



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS

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Dear AAJLJ Members and Friends,

I am pleased to share with you the two latest columns prepared by AAJLJ legal commentator Joel Margolis – which, although they were written a couple of weeks apart, happen to have both been posted yesterday by two different publications.

The first op-ed, “The Unwanted Two-State Solution,” which can be viewed at <https://www.jns.org/the-unwanted-two-state-solution/>, courtesy of the Jewish News Syndicate (JNS), discusses the sad reality that the Palestinians appear to be uninterested, at best, in the two-state solution that continues to be promoted by so many well-meaning Israelis and Americans – and the implications for speedy action on that front.

The second article, “Israel’s Temporary Control of Gaza,” a *Times of Israel* blog post, appearing at <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/israels-temporary-control-of-gaza/>, clarifies the legal situation that would apply were Israel to reimpose martial law in Gaza following the end (hopefully in the near future) of current hostilities. It should be emphasized that this is not an endorsement of Israel’s so doing – many, if not most, Israelis dread the prospect of even temporarily administering that territory once again, as opposed to some other solution – but rather an effort to better understand the legal context.

This seems like an auspicious time to introduce Joel to those of you not familiar with him, as he has been preparing for us thoughtful and nuanced pieces such as these for several months now. Previously a telecommunications lawyer in both the public and private sectors, specializing in government affairs, contracts, and privacy law, Joel, in his capacity as legal commentator, prepares articles for AAJLJ examining the legal aspects of issues affecting the Jewish people, including antisemitism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. His 2001 book, “The Israeli-Palestinian Legal War,” analyzed the major legal issues in that conflict.

We look forward to continuing to share with you Joel’s analysis and insights on these challenging issues!

Shabbat Shalom and best regards to all,

Richard T. Foltin
Executive Director