



Statement on Israel, Mideast Peace and Iran

GOP congressional candidate David Richter's position on Israel, Iran and Mideast Peace stands in stark contrast to his opponent Rep. Andy Kim (NJ-03).

Under Obama's foreign policy advisor Andy Kim, the U.S. entered into the disastrous Iran nuclear deal which [provided Iran and its terrorist proxies Hezbollah and Hamas with hundreds of millions of dollars to purchase rockets](#) which have been used ever since to shoot at Israeli cities and towns, killing and wounding many, and causing children to run into bomb shelters over and over again. Such rockets were also used to shoot at our own military in Iraq. It also paved the way for Iran to legally obtain nuclear weapons in under five years from today, if not sooner, and undercut the Iranian people who have been held hostage to the Mullahs of Iran and supported Iranian control of Lebanon. These results are now becoming obvious with the recent explosion in Beirut, which has now exposed another population being held hostage to Iran.

Under foreign policy advisor Andy Kim, in his final act as President regarding Israel, Obama engaged in a historic sell-out of Israel at the United Nations. The [Obama administration allowed a U.N. resolution demanding that Jews not only cease living in their historical homeland of Judea and Samaria, but should not even be able to live in East Jerusalem](#), which along with the rest of Jerusalem is the eternal capital of the State of Israel. It was the first time in 40 years that the U.N. Security Council had taken such a step as the U.S. had always vetoed similar resolutions before. David believes that Jews should be able to reside anywhere, especially in Jerusalem. Any other belief is blatant racism and anti-Semitism.

David believes that the Iran nuclear deal was a disaster and history has now shown since President Trump has pulled out of the deal, despite the Mullah's outcry, Iran still doesn't have the bomb, strict sanctions were put back in place which is also the central reason why we are now seeing a democratic uprising by the Iranian people who are being held hostage by the Mullahs in Iran.

David believes that this year's targeted assassination of Iranian terrorist leader Qasem Soleimani, who even Andy Kim has called "a brutal murderer with American blood on his hands," was not only the right thing to do but applauded the President in taking such courageous action that likely saved countless American lives, both military and civilian, along with many innocent people around the world. [Andy Kim however incredibly condemned the targeted assassination](#) and once again warned of significant retaliation from Iran or even war with Iran, none of which ever materialized and in fact, ever since, Iran has been busy attempting to quell [its own people from](#)

[throwing the Mullahs out](#), so once again Andy Kim was on the wrong side of history. His weak positions on foreign policy place many American lives at risk, both here and abroad. Unlike Andy Kim, who not only has remained silent in the face of such protesters seeking freedom but also in response incredibly [voted in support of an bill in Congress which prohibits the use of funds in any action against Iran](#), in effect giving a green light to the Mullahs to do as they wish against their neighbors, their own people and even against U.S. military or civilians. While David believes any military action must be a last resort, he does not agree with voting in favor of giving Iran a public green light to do as it pleases against innocent people. The U.S. must maintain a strong deterrence to an out-of-control Iranian regime so as to avoid the need for any military involvement. Andy Kim's actions and votes, in effect, encourage a future war.

Recently in the wake of the Beirut explosion the [Lebanese people have risen up against the control of Iran-backed Hezbollah](#) seeking true democracy and to live in peace with their neighbors. Where is Andy Kim? He has been notably silent. David believes we need to vocally support the people of Lebanon in their quest for freedom from the tyranny of Iran and impose financial sanctions on Lebanese government officials who support Hezbollah's control over the Lebanon and we should sponsor resolutions in the U.N. in support of the Lebanese people, not simply tolerate Iranian control over Lebanon.

Unlike Andy Kim, David believes that Israel is our closest U.S. ally in the Mideast. It is an island of democracy. Unlike Andy Kim, David agrees with current U.S. policy recognizing that Jerusalem is and always will be Israel's capital and that the Jewish people, just like all other races and religions should be able to live where they wish and no government should prohibit Jews or any people of any other religion from living in a particular place.

David praised the President's recent [peace agreement between Israel and United Arab Emirates](#) as a historic achievement and the first Mideast peace accord in decades, which no doubt will encourage other Arab countries to make peace with Israel, forming a strong alliance against the terrorist regime in Iran. Once again Andy Kim has been silent over this recent development apparently giving implicit support to anti-Israel protesters here in the U.S. and terrorist regimes abroad. David believes that until and unless the Palestinian Authority stops providing financial rewards to terrorists and stops educating their youth to hate Israelis and oppose democratic ideals, they should not be provided with U.S. foreign aid. However, if and when they renounce such acts and choose to live in peace with Israel, we should support the efforts of all peoples to do so.

On a final note, the Andy Kim foreign policy on human rights rings hollow when we remember his and Obama's 2012 "red line" when Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad used chemical weapons on his own people killing thousands of men, women and children after the Kim/Obama administration set a "red line" threatening military action if such was done. [Once again instead of following through on their threats, the Kim/Obama administration yielded to Iranian blackmail and appeased its Mullahs](#), to save their foolish Iranian nuclear deal, and in so doing undercut our credibility to all bad actors of the world from Iran, to Assad, to China and to North Korea. David believes that if we say we are drawing a "red line," we must actually enforce that red line or again such inaction will result in the future loss of American lives around the world, as well as encourage more human rights abuses. Andy Kim has been silent on this issue as well.

If elected, unlike Andy Kim, David will support the isolation of Iran, oppose reinstatement of the nuclear deal, support strict sanctions against Iran officials and Lebanese officials who support Hezbollah, support the people of Iran and Lebanon who seek freedom from their tyrannical regimes, support the right of Israel to live in peace with strong and safe borders and the right for Jews to live anywhere they wish especially the Israeli capital of Jerusalem where our embassy has been properly relocated, and will always support any actions against terrorism so as to protect American lives and the lives of our allies in Israel and elsewhere. Andy Kim? Simply an appeaser and Iranian apologist who is bad for America and places American and Israeli lives in jeopardy with every vote.

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