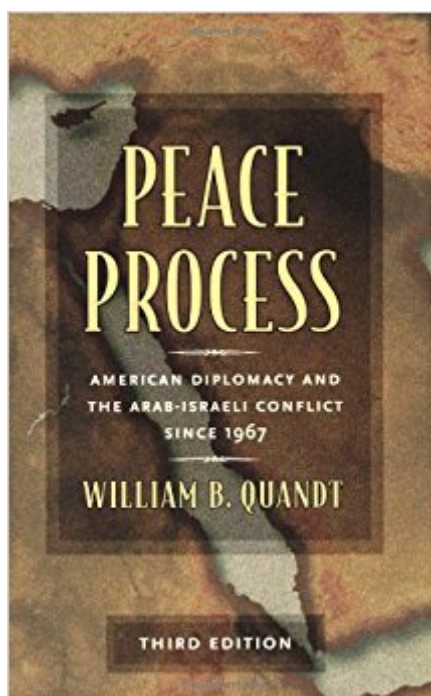


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# Peace Process: American Diplomacy And The Arab-Israeli Conflict Since 1967



## Synopsis

Updated through the first term of President George W. Bush, the latest edition of this classic work analyzes how each U.S. president since Lyndon Johnson has dealt with the complex challenge of Arab-Israeli peacemaking. There have been remarkable successes — such as the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty — frustrating failures, and dangerous wars along the way. This book helps to situate the current Middle East crisis in historical context and point to some possible ways out of the impasse between Israelis and Palestinians. Quandt suggests a clear U.S. commitment to a two-state solution — one that would assure Israel of security and peace within the 1967 treaty-established borders, offer the Palestinians an early end to Israeli occupation of Gaza and most of the West Bank, and establish both a Jewish and Arab Jerusalem. Written especially for classroom use, *Peace Process* is also an invaluable resource for policymakers and anyone interested in this vital region of the world. Praise for previous editions of *Peace Process* "Clearly written, carefully balanced and comprehensive in scope... should prove invaluable to all serious students of American foreign policy." — *New York Times Book Review* "A major work, whether judged by the standards of classical diplomatic history or modern political science." — *Foreign Affairs* "Provides fresh insights into the complexities of creating the process and defining the substance of American foreign policymaking." — *Survival* "While objective to a fault, Quandt writes with an insider's knowledge of policymaking and decisions taken at the highest levels of government." — *Middle East Policy* "Both a history and analysis of an evolving relationship between Israel and its Arab opponents." — *Choice* "A major contribution to understanding the complexity of U.S. presidents' handling of the [Arab-Israeli] conflict. It should be compulsory reading for anyone studying the Middle East conflict, peacemaking and conflict resolution." — *Journal of Peace Research*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"This classic work has now been updated to reflect recently declassified US government documents and other published materials relating to the Johnson, Nixon, and Clinton presidencies, and to carry the story through George W. Bush's first term. A comprehensive account of the Middle East peace process, the book places the current situation in historical context and points to possible negotiations out of the impasse between Israelis and Palestinians." &#x97;Fred Rhodes, Middle East, 11/1/2005"Quandt's work on this subject, including this third edition, is probably the most readable, comprehensive, thoroughly researched, dispassionate, honest, fair, and yet critical, account we have." &#x97;Thomas R. Mattair, Middle East Policy, 9/1/2005

"A masterful study of American diplomacy. Quandt's cogent analysis of the role of crises in defining the agenda for a succession of American presidents is built on new and original evidence. Peace Process is must reading for anyone interested in the Middle East and American foreign policy. It is an enduring study of American leadership in a troubled and important part of the world."&#151;Janice Gross Stein, University of Toronto"Essential reading for those engaged or interested in the present Israeli-Arab peace talks."&#151;Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich, Embassy of Israel, Washington, D.C."Just the right mix of good, old-fashioned narrative diplomatic history and insightful interpretation. The book truly illuminates American foreign policy regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, but at the same time it offers thoughtful analysis and interpretation of what diplomacy and American policy is all about."&#151;L. Carl Brown, Princeton UniversityPRAISE FOR THE PREVIOUS EDITIONS:"Clearly written, carefully balanced and comprehensive in scope.... Should prove invaluable to all serious students of American foreign policy."&#151;New York Times Book Review "A major work, whether judged by the standards of classical diplomatic history or modern political science."&#151;Foreign Affairs "Provides fresh insights into the complexities of creating the process and defining the substance of American foreign policymaking."&#151;Survival

As with the other books I have been reading in preparation to teach a class on the U.S. Involvement

in the Middle East, this book was very helpful.

It worked for what I needed. I haven't read the entire book as I needed one chapter for a group project in one of my graduate classes.

This book provides an excellent analysis of the American involvement in the Arab Israeli conflict. It categorizes the conflict's resolution as a process evolving towards peace. The book picks up in 1967 with American involvement in trying to resolve the six day war and the aftermath where the Arab countries began thinking about a resolution to the conflict. The 1973 war marked another turning point in the conflict and the US response began to crystallize and become consistent with a possible solution. It became clear that the Soviet Union's quiet acquiescence would be necessary. The American negotiations are very clearly laid out in this book and the author does an excellent job of establishing motive. This is a wonderful book if you have a good knowledge of the conflict. For those seeking that history I would recommend Benny Morris book Righteous Victims. This book really shines in the Nixon and on era where the author clearly categorizes the diplomatic efforts of the Kissinger Shuttle, Camp David Accords, the Oslo agreements and the Road Map. Overall the author is fairly unbiased and places blame where appropriate. The one place where this is lacking is in the analysis of George W. Bush. While Bush has done little towards solving the crisis the second to last chapter is more about the war in Iraq and why it was a bad plan than why it detracted from the ability to focus on the Arab Israeli conflict. Despite this it is still the best book we have on American diplomatic history in this conflict and well worth the time to read if you want to understand the conflict.

This detailed account of the American peace process in the Arab Israeli conflict is written by William Quandt, who has served Nixon and Carter on the National Security council. Quandt tells what diplomatic moves the United States made to bring peace between Israel and the Arabs. The account begins with the Six Day war. After the Six Day war the Arabs wanted Israel to give back land they had taken and justice for the Palestinians. The Israelis wanted peace and the Arabs to recognize Israel's right to exist. But the Israelis had no intention of giving up land, and the Arabs were not likely to recognize Israel's legitimacy. Tension existed in the Middle East until war broke out again in October 1973. Kissinger had ignored the Middle East until then, after which he negotiated continually in the Middle East under Nixon and Ford to bring peace to keep the Soviets from exploiting the chaos. Carter started negotiations in the 70s, after Begin began construction of

settlements on the lands captured in the Six Day war, indicating that the lands would be permanently held by Israel, making peace with the Arabs much more difficult. Carter worked hard to gain peace between Israel and Egypt which cost him in domestic politics. Carter mentioned the Palestinians for the first time in the negotiations. Under Reagan there were a lot of plans, but little was accomplished. After the Gulf War Bush restarted peace negotiations, hoping that the Palestinians support of Saddam Hussein would weaken them, and the collapse of the Soviet Union would remove support for the Arabs. Quandt ends with an account of Clinton's attempts at peace in the Mideast. Quandt concludes that certain conditions must be met to gain success. There must be a realist appraisal of the regional situation, presidents like Johnson, Nixon, and Reagan considered Mideast policy as part of US Soviet relations. The President and his top advisors must work together in the negotiations, not like in the Rogers plan. There must be domestic support for American policy, a problem for Carter. Success as a mediator depends on a feeling for both process and substance. There must be quiet negotiation and preparation for negotiations. Pressure only succeeds if carefully exerted. Timing is crucial for successful negotiations. Because this book is about the peace process between America and Israel, there is almost no information about the domestic politics of any countries, especially the Arab countries. This book includes a good bibliography, and some good maps.

Very detailed and informative of both the negotiation process and the approaches of different administrations.

If you are a patient reader, and want to know how the United States has been involved in the Mid-East Peace Process since 1967, this is an amazing book. It helped me understand the roots of anti-Americanism. The later presidents are subjected to more analysis by Quandt than the earlier ones.

I feel that this book deals beautifully with the issues it tries to attend to. Quandt manages to bring a fresh perspective to the middle eastern situation, which is a good change from most other books of this source. This is by far one of the best books on the middle eastern peace talks i have ever read and i would strongly recommend it to anyone who wants to learn more about it.

The Peace Process in Israel and Palestine is not going to come anytime soon. Israel has not given up its land and the Palestian people refuse to stop fighting for their homelands. It is a terrible state

of affairs because the Israelis are getting so much military funding from the big Western governments such as the US and the Palestinians have not only seen the destruction of their homeland but they have also witnessed the incredible destruction of their people. This book is a summary of all the major agreements since the 1946 UN declaration of the state of Israel up until the Camp David peace talks in 1996 during President Clinton's campaign. It is pretty good at describing the basic ideas of the peace accords but gives no new information on the diplomacy.

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