistic (Moe, 2005; Schattschneider, 1975). These models imply that individuals (lobbyists, politicians) operate rationally, focusing on maximizing personal gain, which is commonly quantified in economic terms. Critics contend that this image overlooks the messy realities of lobbying, in which ideology, personal relationships, and bureaucratic inertia all play important roles (Hacker & Pierson, 2010). A politician with strong environmental views, for example, may be less affected by industry pressure for less laws, even if they receive considerable campaign contributions. Personal relationships between lobbyists and politicians can also impact decisions, adding complexity to a cost-benefit analysis (Verba & Schlozman, 1997). Furthermore, entrenched bureaucracies frequently oppose change, regardless of lobbying efforts. To summarize, the oversimplification inherent in rational choice and game theory restricts their ability to adequately describe the intricate interplay of factors that influence lobbying outcomes.

The second one is **focus on winners and its limitations**, which are Lobbying theories that focus solely on winners suffer from a narrow perspective (Hacker & Pierson, 2010). By analyzing only successful cases, they create a skewed view of lobbying's influence, potentially overestimating its power and neglecting the many voices unheard (Schattschneider, 1975). This focus also misses strategic retreats and the influence of unsuccessful efforts on public discourse and future policy debates (Baumgartner & Walker, 1983; McAdam et al., 1996). For a more nuanced understanding, we need to consider both victories and defeats. Analyzing failures can reveal weaknesses in strategies and highlight the importance of broader coalitions to counter powerful interests (Berry, 1999; Walker, 1991). In conclusion, a complete picture of lobbying requires acknowledging the complex interplay of wins and losses.

To summarize, while theories assessing effective lobbying operations provide useful insights, they portray an incomplete picture. Their narrow focus on victors ignores the many failed attempts, potentially overestimating lobbying's power and disregarding the voices that are

drowned out. A more complete understanding necessitates comprehending the intricate interplay of wins and setbacks. Failure analysis can show strategic flaws and highlight the significance of larger coalitions. Only then will we completely understand the dynamics of lobbying and its impact on the complex realm of government.

3.4 American Inclination Towards Israel in International Crisis

First of all, in the world of international politics, crises often appear as complex challenges that require diplomatic ingenuity, cooperation, and resolution. In such troubled times, political pressure groups play an important role in influencing the course of events and shaping state policies. Simply because these political pressure groups are non-governmental entities that defend specific political, social or economic agendas, and their impact is more pronounced during crises when they use their resources and networks to influence decision-making processes. The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is an illustrative case, highlighting the influence of political pressure groups on both sides and on the international scene. At a point, the capacity for international influence in the Palestinian context is limited by conflicting accounts and mistrust, which pose challenges in exerting pressure. However, political pressure groups are powerful in shaping public opinion throughout the world through rallies and campaigns, and influence government policies, especially those with significant resources.

In fact, Western countries support Israel's right to exist in peace and security with Arab Palestinians, but have refused to provide arms and aid while the occupation and violations of law since the 1967 war continue. The US and Israel have frequently stood alone, vetoing or supporting actions that suited Israel's Middle East plans (Zunes,1999). This tight alliance and mutual support between the two countries, in our opinion and many others', extends beyond the interpretation of strategic interests in the Middle East or dedication to the promotion of democracy and global peace.

The American ambition to strengthen Israel's military system originated from a desire to keep it in control of the occupied territories and, by extension, the Middle East area. By this

conduct, America is not keeping Israel in balance with its Arab neighbors, but rather asserting its dominance on every occasion. Secretary of State Colin Powell has warned against unconditional support for Sharon's government during a period of crisis in the occupied territories, arguing that it would make it more difficult to obtain full cooperation from Arab governments when planning an international military campaign against terrorist cells affiliated with al Qaeda or other terrorist networks (Zunes,1999).

In addition, if we are to explore another factor for the substantial Jewish presence in America, we must not overlook the economic condition of this minority community and how it has evolved from early immigration. The commercial and capitalist nature of Jewish thinking naturally led to enormous success in this domain, namely money. Owning money would eventually lead to power and influence, providing another motive for Jewish supremacy in the United States. After analyzing the reasons for the strength of Jews in America compared to other ethnic minorities, it became clear that America's sympathy for Jews is a significant factor, particularly in light of their history in Europe.

