



# U.N. Votes Overwhelmingly To Condemn U.S. Decision On Jerusalem

December 21, 2017 12:11 PM ET

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The United Nations General Assembly has overwhelmingly rejected the Trump administration's decision to recognize the disputed city of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. By a lopsided 128-9 vote Thursday, the diplomats gathered in New York City ignored U.S. objections and approved a resolution calling on countries to avoid moving their embassies to Jerusalem.

Among the countries that voted in favor of the resolution are many traditional U.S. allies, including the United Kingdom and France. Israel, which celebrated Trump's decision earlier this month, joined the U.S. in voting against the measure. Thirty-five countries abstained.

Voting Ended		12/21/2017		12:13:56 PM	
<b>Item 5 Draft Resolution A/ES-10/L.22</b>					
<b>Status of Jerusalem</b>					
+ AFGHANISTAN	X CAMEROON	+ FRANCE	+ KYRGYZSTAN	+ NETHERLANDS	+ SERBIA
+ ALBANIA	X CANADA	+ GABON	+ LAO PDR	+ NEW ZEALAND	+ SEYCHELLES
+ ALGERIA	CENTRAL AFR REP...	+ GAMBIA	X LATVIA	+ NICARAGUA	+ SIERRA LEONE
+ ANDORRA	+ CHAD	+ GEORGIA	+ LEBANON	+ NIGER	+ SINGAPORE
+ ANGOLA	+ CHILE	+ GERMANY	X LESOTHO	+ NIGERIA	+ SLOVAKIA
X ANTIGUA-BARBUDA	+ CHINA	+ GHANA	+ LIBERIA	+ NORWAY	+ SLOVENIA
X ARGENTINA	X COLOMBIA	+ GREECE	+ LIBYA	+ OMAN	X SOLOMON ISLANDS
+ ARMENIA	+ COMOROS	+ GRENADA	+ LIECHTENSTEIN	+ PAKISTAN	+ SOMALIA
X AUSTRALIA	+ CONGO	- GUATEMALA	+ LITHUANIA	- PALAU	+ SOUTH AFRICA
+ AUSTRIA	+ COSTA RICA	+ GUINEA	+ LUXEMBOURG	X PANAMA	X SOUTH SUDAN
+ AZERBAIJAN	+ COTE D'IVOIRE	+ GUYANA	+ MADAGASCAR	+ PAPUA NEW GUINEA	+ SPAIN
X BAHAMAS	X CROATIA	+ GUYANA	X MALAWI	+ PARAGUAY	+ SRI LANKA
+ BAHRAIN	+ CUBA	X HAITI	+ MALAYSIA	+ PERU	+ SUDAN
+ BANGLADESH	+ CYPRUS	- HONDURAS	+ MALDIVES	X PHILIPPINES	+ SURINAME
+ BARBADOS	X CZECH REPUBLIC	X HUNGARY	+ MALI	+ POLAND	+ SWAZILAND
+ BELARUS	+ DEM PR OF KOREA	+ ICELAND	+ MALTA	+ PORTUGAL	+ SWEDEN
+ BELGIUM	+ DEM REP OF CONGO	+ INDIA	- MARSHALL ISLANDS	+ QATAR	+ SWITZERLAND
+ BELIZE	+ DENMARK	+ INDONESIA	+ MAURITANIA	+ REP OF KOREA	+ SYRIAN ARAB REP...
X BENIN	+ DJIBOUTI	+ IRAN (ISLAMIC REP...)	+ MAURITIUS	+ REP OF MOLDOVA	+ TAJIKISTAN
X BHUTAN	+ DOMINICA	+ IRAQ	X MEXICO	X ROMANIA	+ THAILAND
+ BOLIVIA (PLURINAT...)	X DOMINICAN REP...	- IRELAND	- MICRONESIA (FS)	+ RUSSIAN FED...	+ THE FYR MACEDONIA
X BOSNIA-HERZEGOVI...	+ ECUADOR	+ ISRAEL	+ MONACO	X RWANDA	+ TIMOR-LESTE
+ BOTSWANA	+ EGYPT	+ ITALY	+ MONGOLIA	+ SAINT KITTS-NEVIS	- TOGO
+ BRAZIL	+ EL SALVADOR	X JAMAICA	+ MONTENEGRO	+ SAINT LUCIA	+ TONGA
+ BRUNEI DARUSSAL...	X EQUATORIAL GUINEA	+ JAPAN	+ MOROCCO	+ SAINT VINCENT-GR...	X TRINIDAD-TOBAGO
+ BULGARIA	+ ERITREA	+ JORDAN	+ MOZAMBIQUE	+ SAMOA	+ TUNISIA
+ BURKINA FASO	+ ESTONIA	+ KAZAKHSTAN	+ MYANMAR	+ SAN MARINO	+ TURKEY
+ BURUNDI	+ ETHIOPIA	+ KENYA	+ NAMIBIA	+ SAO TOME-PRINCIPE	+ TURKMENISTAN
+ CABO VERDE	X FIJI	X KIRIBATI	- NAURU	+ SAUDI ARABIA	+ TUVALU
+ CAMBODIA	+ FINLAND	+ KUWAIT	+ NEPAL	+ SENEGAL	X UGANDA
+ UKRAINE					+ UNITED ARAB EMIR...
					+ UNITED KINGDOM
					+ UNITED REP TANZA...
					+ UNITED STATES
					+ URUGUAY
					+ UZBEKISTAN
					X VANUATU
					+ VENEZUELA (BOLIV...)
					+ VIET NAM
					+ YEMEN
					+ ZAMBIA
					+ ZIMBABWE
+ IN FAVOUR: 128	- AGAINST: 9	X ABSTENTION: 35			

