

The US-Israeli Alliance

Panel Discussion January 15th, 2026 – 7:00- 8:30 PM

Fremont Methodist Church

2620 NE Fremont Street, Portland, OR 97212

This panel will explore the strategic, economic, political and cultural dimensions of America's support for Israel. Why has the US given more aid to Israel than any other country since the 1970s? The US and Israel share numerous military-industrial-surveillance technologies and other economic projects. America continues to protect and defend Israel regardless of Israel's condemnation by the UN, International Court of Justice, International Criminal Court, and other international agencies.



Our Panelists:

Joel Beinin: is the Donald J. McLachlan Professor of History, Emeritus at Stanford University. He taught Middle East history at Stanford University in 1983-2006 and 2008-2019 and directed the Middle East Studies Program at the American University in Cairo in 2006-08. In 2001-02 he served as president of the Middle East Studies Association of North America. He has written or edited twelve books and over fifty academic articles and book chapters. His books on Israel/Palestine include: [The Independent Left in Israel, 1967-1993: A Collection in Memory of Noam Kaminer](#) co-edited with others; [The Struggle for Sovereignty: Palestine and Israel, 1993-2005](#), co-edited with Rebecca L. Stein; [Was the Red Flag Flying There? Marxist Politics and the Arab-Israeli Conflict in Egypt and Israel, 1948-1965](#); and [Intifada: The Palestinian Uprising Against Israeli Occupation](#); co-edited with Zachary Lockman.

Wael Elasady: is a longtime advocate for Palestinian rights in Portland, a member of DSA, and a co-founder of SUPER (Students United for Palestinian Equal Rights) at PSU. He was born in Damascus, Syria, where his family settled after being expelled from Palestine during the 1948 Nakba.

Mazen Malik: Lifelong advocate of equality, social justice, civil and human rights as well as for Palestinian rights. A member and founder of several rights organizations in the last 45 years. Professional Economist, with multiple degrees in socio-cultural Anthropology, Mathematics, Statistics as well as Economics. Multiple speeches and lectures on the Middle East and Palestine. Many appearances on different media programs and interviews. An author of multiple studies, reports, and articles about Palestinian rights as well as topics ranging from public finance to current economic issues.

Our Moderator: Lydia Kiesling: is a novelist and culture writer. Her first novel, [The Golden State](#), was a 2018 National Book Foundation "5 under 35" honoree and a finalist for the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award. Her second novel, [Mobility](#), a national bestseller, was named a best book of 2023 by *Vulture*, *Time*, and *NPR*, among others. It was longlisted for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize and a finalist for the Oregon Book Award. Lydia is the recipient of a 2025 Miller Foundation [Spark Award](#). Her essays and nonfiction have been published in many outlets including *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, and *The Cut*.

Co-Sponsors: Jewish Palestinian Alliance of Oregon, American Council for Palestine, Democratic Socialists of America, Jewish Voices for Peace

For more Information: 503 477-7409