As we mentioned, Jews employed historical propaganda to further their goals of creating the state of Israel during the time, as well as to instill shame in Western countries, particularly America. The study of these issues allows us to better understand the complicated history of the Jewish minority in America and how it came to be. Jews in government posts or close to them are always attempting to utilize their authority and ability to further objectives that are not entirely American. This is one of the reasons why so much has been written about Jewish lobbying and its impact on American domestic and foreign policy. The preceding components of this chapter provide us with a broad comprehend of Jewish influence and power.

It seems to us that understanding Jews unique status as a minority in America and a political interest group is a step toward understanding the realities of guiding US foreign policy. These groups, which really work together to achieve a single purpose, work in tandem to shape foreign policy in favor of Israeli interests both within and outside of America.

3.4.1 International Public Opinion on The Palestinian Cause

Public opinion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has varied greatly over time and across different societies. In the international arena, views are often influenced by the political, religious, and cultural affiliations of different countries and their citizens. Within Israel and the Palestinian territories, public opinion is deeply intertwined with the lived experiences of the conflict, including issues of security, identity, and aspirations for peace and self-determination. Additionally, in the United States, public opinion has traditionally been supportive of Israel, influenced by a combination of strategic interests, shared democratic values, and the activities of various advocacy groups. However, there has been a growing diversity of opinions, particularly among younger generations and certain political groups, who are more critical of certain Israeli policies and more sympathetic to the Palestinian cause.

Moreover, we believe that the role of the media, think tanks, and lobbying groups can also shape public opinion by framing the conflict in particular ways, highlighting certain narratives over others, and influencing the policy debate. For example, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is known for its efforts to strengthen U.S.-Israel relations, while other organizations advocate for Palestinian rights and seek to influence U.S. policy in that direction.

In our perspective, the impact of public opinion on the conflict suggests that it can both constrain and enable political leaders in their decision-making. Public opinion is not monolithic and can reflect a wide range of views and levels of engagement with the conflict. It is also subject to change in response to major events, shifts in leadership, and evolving international norms.

On the other hand, we believe that this is the situation throughout the West, and as the vast majority of the Western public becomes more aware of the crimes against humanity being committed in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem, the more people are appalled. Even those who formerly believed the massive civilian death toll in Gaza was justifiable are understanding in greater numbers that nothing on this planet can justify what is happening. However, sadly,

western leaders are entirely out of touch with their constituents' moods. This is not only ethically wrong, but also politically unwise.

3.4.1.1 Manipulating Public Opinion

For decades, Western powers were able to tolerate crimes against Palestinians with impunity due to general ignorance of the issue - that is, people not paying attention to what is going on and believing lies. This is now over, thanks to Israel's atrocious conduct in the Gaza Strip. Humanity, in all its forms and everywhere, is basically good. Most people fundamentally believe in peace and justice. They understand that murdering innocent people is wrong. The world is now paying attention to Gaza; everyone can see what an unnatural, horrifying situation Palestinians are forced to live in, and they do not want any more of it.

When studying the manipulation of public opinion, it is interesting to adopt as a case the nature of the Palestinian problem. Not only is the problem old and deep-rooted, but its documentation is particularly rich, and the problem is usually studied in the mass media such as newspapers, television, and film, as well as in works of history and political science. The mass media are particularly effective means of propaganda, and most people have ready access to them. The basic sources of information on events in the West Bank of Jordan are usually, to some extent, films and newspapers by British journalists. These reports raise the question of whether or not these journalists and the people who claim to use them were deceived or not. Analysis of the problem is therefore possible.

It seems to be beyond doubt that public opinion is manipulated by political interests. Political leaders have long tried to manipulate and control public attitudes by means of slogans, flattery, and deception, but the new mass media, particularly the film, radio, and television, has extended the reach, power, and subtlety of propaganda and has led to a mastery of technique which was quite impossible before. The young are particularly gullible and are easily swayed by propaganda, particularly the kind designed to create in them an unreasoning hatred of a supposed enemy.

In brief, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues to evoke strong emotions and divergent opinions around the world. Understanding the nuances of public opinion on this issue requires a careful consideration of historical context, current realities, and the diverse perspectives of those directly and indirectly affected by the conflict.

