

# A Collaborative Development Zone for Israelis and Palestinians

Published 2007, 123 pages, 117 footnotes, numerous figures, technical content included

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This is a policy proposal for a collaborative development zone for Israelis and Palestinians based on the portfolio endowment policy. This policy proposal is intended to characterize a realistic choice for the two peoples, a choice that advances both the immediate exercise of their rights to self-determination and their pursuit over the long term of sustainable development.

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But before presenting this proposal, it is worth characterizing the alternatives confronting the two peoples. After all, wanting to know in advance about the consequences of our choices is a normal, healthy attitude. One useful point of view is: the two peoples together constitute a system; that system is able to exhibit different behavior modes; it is the broad regime or phase of the system which the two peoples collectively choose.

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Outgrowing the dangerous notion that 'might makes right' irrevocably excludes as illegitimate two conceivable choices: capitulation / domination and paroxysm.

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The historical situation can be referred to as stalemate, where interests are thought to be opposed and unilateral decisions create confrontation... The seeming objective of peaceful mutual accommodation, in other words, each people leaving the other alone in peace, might be termed toleration. Genuine collaboration is more ambitious than toleration, but can, perhaps counter-intuitively, nonetheless be a more stable choice in an uncertain world. It is the choice of genuine collaboration - the mutual effort to achieve a resolution with maximum legitimacy - which is the subject of this proposal.

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The subject of this policy proposal is the collaborative development zone or 'Green Belt', a necklace of enterprise parks centered along the Green Line demarcating territories occupied in the 1967 conflict. One powerful focus of this proposal is the portfolio endowment policy. The portfolio endowment policy automatically endows every citizen with a financial instrument composed of a portfolio of enterprises. A highly liquid, specialized nationwide marketplace supports a range of investment choices at periodic intervals. Some inter-related categories of Green Belt enterprises: agriculture, branding, consultancies, cultural marketables, education, finance, health, international institutes, tourism, utilities.

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If the deepest goal of the two peoples is to enjoy their right to self-determination as they pursue sustainable development, then one indispensable tool is effective statecraft... It is reasonable to believe that the portfolio endowment policy in a collaborative zone could help promote successful statehood.

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The dreams of the Palestinian and Jewish people are inextricably linked, for better or worse. The ongoing crisis has real danger and opportunity. The portfolio endowment policy in a collaborative development zone is a realistic choice for the two peoples which can immediately help both enjoy self-determination while pursuing sustainable development.

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