**46th Class Simulation – February 2019**

**Opening Scenario**

On June 5th, 2019, President Trump delivered a speech on the lawn of the White House – "I announce today the Trump Initiative to solve the conflict in the Holy Land, the Holy Land of the three largest and most important religions in the world. I promised during the election campaign that I will bring the ultimate deal, and now I'm keeping my promise.

I want to emphasize that my deal is not open to negotiations. It's 'Take It or Leave It'. I know that each side will have frogs to swallow, and we took that into account. My ultimate team, led by Jared Kushner, did great efforts since the first days of my presidency, had hundreds of meetings with hundreds of people and dozens of leaders for thousands of hours. I, myself, have spent days and nights working on this deal, which in my opinion is the best promise for the future of the Israelis, the Palestinians, the region, and the entire world.

I must say at the very beginning that, unfortunately, the Palestinians, Hamas and the terrorist groups in Gaza Strip, as well as Fatah, the PA and the PLO in the West Bank, they have all demonstrated in the last few months an unwise behavior that does not serve their interests. Hamas encouraged riots, border infiltrations, and fires along the border of Israel; it has shot about 500 missiles and rockets towards Israel, and then agreed to a fragile agreement. Abu Mazen and the PA have done and are doing a lot in order to prevent stability in Gaza and to preserve an outdated political structure. In the international arena, their childish attempts of finding an "alternative mediator" to the United States, their appeal to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the pressure on European countries to unilaterally recognize a Palestinian state, and the undermining of the security cooperation with Israel, did not contribute to achieving my deal.

But I am determined to put the deal on the table and say both to the Palestinians and to the Israelis - you have an irrevocable opportunity here. I will give you a month, one month exactly, until the Fourth of July, 2019, to give an answer, the answer cannot be "yes, but" or "no, but". There is only one acceptable answer – "Yes, Mr. President, we are with you." I want to clarify - we are not going to impose an agreement on the parties; as I said in the past - 'One state, two states, whatever you decide.' We put on the table what we see as a fair, realistic, and pragmatic solution that can open a new page for both peoples. If one or both of them decides to postpone this historical opportunity – it will have a price tag and a heavy price tag.

This is of course, their right, they are sovereigns to decide their fate, but no one will force the United States – certainly not my government – to continue financing this conflict. I hereby declare decisively and irrevocably – a party that refuses to accept the outline needs to understand that is renouncing everything, I repeat, all American assistance received until now. We have plenty to do with the tax money of the American public here at home, and we will not continue 'throwing good money after bad money'. Actions have results, and the rejection of this deal will have quick and clear results.

On the other hand, agreeing to my deal will open the gates of good will of the greatest, strongest, and most important nation in the world. We will immediately enter into negotiations with the Palestinians on a new trade agreement that will give preference to their produce. On a new investment agreement that will allow them to rebuild their national infrastructure and within a decade, establish a Middle Eastern Singapore.

For Israelis, this deal will open up the Israeli's strong, amazing economy, the world's start-up nation, to all markets of the Middle East and the Muslim countries in Asia. This is a huge market that will jump off Israeli exports to heights unknown before. And every Israeli citizen will feel it in his pocket. You have my word on this matter. And not only my word, I want to reveal here a great thing that has been kept in strict confidence in recent months - we have agreed with all the GCC countries, as well as with Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, on a series of groundbreaking economic and diplomatic measures that will begin immediately when both sides agree to my deal. We will enter a beautiful conference, like nothing you've ever seen before, the Trump Conference for Middle Eastern Business, first in Sharm El Sheikh and then on the Saudi side of the Red Sea, on the site of NEUM, the future city of the Middle East, initiated by our good friend Muhammad Bin Salman. The countries I mentioned will also allow the entry of businessmen and even Israeli tourists gradually into their territory, and will also begin negotiations with the PA on the citizenship of some Palestinian refugees, under certain conditions, and on financing the return of others to the Palestinian state.