3.4.2 The Impact of Media on Public Opinion

The heinous and savage war that Israel has been waging against the Gaza Strip for over eight months has revealed some basic phenomena that will undoubtedly lead to Israel's downfall. On the seventh of October, the Israeli army and its security services suffered a significant setback. As a result, Gaza Strip saw retaliation against women, children, and the elderly as well as indiscriminate shelling of medical facilities and the denial of humanitarian aid to almost two million people. The horrific killings carried out by the Israeli army at the site of the slaughter of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip served as a demonstration of the punitive response to the global public opinion. Consequently, Public opinion in the United States and other Western nations has been greatly influenced by digital and social media, and these people have seen the horrifying killings that Israel has committed against defenseless civilians. by aggressively bombarding buildings of civilians from the air. Thus, the peoples in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, both Arab and Western, have arisen to condemn those horrible acts for which humanity is condemned.

"Thus, public opinion is considered an important factor in decision-making processes. It is defined as "the desires, wants, and thinking of the majority of the people about a particular issue. It is shaped by the media, swayed by the world around them. A healthy democracy is one in which the majority

members of the community agree upon what is in the public interest, taking into account the opinions of each other. The community consensus plays a vital role in decision making in politics, economic development, engineering, and many other aspects of modern life. Swaying the public opinion gives certain groups an advantage over others".

In our opinion, the horrible situations where the American and Western media always showed sympathy for the Israeli entity by portraying it as the victim and the Arabs, including the Palestinian people, wanted to destroy Israel, horrified public opinion in the West. Therefore, the smartphones that are owned by every person on the earth have been instrumental in bringing these humanitarian crimes and the horrifying scenes that the Israeli air force has been perpetrating against innocent civilians in the Gaza Strip over the last few months to the attention of the world. Significant protests have occurred in Arab and Islamic States as well as in Western cities like Washington, London, Berlin, Paris, and Madrid.

Moreover, digital media and social media have played a role in exposing the traditional Western media that has been blocking the horrible image of the Israeli entity for over seven decades, hence the rise of world public opinion condemning the behavior of Netanyahu and the Israeli military and even demanding that leaders in the West should cease fire and save civilians from the Israeli Holocaust. Thus, the phenomenon of digital media is one of the positive phenomena that have documented that crime and exposed the ugliness and behavior of the Israeli entity to their true nature. A number of traditional Arab channels have also played a professional role in exposing the behavior of the Israeli entity, including the Al-Jazeera news channel, which exposes some of its correspondents in the Gaza Strip to the martyrdom of a number of their family members, as well as the brutal crime of the Israeli entity, which has made world public opinion and even a number of Jews in the world condemn the heinous crime that has fueled the world's east and west.

Conclusion

In this chapter, we have analyzed the application of theories to the Jewish lobby on US foreign policy. We found that Jewish lobbies hold a powerful yet intricate position in shaping US foreign policy. They function as bridges between specialized industries, ethnic groups, or ideological movements and the halls of power. On the other side, lobbyists provide policymakers with in-depth knowledge on complex international issues, champion causes aligned with the national interest, like human rights, and even foster international cooperation by connecting US officials with foreign counterparts. However, the potential drawbacks are significant. Lobbying efforts often prioritize the interests of a select few over the broader public good, potentially leading to skewed policies that benefit corporations or specific groups at the expense of the majority. Furthermore, the substantial financial resources wielded by some lobbyists raise concerns about undue influence on politicians, potentially leading to corrupt practices or policies that don't reflect the will of the people. Finally, the opaque nature of lobbying activities fosters anxieties about accountability. The true motivations behind lobbying efforts and their impact on foreign policy decisions can be difficult to discern due to limited transparency. In conclusion, navigating the role of lobbyists in US foreign policy requires a nuanced approach. While acknowledging their potential to provide valuable expertise and advocate for worthy causes, ensuring transparency and fostering a more balanced approach are crucial. Only then can we be

certain that lobbying serves the national interest effectively, rather than becoming a tool for narrow interests to manipulate foreign policy. The chapter concluded that the media in both the United States and Israel supports and defends the official, showing only what they want to show, regardless of the truth. Also, each of them was only concerned about their country's interests, not the human and material losses suffered by this war.

General conclusion

The Jewish community in the US wields significant power, particularly through the Israeli Lobby, which can influence US foreign policy to benefit Israel at the expense of US and Palestinian interests. The Jewish community has established prominent organizations, including AIPAC, AJC, Think Thank, and others.

We aimed to emphasize the lobby's impact on US policy, mostly in the Middle East. It is also essential to mention that the United States helped form Israel (in 1948) and has continued to support it ever since. U.S government officials have allowed Israel to shape Middle East policy through extensive lobbying and affiliation.

