

# The Israeli Declaration of Independence: The World Continues to Ignore its Provisions and those of the British Balfour Declaration

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

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*The possibility of a [Jewish](#) homeland in [Palestine](#) had been a goal of [Zionist](#) organizations since the late 19th century. Eventually, as a matter of political expediency, the [British Foreign Secretary](#) stated in the [Balfour Declaration of 1917](#):*

“His Majesty’s government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

Paragraph 13 of the Israeli Declaration of Independence provides that the State of Israel would:

‘be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex’.

‘THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open for Jewish immigration and for the Ingathering of the Exiles; it will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the United Nations.

Why?

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