

Executive Council of Australian Jewry Inc.

הוועד הכולל של
יהודי אוסטרליה

The Representative Organisation of Australian Jewry

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Zionist Federation of Australia
Council of Orthodox Synagogues of
Australia



28 February 2017

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White Paper Task Force
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John McEwan Crescent
Barton ACT 0221

By email: whitepaper@dfat.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Foreign Policy White Paper

The ECAJ is the elected national peak body representing the Australian Jewish community and is the Australian affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, which represents Jewish communities in over 100 countries. This Submission is unanimously endorsed by each of the ECAJ's Constituents and Affiliates.

The ECAJ strongly recommends that Australia's relations with Israel should be upgraded in line with the speeches made by Australia's Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during the latter's recent visit to Australia. Although the relationship between the two countries is already strong, Australia would have much to gain by expanding co-operation in the fields of intelligence-sharing, counter-terrorism, cyber-security, high-tech investment, medical and other scientific research, the elimination of double taxation and the fostering of academic and student exchange programs.

In this regard, the ECAJ fully endorses the policy paper produced by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), "*The Wattle and the Olive – a new chapter in Australia and Israel working together*", Bergin, A., and Inbar, E., October 2016. The report can be accessed at:

https://www.aspi.org.au/publications/the-wattle-and-the-olive-a-new-chapter-in-australia-and-israel-working-together/SR95_Australia-Israel.pdf.

It is our submission that the Australian Government should be guided by the thorough analysis contained in that report, and that its recommendations should be adopted.

We consent to this submission being published by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Yours sincerely



Anton Block
President



Peter Wertheim AM
Executive Director