THE ISRAELI-PLO ACCORD: Israel is Saying Yes

1993 Chronology of the Israeli-PLO Accord

**January 19:** Israel’s Parliament repeals a 1986 law forbidding Israelis to have contact with PLO members. **August 13:** Israel effectively accepts a PLO presence in peace talks. **August 30-31:** Foreign Minister Shimon Peres announces preliminary accord on Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories, reached in secret talks in Norway and Tunisia between the PLO and the Israeli Government. **September 10:** PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin exchange letters of mutual recognition. **September 13:** Peres and PLO negotiator Mahmoud Abbas sign the self-rule draft accord at the White House; Arafat and Rabin, meeting for the first time, shake hands to confirm the accord.

**Note:** All Israeli data are for the adult Jewish population; Israeli Arabs are not included.

**Source:** Facts on File, September 16, 1993.

**Question:** Was the Israeli government correct in opening negotiations with the PLO in order to reach an agreement on Palestinian autonomy?

- **Definitely yes:** 32%
- **I think so:** 32%
- **Definitely not:** 24%
- **I think not:** 12%

**Question:** Israel and the PLO have agreed on a plan for Palestinian autonomy that will begin in Gaza and Jericho, and at a later stage extend beyond that. How clear to you is the agreement with the PLO? From what you know so far, are you for or against this plan?

- **Clear:** 40%
- **Not Clear:** 60%
- **For:** 62%
- **Against:** 39%

**Source:** Survey by the Guttman Institute of Applied Social Research for the American Jewish Committee (AJC), September 7-8, 1993.

**Question:** Do you approve or disapprove of the Autonomy Agreement, "Gaza and Jericho first!"

- **Approve:**
  - 53%
  - 57%
  - 61%
  - 60%

- **Disapprove:**
  - 45%
  - 44%
  - 41%
  - 37%
  - 38%

**Source:** Survey by the DAHAF Research Institute, latest that of September 27, 1993.
Distinctions:

Yes, There Will Be an Independent Palestinian State

Question: Twenty years from now, do you think there will or will not be an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza?

Source: Survey by Gallup Israel for CNN, September 14, 1993.

Strong Yes to the Autonomy Plan for Gaza

Question: Are you for or against the Palestinian autonomy plan as it applies to the Gaza Strip?

Source: Survey by the Guttmman Institute for the AJC, September 7-8, 1993.

Yes to Return of Part of West Bank and the Golan

Questions: How much of the West Bank would you be willing to give up in order to reach a peace agreement with the Arab states? How much would you be willing to give up on the Golan Heights in order to reach a peace agreement with the Arab states?

Source: Survey by the Guttmann Institute for the AJC, September 7-8, 1993.

No To Change in Jerusalem's Status

Question: In the framework of a permanent peace with the Palestinians, should Israel agree to an eventual compromise or the status of Jerusalem as a united city under Israeli jurisdiction?

Source: Survey by the Guttmman Institute for the AJC, September 7-8, 1993.

American Jews Less Worried than Israeli Jews About Sweeping Change

Question: Given the situation that has now been created, do you favor or oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state?