Earlier in the day, before the assembly voted on the declaration, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley expressed her resistance in no uncertain terms.

"The United States will remember this day in which it was singled out for attack in the General Assembly for the very act of exercising our right as a sovereign nation," Haley said Thursday.

"We will remember it when we are called upon to once again make the world's largest contribution to the United Nations. And we will remember it when so many countries come calling on us, as they so often do, to pay even more and to use our influence for their benefit."

[President Trump announced](#) earlier this month his administration's decision to recognize Jerusalem as the Israeli capital and begin the process of moving the U.S. Embassy to the disputed city. The move fulfilled a key campaign promise — but it also immediately set off a [widespread backlash](#) in countries across the world, who believe it would significantly undermine the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians, who also claim Jerusalem as the capital of a prospective state.

As Israel lauded the move, the country's Arab neighbors condemned the move as a violation of an [international resolution](#) that forbids attempts "to alter the character and status" of the city before the peace process has concluded. And beyond the Middle East, countries across the West quickly reiterated the fact that their own embassies would not move from their present locations in Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile, in the Palestinian territories, protests [escalated into clashes](#) between demonstrators and Israeli authorities. And rocket fire from the Gaza Strip was answered with Israeli airstrikes.

The U.N. Security Council sought earlier this week to vote on whether to demand that states refrain from placing their diplomatic missions in Jerusalem. Without naming the U.S. or Trump, the resolution drafted by Egypt nevertheless would have proclaimed Trump's decision null and void. Every country on the council voted for the measure Monday — but the U.S., which holds veto power, [blocked the vote](#).

As NPR's Daniel Estrin notes, the Palestinian delegation would not let the matter rest there: "With this U.N. vote [Thursday], the Palestinians want to show the U.S. that the majority of the world backs their positions," he told Morning Edition.

"And it's part of a bigger diplomatic move that the Palestinians are making to sideline the U.S. in the peace process. They think America has taken Israel's side on the sensitive issue of Jerusalem."

Haley, for her part, decried what she sees as building anti-Israeli sentiment in the U.N.

"To its shame the United Nations has long been a hostile place for the state of Israel," Haley told the General Assembly on Thursday. "It's a wrong that undermines the credibility of this institution and that, in turn, is harmful for the entire world.

"I've often wondered why, in the face of such hostility, Israel has chosen to remain a member of this body," she added. "And then I remember that Israel has chosen to remain in this institution because it's important to stand up for yourself."

*This is a developing story and will be updated.*