



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

August 31, 2023

Case No. F-2022-06035/
FL-2023-00036

Reed Rubinstein
America First Legal
611 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE #231
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Rubinstein:

As we noted in our letter dated July 31, 2023, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State (“the Department”) has identified an additional 26 responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined all 26 may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Assistant United States Attorney Jeremy Simon at Jeremy.simon@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case

number, F-2022-06035/FL-2023-00036, and the civil action number, 23-cv-00419, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanne Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "M".

Jeanne Miller
Chief, Programs and Policies Division
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552) and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a)

FOIA Exemptions

(b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:

- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
- 1.4(b) Foreign government information
- 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
- 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
- 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
- 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction

(b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency

(b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:

ARMSEXP	Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)
CIA PERS/ORG	Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)
EXPORT CONTROL	Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c)
FS ACT	Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004
INA	Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f)
IRAN	Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505

(b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information

(b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product

(b)(6) Personal privacy information

(b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:

- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
- (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
- (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
- (D) disclose confidential sources
- (E) disclose investigation techniques
- (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual

(b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions

(b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
Date: Mon, 16 May 2022 22:22:07 +0000

Hi (b)(6)

Chiming in as (b)(6) is juggling a number of different panel processes this week. The NOFO is attached.

Clearance list below, noting that the embassy's FO also cleared. Please do not share this with anyone who has not signed an NDA for the panel.

- DRL/FO: DAS Le Mon (ok)
- DRL/GP: (b)(6)
- DRL/NEA: (b)(6)
- NEA/IP: (b)(6)
- NEA/AC: (b)(6)
- Embassy Jerusalem: (b)(6)
- Embassy Jerusalem: (b)(6)

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2022 10:07 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

(b)(6) good morning.

Making sure you received the panel paperwork I sent last week.

Also, please see our request below. If you don't have this, can you please forward this request to relevant colleagues today?

Many thanks,

(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICANS THROUGH LITIGATION

Thank you,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Program Specialist

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor | Office of Global Programs

U.S. Department of State | Contracting Resources Group (CRG) - Contractor

+1 (b)(6)

@state.gov

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:19 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@usaid.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: RE: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Dear Colleagues,

My apologies that the full invitation language was not included in my original send. Please find the full panel invitation below.

The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor's Office of Global Programs (DRL/GP) is pleased to invite you to participate in a review panel for proposals submitted in response to the solicitation **DRL: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza**. We will conduct this panel via Microsoft Teams on **May 10, 2022**, from **9:00-10:30 AM ET** and will send the full calendar invitation separately.

Join online: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join by phone: (b)(7)(E) (b)(7)(E) #

In response to the open solicitation, DRL/GP received seven full proposal applications, five of which were deemed technically eligible.

Voting members for this review panel are:

1. DRL/GP
2. DRL/NEA
3. NEA (inclusive of post and NEA/AC)
4. USAID
5. J/SEAS

Additional instructions on the panel process are included at the end of this invitation.

Panel Materials

Kindly find the following review panel materials attached:

1. **NOFO**: DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

2. **Proposal Scoresheet:** Please complete one scoresheet for each proposal and submit via email to (b)(6)
3. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Please complete and submit via email to (b)(6) prior to the panel. **Note that this form must be filled out by all staff who review the proposal.** E-signatures will be accepted.
4. **Confidentiality Agreement:** Please complete and submit via email to (b)(6) prior to the panel. **Note that this form must be filled out by all staff who review the proposal.** E-signatures will be accepted.
5. **Panel Agenda**

(b)(6)

Directions for Reviewing Proposals

While multiple individuals are welcome to participate in the panel, only one individual may serve as the designated voting member. We therefore ask that **in advance of the panel, the panelist selected to vote for NEA has coordinated feedback, votes, and rankings (at the highest level needed) between Posts and Desks.**

We kindly request each voting panelist fill out the attached scoresheet (attachment 2) for each proposal (reviewers sharing a single vote should complete only one scoresheet for each proposal). Voting members may recommend any number of proposals that clearly respond to the solicitation. Please review each proposal on its own merits according to the guidelines in the attached scoresheet (attachment 2) without making comparisons to other proposals.

