

WE'VE LISTED ALL THE DEMOCRACIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

1. ISRAEL

As American voters participate this year in our national elections, it's important to remember that in the Middle East there's only one country whose citizens enjoy this same precious right—Israel.

Israel alone, among the countries of the Middle East, is governed by, and accountable to, its people.

The day after tomorrow, Israel conducts its thirteenth national election since its founding in 1948. That unshakable commitment to democracy is the best guarantee of individual rights and freedom; it's also the best guarantee of peace. Indeed, if Israel's neighbors would follow its example and truly democratize their societies, surely lasting peace in the region would have a chance of emerging. After all, when was the last time one democracy declared war on another?

Israel and the United States have bound themselves together by the precious tie of democracy. In both countries, casting a ballot is a citizen's chance to vote for the democratic way of life.



The American Jewish Committee
The Nation's Pioneering Intergroup Relations Agency

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*The American Jewish Committee fights bigotry and anti-Semitism the world over.
It works for the security of Israel and deepened understanding between Americans and Israelis.
It seeks to promote human rights for all and safeguard American democratic values.*

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