**Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

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| **1.** [**Two-State Solution**](http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=001327)**: Israel becomes its own country and Palestinians have their own country** |
| **PRO:** * The only way to create lasting peace is through a two-state solution
* The international community wants a two-state solution
 | **CON:** * The Israelis are afraid that the Palestinians will not recognize the state of Israel and try to attack it.
* The Arabs and Palestinians have a history of attacking Israel
* The ancient homeland of Israel includes the Palestinian territories
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| **2. Significance of Jerusalem to** [**Jews**](http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000522) **and** [**Muslims**](http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000521) |
| **PRO:** * For the Jewish people, Jerusalem has been a holy city for over 2500 years
* The Jewish people have been attacked throughout their history but have looked to Jerusalem as a symbol of home
* Jerusalem is the city promised by God as the capitol of the Jewish people
 | **CON:** * For the Muslims, Jerusalem is the location that Muhammad made his final ascent into heaven
* Jerusalem is mentioned prominently in the Qur’an and is one the of the three holy cities of Islam
* Muslims have controlled the city for nearly 1500 years
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| **3.** [**Palestinian Refugees' "Right of Return": The idea that Palestinians should be able to return to their homes now in Israel.**](http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000554)  |
| **PRO:** * The Palestinians seek to get their homes that were taken away from the Jews who came in only in the last 100 years
* The Palestinians have no homeland in other Arab states and many have had to live in refugee camps for the last 60 years
* The Palestinians demand the right to their historical homes and will fight if necessary
 | **CON:** * Most of the refugees were created when the Arabs attacked Israel
* Jews were kicked out of Arab countries so it fair that Palestinians get kicked out of Israel
* The Israelis have created a homeland for over 60 years and the homes the Palestinians used to have no longer exist.
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| **4.** [**Israeli Settlements in the West Bank**](http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/view.answers.php?questionID=000534)**: Israelis have been building settlements for Jews in Palestinian territories with walls to defend them** |
| **PRO:** * Israelis have a right to all the land not half according to old international agreements
* Israel needs to create areas of defense in case the Arabs try to attack again (which they have done three times already)
* The settlements have roads, infrastructure and development that the Palestinians have not been able to do.
 | **CON:** * The settlements prove that the Israelis are not serious about peace. It shows that Israel just wants to slowly take over the whole area for itself
* The settlements have put up walls and checkpoints so Palestinians are prisoners in their own homeland
* Good land is being taken away from the Palestinians and making them poor while Israelis prosper
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**You are going to solve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict! Good luck, you’re going to need it! You are going to be in groups of four in which you are going to negotiate the major points of conflict.**

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| **Point of Conflict** | **Negotiated Agreement** |
| 1. One-state or two-state solution? How will you divide these states? |  |
| 2. Who will control Jerusalem? |  |
| 3. What about Palestinian’s Right of Return? |  |
| 4. What about the Israeli Settlements in Palestinian territories? |  |

**Reflection:** Why don’t you think that the Israelis and Palestinians have come to an agreement? What do you think will happen in the future in this region? What can America do to help?