

AMY KLOBUCHAR
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 28, 2020

The Honorable Michael Pompeo
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

I write to express my strong concern about the potential unilateral annexation of territory in the West Bank by Israel and the negative impact that such a decision could have on the prospects for a negotiated two-state solution that allows Israelis and Palestinians to live side-by-side in peace and security.

I have long supported a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, based on shared democratic values and a steadfast commitment to Israel's security. But while the swearing in of a new unity government in Israel presents an opportunity for our countries to continue strengthening our ties and addressing regional challenges, the agreement that formed the government includes a controversial provision to allow for the unilateral annexation of Palestinian-claimed land in the West Bank. The potential for unilateral annexation of this land – which I would not support – has caused significant concern in the United States and in countries across the world—including concerns that such action could undermine the prospects for a peace process that has buy-in from Israelis, Palestinians, and the Arab world, and that could lead to direct negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians that could result in a two-state solution.

Preserving the prospects for a lasting peace agreement is critical to the interests of both the United States and Israel. It is for this reason that I urge the Administration to oppose measures that could jeopardize those prospects.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator