

AMBASSADOR DAVID M. FRIEDMAN
BIO

As the United States Ambassador to Israel from March 2017 until January 2021, Ambassador David Friedman successfully advanced President Trump's foreign policy agenda by guiding unprecedented diplomatic achievements in the US – Israel relationship, including the move of the United States Embassy to Jerusalem and the recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights. He also is among a small group of American officials responsible for the "Abraham Accords" -- peace and normalization agreements between Israel and the UAE, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco -- for which he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2021.

Ambassador Friedman has been recognized by the Jerusalem Post on many occasions as one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world, coming in fourth in 2018, second in 2019 and first in 2020. He also was named one of the 20 Most Impactful Persons of the Past Decade by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Ambassador Friedman was honored by President Trump with the National Security Medal in September 2020 – less than 100 Americans have received that award in its history -- and by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff with the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal in April 2019. He has received numerous other honors, recognitions and awards, including honorary doctorates from Yeshiva University in New York and Ariel University in the Shomron.

Ambassador Friedman is the founder of **The Friedman Center for Peace through Strength** which works to build upon the Ambassador's achievements in strengthening the US-Israel relationship.

On February 8, 2022, HarperCollins published Ambassador Friedman's memoir, ***Sledgehammer: How Breaking with the Past Brought Peace to the Middle East***. In its first week, Sledgehammer broke sales records for a book on the State of Israel.

In January, 2023, Ambassador Friedman premiered his film, ***Route 60: The Biblical Highway*** co-produced with the TBN Network and starring Ambassador Friedman and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The film presents the majesty of

Biblical Israel throughout Judea and Samaria, as seen through the eyes of an Orthodox Jew and an Evangelical Christian. In its short theatrical run across 1100 theatres in the United States, **Route 60** was the most popular film in the country.

On September 3, 2024, Ambassador Friedman released his second book, ***One Jewish State: The Last Best Hope to Resolve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict***. Already a best seller, ***One Jewish States*** makes the case for Israeli sovereignty over all of Judea and Samaria, also referred to as the West Bank, as the best outcome for Israelis and Palestinians.

On November 10, 2025, Ambassador Friedman was appointed Executive Chairman of the Luxembourg holding company that owns **NSO Group**, as well as a Delaware subsidiary of the Luxembourg company. **NSO Group**, based in Israel, is a “best in class” provider of technology to governmental allies of Israel and the United States, used to investigate and prevent serious crimes, including terrorism, drug smuggling and human trafficking. **NSO Group** is committed to making the world a safer place by assisting law-abiding intelligence and law enforcement agencies across the globe.

Prior to joining the State Department in 2017, Ambassador Friedman practiced law with Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP, a law firm of some 300 attorneys which he co-founded in 1994. He specialized in complex financial restructuring and litigation, and played a leading role in some of the largest business bankruptcies in history.

Since his early years, Ambassador Friedman has been a student of the Bible, the Talmud and its texts and commentaries. He continues those studies to this day.

Ambassador Friedman also is a relatively unimpressive musician. When circumstances permit, he plays guitar in Ambassador Mike Huckabee’s band. He and his wife Tammy have been married for 44 years and are blessed with beautiful children and grandchildren.