I know that the Israelis are concerned with security risks, and I want to re assure them - America is watching your back. We will never abandon you. My deal includes unprecedented security arrangements that will prevent terror and improve the security situation of Israel. We also propose an upgrade of relations between Israel and the US to the level of strategic partnership, and a new regional security architecture, in cooperation with our friends – the Saudis, Egyptians, Jordanians, and the United Arab Emirates States. This is a completely new idea, a fantastic thing that no president before me has ever dared to propose - an American-Arab and Israeli coalition against Iran and against ISIS and Islamic Jihad, and I tell the Israelis that some of my best friends are Jews, the people who created this deal are also Jews, and Jews who understand in business deals - take this deal with both hands, because you will not have a better deal, neither now nor in the future.

And I want to appeal directly to the Palestinian people who must be thirsty for change and hope and for a better future - my friends, do not listen to those of your leadership who tell you that my plan is biased in favor of Israel. Do not let them sabotage your future; do not let them repeat the historical mistakes of your nation's leaders. You know what they say about you, right? That "the Palestinians never missed an opportunity to miss an opportunity"... It's time to draw a line in the sand, and I'm willing to stand with you from the right side of this line and of history.

This deal is not easy for both sides, because that's how it is with big deals, believe me. Those who agree will make a lot of money. Whoever refuses, will cause heavy damage to his side.

In conclusion, I want to explain what is going to happen now – this morning, the parties received the principles of the deal. It is not a simple deal, we've worked very hard on it, and it expands on quite a few pages. We didn't remain on the principle level; we didn't make our lives easier.

We are deliberately not publishing the details of the deal now. We want to make things easier for the parties, and allow them to digest the document quietly. We will not respond to any publications or leaks in the coming month, and we asked the Israelis and the Palestinians to do the same. It's a serious, historic business, not a matter for tweeting on Twitter.

The negotiations that we're offering will take place on two parallel channels – a trilateral channel of the US-Israel-PLO, and a multilateral channel, with the participation of all regional countries, and led by Saudi Arabia and Egypt. We will also invite Russia, China, the European Union and the United Nations to participate in this path, and we assure to update them on the developments being made in the trilateral channel. We are given ourselves exactly one year, 12 months, to reach an agreement. Not one day later.

As I said, in exactly one month we expect to receive the answers, and there is only one acceptable answer. I also turn to the leaders, friends of Bibi, President Abbas, the leaders of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, the presidents of European countries, the President of Russia and the President of China – Carpe Diem – seize the day. Do not let this opportunity slip away. I'd also like to address the two nations directly, the peoples who have suffered and are suffering so much from this conflict – Enough is enough. This conflict has cost you too much, the time has come to end it, I am here, and we are here, to help you do this.

Thank you. God bless you all and God bless America."

Two weeks after the dramatic press conference, the Washington Post published what it claims are key parts of the American plan –