For the past 60 years, American policy in the Middle East has been shaped by a Jewish population of 5.2 million in a country of over 296 million. Jews play a significant role in American politics. All of this creates an environment in which many Americans, especially decision-makers, have long had favorable views of Israel. American Jews helped Israel build a special connection with the United States, which included massive foreign aid, extraordinary diplomatic protection, and an American blind eye to numerous Israeli activities. All of this is attributable to the Israel Lobby's dominance and influence over American foreign policy, particularly Middle East policy.

The US played a role in multiple Middle Eastern wars, either directly or indirectly, to prevent other countries from opposing US authority. According to Baloch (2022), the United States and the pro-Israel Lobby have a strategy to remake the Middle East map, which may allow Israel to realize its long-held dream of Greater Israel. Thus, the Jewish lobby plays a critical role in US support for Israel, and Jews hold enormous power and influence in the United States.

In the current research, we aimed to highlight the lobby's influence on US policy particularly, US Middle East policy. We figured out that the Jewish Lobby wields multiple sources of power and employs a variety of effective access tactics. The lobby uses many models to weaken or overthrow Israel's enemies. Furthermore, Israel not only has a free hand with the Palestinians, but it is also financially, diplomatically, and militarily supported by the United States.

The practical section contains an application of all that was mentioned in the first section, the Jewish lobby has played a significant role in shaping US policy and there is a possibility correlation between the activities of the Jewish lobby and American public opinion on the Palestinian Cause.

In the US, interest organizations have a significant role in shaping government policies. Thus, the "Jewish lobby" is a powerful group dedicated to influencing American foreign policy in ways that favor Israel. This lobby is made up of American Jews who work hard every day to influence US foreign policy in ways that benefit Israel. We can claim that the Jewish community wields significant power in the United States since they have the most successful pressure group there. This pressure organization is represented by the Israeli Lobby, which manipulates American policy, particularly on topics concerning Israeli interests in the Middle East. In other words, the Israeli lobby has a huge impact on American "War on Terror" strategy in the Middle East, especially the horrific massacres we see in Palestine against weak peoples under the guise of self-defense.

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ملخص

تحقق هذه المذكرة في اللوبي اليهودي في أمريكا وتأثيره على إملاء السياسة الخارجية. ويبدأ بدراسة أصول هذه الأقلية من خلال شرح شامل للوجود اليهودي في أمريكا وعلاقته بإسرائيل. الهدف من هذه الدراسة هو فهم الأسباب التي شكلت قوة الضغط اليهودي، وبالتالي التفاعل الفريد بين هذه المجموعات ذات المصالح والحكومة الأمريكية. الخطوة الأولى هي إظهار أهمية الضغط في الولايات المتحدة وضرورة وجودها لاستكمال العملية الديمقراطية. ولا يمكن الفصل بين تفسير الطبيعة الفريدة للضغوط اليهودية وقوتها في الوصول إلى المسؤولين الحكوميين الأمريكيين . المسألة الرئيسية التي نوقشت في هذا البحث هي الامتيازات الهائلة التي تتمتع بها جماعات الضغط اليهودية، على عكس الجماعات الأخرى ذات المصالح العرقية في المشهد السياسي الأمريكي. إن دراسة ممارسة الضغط بشكل عام وفي أمريكا على وجه التحديد ستمكننا من استكشاف أصولها وأهدافها من خلال تحليل النظريات السياسية المختلفة. وبالإضافة إلى التطور التاريخي، فإن دراسة استراتيجيات وأساليب الضغط اليهودية ستساعد على الفهم الواضح للطرق اليهودية للتأثير على مكاتب صنع القرار الأمريكية، على الصعيدين المحلي و الدولي. التحقيق في منظمات اللوبي اليهودي والتميز اليهودي ردا على ظروف فريدة من نوعها يجعلنا أكثر فهما بالعلاقة الحقيقية بين أمريكا وإسرائيل. وعلاوة على ذلك، فإن أثر الرأي العام على القضية الفلسطينية قد يضع العلاقة الأخيرة في وضع حرج، لا سيما فيما يتعلق بصنع السياسة الخارجية مع الشرق الأوسط وحلفاء إسرائيل. الكلمات الرئيسية: السياسة الخارجية، جماعات المصالح، اللوبي اليهودي، وصانعو السياسات، الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية.

كلمات مفتاحية: السياسة الخارجية، جماعات المصالح، اللوبي اليهودي، صناع القرار، الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية.