

## **Leveraging Interdependence for Mutual Prosperity**

## What we've learned

- In **past efforts** to achieve a two-state solution, Israel prioritized **maximizing physical segregation** between Israelis and Palestinians while maintaining de facto control over the Palestinian economy. Israeli leaders have since championed "**economic peace**"—arguing that Palestinian economic growth could substitute for political independence—while severely restricting Palestinian movement, particularly access to Area C and Jerusalem.
- These approaches have **impoverished Palestinians**: since the start of the Oslo peace process in 1993, Israel-Palestine has become <u>one of the most unequal places on the planet</u>.
- This economic gap **makes both peoples less secure**, exacerbating ethnonational tensions. Prior to October 7, Gaza was the most deprived region in all of Israel-Palestine.

## What we propose

- ALFA advocates Palestinian sovereignty and economic independence while recognizing that the
  interdependence of Israeli and Palestinian economic life can be leveraged for mutual gain.
  Our vision of "two states-one homeland" ensures that Palestine's economic viability will not be
  undercut by far-reaching annexation or crippling restrictions on movement and access. But it also
  allows both economies to benefit from their complementary features.
- The two-state confederation we propose offers both states the mix of independence and integration they need in view of the resources and interests they share. In some spheres like trade, taxation, and monetary policy, greater independence would be beneficial. In others, like energy, water, public health, environment, and transportation, deep harmonization is needed.
- ALFA prioritizes **reducing economic inequalities** between Israelis and Palestinians by, expanding protections, partnership and programs for labor and building a common social safety net.
- In the immediate term, countries planning to recognize Palestinian statehood should develop policies for promoting Palestinian economic growth. This includes offering preferential trade agreements; implementing educational and training exchange programs; advocating for an end to exclusive Israeli control over customs stations for import and export and adopting policies to reduce transaction costs and time for Palestinian trade; developing security solutions based on individual threats, rather than collective limitations; advocating discontinuing the Paris Protocol of 1994; advancing Palestinian control over collection of clearance taxes (via third parties if needed); and advancing Palestine's designation as a separate customs territory (open candidacy for WTO status).

<u>A Land for All</u> is a joint movement of Palestinians and Israelis who share a simple but transformative vision: two democratic, sovereign states—Israel and Palestine—linked together in a confederation with gradual steps toward freedom of movement and residence for all Israelis and Palestinians across our shared homeland. Our model makes it possible to achieve **a two-state solution that can work**, with borders based on the pre-1967 line and new and fairer solutions to the issues of Jerusalem, settlements, and refugees that overcome past obstacles to peace.