* **Borders -** A Palestinian state with provisional borders will be established, which will be recognized by the United States, the Security Council, and the UN General Assembly. Israel will also recognize it.
* **Mutual Recognition -** The PLO will recognize Israel as the democratic nation-state that realizes the principle of self-determination of the Jewish people, and the State of Israel will recognize the Palestinian state as the democratic nation-state that realizes the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people.
* **Jerusalem -** West Jerusalem will be the capital of Israel, and East Jerusalem the capital of Palestine. In the Old City, a special regime will be established, with the involvement of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco, the Vatican, and the United Nations. The holy sites of each religion will be governed by that religion. Individual arrangements will be addressed in negotiations.
* **Refugees** - Palestinian refugees will be allowed to return to the State of Palestine without restriction, subject to the policy of the Palestinian state. Israel will allow resettlement in its territory to a certain number of refugees, mainly on the basis of family unification. The Arab states will establish a special compensation fund for the rehabilitation of refugees in Palestine, and those who choose to remain in their present place of residence (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, etc.) will receive full civil rights and compensation.
* **Security Arrangements -** Special security arrangements will be established for 20 years on the border between the State of Palestine and Jordan, and between the State of Palestine and Egypt. IDF forces will be responsible for preventing terror against Israel and Palestinian forces for maintaining the security of the Palestinian state. American and international forces will also play an active role in the borders. Individual arrangements will be determined in negotiations with the United States, Israel, and Palestine, as well as with Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and NATO.
* **Regional Security; A Struggle against Iran and Terrorism** - The United States will lead a Regional Security Conference for the Middle East, to be held in Washington on September 11, 2019. The conference will be the first step towards a new regional security architecture against the Iranian threat and terrorist threats. All countries of the Middle East, except Iran and Qatar, and all permanent members of the Security Council, the European Union, as well as India, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Malaysia will be invited to the conference.
* **Settlements** **-** The future of the settlements will be determined in negotiations, subject to the following principles –
* An attempt will be made to minimize evacuation.
* There will be a link between the number of settlers who will be allowed to remain in the Palestinian State and the number of refugees who will be allowed to return to Israel.
* The maximum territorial contiguity of Israel and the State of Palestine will be maintained.
* The State of Palestine will be economically and agriculturally sustainable.
* **Economy and Infrastructure -**
* Israel and Palestine will enter into negotiations on a free trade zone agreement. The United States and Palestine will negotiate a new free trade zone agreement.
* The US, the Arab countries, Europe and China will establish a multi-national investment fund for infrastructure in Palestine, with an emphasis on the Gaza Strip.
* Palestine will have an independent seaport in Gaza and at least one independent airport. The United States will establish a dedicated consortium to establish the land passage between Gaza and Judea and Samaria, while examining the possibility of a tunnel or an overpass. The transition will be under international management for 20 years.
* Israel will allow Palestine to develop the Gaza Marine gas reservoir immediately.
* **The Permanent Borders of Palestine -** the negotiations on the permanent borders will be based on the following principles –
* Territorial continuity and viability of the Palestinian state.
* Defensible borders for Israel and Palestine.
* Ensuring total obstruction of cross-border terrorism of any kind, including tunnels, mortars, rockets and missiles, as well as the smuggling of weapons, terrorist operatives, raw materials for terror and terrorist funds.
* In addition to territorial exchanges between Israel and Palestine, considering the possibility of triangular and quadrangular exchanges of territories with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.
* **Implementation of the Saudi-Arabian Initiative** - Saudi Arabia will call on all the Arab and Islamic states to gradually establish relations with Israel, subject to progress in the negotiations. Initial steps will be taken immediately–
* Israeli aircrafts and foreign aircraft departing from Israel will be allowed to fly in Saudi airspace.
* Saudi Arabia will issue several hundred visas to Israeli businessmen.
* A friendly match between the Israeli and Saudi soccer teams will be held soon, at a location agreed between the two sides.
* The United Arab Emirates will take the same measures as Saudi Arabia, and Bahrain is considering following them.
* Oman will open negotiations with Israel on the renewal of the activity of an official Israeli representation (Ministry of Trade) in Muscat.
* **Ratification of the agreement by the parties -** after the agreement is signed, as stated, within a year at most, it will be submitted for ratification in a referendum conducted by each of the parties, and then approved by the Security Council and the General Assembly.

The international has seen many positive reactions to the American move. China and Russia have expressed their support for the initiative and are waiting for further details, and Trump sent Secretary of State Pompeo to Beijing and Moscow, together with Jared Kushner and Jason Greenblatt, to clarify the objectives of the initiative and enlist their support.

The European Union, as well as Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Spain, expressed support for the initiative, although they made it clear that they would wait to hear its details officially before formulating their full positions.

In the Arab world, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Tunisia and Oman expressed their support.

Iran expressed total opposition to the agreement and to the "Zionist-imperialist coercion mechanism, which is further proof that the American dog is wagging its Zionist tail." The Iranian regime promised that it would do all in its power to "torpedo the American entity and strengthen its true opponents in Palestine, the Middle East and the entire world."

Turkey also objected to the way Trump chose to launch his initiative and announced that it would "oppose any initiative that would erode the historical rights of the Palestinians on their land." It requires clarifications from the American administration.

The parties themselves remain silent for the time being. Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Abu Mazen only announced that they are examining he details and refrained from any official response.

The opposition in Israel expressed support for the initiative, calling on the Prime Minister not to miss the historic opportunity. There are considerable tensions among the coalition factions and within the Likud. The Jewish Home announced that accepting the initiative would almost certainly lead to its resignation from the coalition.

The Palestinian Islamic Jihad has announced that it will use everything at its disposal in opposing any negotiations on the basis of the American initiative.