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