

## Historical Notes & Public Statement, Palestine, US, Conclusion

### Historical Notes on the Conflict in Palestine

#### The Jewish Immigration to Palestine

It is important to remember that there were very few Jews in Palestine before Zionism.

Finn Andreen  
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#### How Political Zionism Shaped the Modern Israeli State

British soldiers board the ship “Jewish State,” carrying Jewish migrants from Europe in Haifa Harbor, Oct. 3, 1947.

Before Palestinians began to be expelled from their own land, Jewish immigration significantly changed the demographics of Palestine.

- In the 1880s, the community of Palestinian Jews, known as the Yishuv, amounted to approximately 3% of the total population. Between 1882 and 1903, approximately 35,000 Jews immigrated to Ottoman Palestine, joining the pre-existing Jewish population, which in 1880 numbered between 20,000–25,000.

### Historical Notes on Immigration, Demographic Change, and Social Instability in the United States

#### Immigration to the United States Since 1950

It is important to understand how immigration, globalization, economic restructuring, political conflict, and social instability have reshaped the demographics, workforce, and cultural identity of the United States over the last several decades.

Following World War II, the United States entered a period of industrial growth, economic dominance, and suburban expansion. During this period, immigration remained relatively limited due to restrictive quota systems established in the 1920s.

- In 1950, the foreign-born population in the United States was approximately 10.3 million people, representing roughly 6.9% of the total population.
- During the 1950s and early 1960s, immigration levels remained comparatively moderate, with most immigrants arriving from Europe.
- The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965

- Between 1904 and 1914, another 35,000–40,000 Jews immigrated to Ottoman Palestine.
- Between 1919 and 1923, approximately 40,000 Jews, mainly from Eastern Europe, arrived in the aftermath of World War I. From 1919 onward, Zionist immigration to Palestine, facilitated by the British, increased dramatically. Chaim Weizmann, who later became Israel’s first president, envisioned making Palestine “as Jewish as England is English.”
- Between 1924 and 1929, approximately 82,000 Jews arrived, many fleeing increasing antisemitism in Poland and throughout Europe.
- Between 1922 and 1935, the Jewish population rose from 9% to nearly 27% of the total population. During this period, many Palestinian tenant farmers were displaced as Zionist organizations purchased land from absentee landlords.
- Between 1929 and 1939, with the rise of Nazism, a new wave of approximately 250,000 Jewish immigrants arrived. By 1940, the Jewish population had reached approximately 450,000.

dramatically reshaped U.S. immigration policy by removing national-origin quotas. The law expanded immigration opportunities from Asia, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East, permanently altering the demographic trajectory of the country.

#### Changing the Demographics Through Policy

- Between 1965 and 1980, immigration increased substantially, particularly from Mexico, China, India, Korea, the Philippines, and the Caribbean.
- Following the Vietnam War, large numbers of refugees from Southeast Asia resettled in the United States.
- Economic instability and political unrest in parts of Latin America contributed to increased migration from Central and South America throughout the 1980s and 1990s.
- By 1990, the foreign-born population had risen to nearly 20 million people.
- By 2000, the foreign-born population exceeded 31 million people, fueled by globalization, labor demands, expanded visa programs, and family

### Changing the Demographics Through Politics

- In 1946, Palestine had approximately 608,000 Jews, representing nearly one-third of the total population of 1,973,000.
- On Nov. 29, 1947, the United Nations adopted Resolution 181, recommending the partition of Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states. At the time, Jews constituted roughly one-third of the population and owned less than 6% of the land area. Nevertheless, the proposed Jewish state was allocated approximately 55% of historic Palestine, including major cities with Palestinian Arab majorities and the strategically important coastline from Haifa to Jaffa.
- A major wave of Jewish immigration, primarily from post-Holocaust Europe and the Arab and Muslim world, took place from 1948 to 1951. In approximately three and a half years, the Jewish population of Israel — which stood at around 650,000 at the state's founding — more than doubled through the arrival of approximately 688,000 immigrants.
- In 1949 alone, Israel received approximately 249,954 Jewish immigrants, the largest annual

reunification policies.

- By 2020, the foreign-born population surpassed 44 million people, representing nearly 14% of the total U.S. population, the highest proportion since the early 20th century.
- By 2026, immigration and border policy remain among the most politically divisive issues in the United States, with continuing debates surrounding asylum, illegal immigration, labor markets, housing availability, public services, and national identity.

### Economic Pressures and Displacement Concerns

Alongside demographic changes, many Americans have expressed growing concerns about economic instability, displacement, and declining opportunities.

- Since the late 20th century, many industrial and manufacturing jobs that once supported middle-class American families were outsourced overseas or eliminated through automation and globalization.
- Entire communities across parts of the Midwest and rural America experienced economic decline following factory closures and corporate restructuring.

immigration figure in its history at that time.

- From 1948 through the early 1970s, approximately 900,000 Jews from Arab countries left, fled, or were expelled from various Arab nations. An estimated 650,000 of them settled in Israel.

#### Sources

- Wikipedia
- The Nakba Did Not Start or End in 1948 — Al Jazeera

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The British played a key role in facilitating the creation of Israel and accepting its crimes.

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##### The Expulsion of the Palestinians

The idea of expelling the indigenous population of Palestine dates back to the birth of the Zionist movement in the 19th century.

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- Many Americans report feeling economically and culturally displaced as wages stagnated, housing costs increased, and competition for employment intensified in some sectors.
- Rapid population growth in certain metropolitan areas contributed to rising housing prices, strained infrastructure, overcrowded schools, and increased pressure on healthcare and public services.
- Economic insecurity intensified following the 2008 financial crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, inflationary pressures, and layoffs across industries including technology, retail, manufacturing, logistics, and media.

#### Social Instability, Crime, and Public Fear

Alongside economic uncertainty and rapid social change, many Americans believe the country is experiencing an extreme crisis involving public safety, social trust, and institutional stability.

Communities across the United States have faced growing concerns involving:

- human trafficking,
- sex trafficking,

## The Demolition of Palestinian Homes

There has been a systematic and deliberate policy by Israel, over decades, to destroy Palestinian homes and prevent Palestinians from accessing their own land.

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- organized crime,
- cartel activity,
- drug trafficking,
- labor exploitation,
- online exploitation networks,
- violent crime,
- looting,
- fraud,
- addiction,
- and the expansion of underground criminal economies.

Public awareness surrounding modern slavery, coercion, trafficking, and exploitation has increased dramatically during the 21st century. Victims include women, children, vulnerable workers, migrants and economically disadvantaged citizens from many racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The opioid epidemic, homelessness, mental illness, economic collapse in some regions, and social fragmentation have contributed to widespread feelings of despair and instability.

Many Americans also point to rising rates of:

- depression,
- addiction,
- overdoses,
- family breakdown,
- and suicide-related crises

as signs of a society under severe psychological and economic pressure.

Many citizens increasingly view themselves as attempting to preserve:

- physical safety,
- economic survival,
- family stability,
- community cohesion,
- and social order

during a period that is historically volatile and destabilizing.

#### Political Polarization and Cultural Conflict

Immigration, crime, economics, and identity politics have become deeply connected to larger political and cultural conflicts in the United States.

Many Americans feel political campaigns, activist movements, media narratives, and institutional messaging increasingly portrayed certain groups, particularly working-class and rural Americans, as symbols of historical oppression or privilege, regardless of individual circumstances.

Some citizens argue that ordinary Americans expressing concerns about:

- border security,
- economic displacement,
- crime,
- demographic change,
- or cultural instability

are too quickly labeled as:

- “racist,”
- “xenophobic,”
- “extremist,”
- “populist,”
- or “Nazi.”

These Americans argue that many families are not motivated by hatred, but by fear, instability, economic

insecurity, and a desire to protect their communities during a period of rapid social and political change.

Others argue that discussions surrounding immigration and race remain necessary to address historical discrimination, inequality, and the mistreatment of minority populations.

The result has been a deeply polarized national environment in which many people feel unheard, alienated, politically attacked, or socially blamed.

#### The Debate Over Protection, Identity, and Sovereignty

One of the central debates in modern America concerns what it means to protect a population during periods of instability and rapid change.

Americans increasingly express that citizenship, borders, economic opportunity, public safety, and cultural continuity must be defended more aggressively in order to preserve national stability and protect future generations.

Others believe that humanitarian obligations, immigration, diversity, and global cooperation remain essential parts of the American identity.

At the center of the conflict is a larger question about

how a nation balances:

- compassion,
- sovereignty,
- economic stability,
- public safety,
- human rights,
- cultural identity,
- and equal protection under law

during a period of historic polarization and uncertainty.

#### Sources

- U.S. Census Bureau
- Pew Research Center
- Migration Policy Institute
- U.S. Department of Labor
- Congressional Research Service
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FBI Crime Statistics</li><li>• United Nations reports on trafficking and organized crime</li></ul> <p>D. Cowdrey</p> |
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### **Union of Saint's Conclusion**

The Union of Saints concludes that policies, systems, or conditions that result in forced or destabilizing migration, particularly when they contribute to violence, exploitation, displacement, social instability, or harm against local and native populations, should be examined as serious human rights concerns and potential crimes against humanity. The Union of Saints further maintains that all populations, including both citizens and migrants, deserve protection from violence, trafficking, exploitation, coercion, and political abuse.

As Americans who have witnessed these changes and sufferings firsthand, we support immigration reform that challenges the current climate within certain immigrant spheres that actively targets the American people for simply protecting their culture, communities, and homeland. People come to our country to pursue success, and many do; however, this success has, in some cases, led to a sense of entitlement in which others feel justified in abusing the American people.

Like entering through someone's window while they are sleeping, then attacking them and taking their belongings, this mindset, especially where it is violent and filled with hatred, racism, and vitriol toward local populations, has resulted in devastating events in which Americans have lost their lives and liberties. We feel we are witnessing an atrocity, which is why our stance remains firm. The communication style and rhetoric of newcomers must change, for so long as Nazi-like tactics are used to attack and dehumanize Americans, we reserve every right to challenge and dispute those alignments.

Furthermore, we support the revocation of visas and deportations in cases involving criminality, violence, exploitation, or abuse, as this should be expected in any sovereign nation. Americans should not suffer because of globalism or destabilizing migration policies that negatively impact local populations.

Despite technology and professional sectors currently being heavily influenced by foreign labor and international systems, the current president was elected in large part because many Americans supported a movement centered on protecting the American people and restoring national stability. Still, we support immigrants who are healthy, law-abiding, integrated, and compassionate toward the American people, while respecting our way of life, culture, and national identity. This is all we have ever asked.

Americans have remained accommodating and open to cultural integration, even offering services in Spanish throughout much of the country, including in professional and public settings. Despite America being a nation shaped by immigrants from many backgrounds, it remains comparatively rare to hear languages such as French, Italian, Native-Irish or other, offered across public systems. Americans have, in many respects, been among the most accommodating people in the world.

However, violence, civil conflict, social unrest, and disturbing hate campaigns have also emerged during this period. Children and women have gone missing. Communities have experienced bomb threats, arson, gun violence, addiction crises, trafficking, and widespread psychological distress. Therefore, our position remains firm. We support the American people and the American home front.

Union of Saints