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Background

Saudi Arabia authored the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative (API), which affirmed the Arab League's willingness to pursue establishing relations with Israel once Palestinian statehood is achieved.

Constraints

- Saudi demands from U.S.
 - NATO-esque security guarantees
 - Support for civilian nuclear energy program
 - Pulling back limits on U.S. weapon sales to KSA
 - U.S. unlikely to and should not unquestioningly fulfill these demands
- Saudi demands for meaningful steps toward Palestinian statehood
- Israeli and U.S. domestic politics
- Saudi Arabia may not be ready for full normalization

Recommendations



The U.S. should:

- Continue leading normalization process
- Establish goal within normalization process of advancing two states
- Mobilize support from Jordan and Egypt



Saudi Arabia should:

- Clarify its demands of Israel regarding the Palestinian issue
- Ask Israel for a public commitment to the spirit of the API
- Restore aid to Palestinians and invest in the Palestinian economy
- Use economic leverage to push for Palestinian reforms



Israel should:

- Commit to forgoing West Bank annexation
- Bolster PA sovereignty in West Bank through economic and territorial measures
- Maintain status quo in Jerusalem



The PA should:

- Conduct serious governance reforms to its structure and functioning
- Implement economic reforms to improve the Palestinian people's economic prospects