Conditions & Recommendations

Panelists have the option to impose conditions and recommendations on proposals during the panel. For example, if you disagree with the inclusion of a specific activity or objective, but otherwise find the proposal competitive, you may suggest a condition or recommendation that the applicant remove that activity or objective. Please ensure that your office's voting representative can communicate that level of detail to the panel (including a justification of how you came to that decision). If a proposal is recommended for funding, the applicant will have a chance to revise their proposal documents according to the panel's conditions and recommendations. Applicants must meet all identified conditions and respond to outlined recommendations for the proposal to be funded.

NOTE: Please keep in mind DRL priorities when crafting conditions and recommendations for proposals. Thank you in advance for your review and input!

(b)(6)

(b)(6) | Program Specialist

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor | Office of Global Programs
 U.S. Department of State | Contracting Resources Group (CRG) - Contractor

+1 (b)(6) (b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:13 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@usaid.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Join online: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join by phone: (b)(7)(E) (b)(7)(E) #

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2. DRL/NEA
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5. J/SEAS

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6. **Proposal Documents**

(b)(6)

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NOTE: Please keep in mind DRL priorities when crafting conditions and recommendations for proposals.

Thank you in advance for your review and input!

(b)(6)

(b)(6) | Program Specialist

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor | Office of Global Programs

U.S. Department of State | Contracting Resources Group (CRG) - Contractor

+1 (b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

Sender:	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov

OBTAINED THROUGH FIRST LEGAL FUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

United States Department of State
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): DRL Strengthening Human Rights and
Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

This is the announcement of funding opportunity number **SFOP0008613**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 19.345

Type of Solicitation: Open Competition

Application Deadline: 11:59 PM EST on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022

Total Funding Floor: \$493,827

Total Funding Ceiling: \$987,654

Anticipated Number of Awards: 1 – 2

Type of Award: Grant or Cooperative Agreement

Period of Performance: 18 – 36 months

Anticipated Time to Award, Pending Availability of Funds: 5 – 7 months

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) announces an open competition for projects that strengthen accountability and human rights in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza.

Program activities should focus on enabling independent civil society in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza to: collect, archive, and maintain human rights documentation to support justice and accountability and civil society-led advocacy efforts, which may include documentation of legal or security sector violations and housing, land, and property rights; understand and access the forums and processes available to take meaningful action in pursuing truth, accountability, and memorialization; and/or provide psychosocial support to survivors of atrocities.

A successful program design will demonstrate flexibility to adapt to changes in the operational context as needed. Organizations may propose activities in both Israel and the West Bank/Gaza or propose activities specific to each area.

Innovative ideas for working in a difficult environment – particularly best practices adapted from lessons learned - are welcome. Proposals that include local organizations as the lead implementer or as substantial program partners are strongly encouraged and will be viewed

favorably. Applicants should take a tailored approach to ensure in-depth and comprehensive support to participating NGOs, including personal, digital, and physical security where needed.

DRL is conscious of the ever-changing security situation in the broader NEA region. With this in mind, applicants are required to submit a detailed contingency plan and risk assessment in order to demonstrate situational awareness and preparedness. Risk assessment and contingency plan documents must address safety and contingency for in-person events and recruitment for said events, processes for receiving and disbursing funds, as well as means to secure online programs or communications.

A proven ability to implement programs in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza must be demonstrated. As part of the proposal narrative, or as an annex to the proposal submission, applicants are encouraged to submit lessons learned from past programming that demonstrate how the implementer has safely operated and responded to challenges, learning from both successes and failures, in the intended operating environment.

All programs should aim to have impact that leads to reforms and should have the potential for sustainability beyond DRL resources. DRL's preference is to avoid duplicating past efforts by supporting new and creative approaches. This does not exclude from consideration projects that improve upon or expand existing successful projects in a new and complementary way. DRL is committed to advancing equity and support for underserved and underrepresented communities. Programs should seek strategies for integration and inclusion of individuals/organizations/beneficiaries that can bring perspectives based on their religion, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, national origin, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status, pregnancy, political affiliation, or veteran's status. Programs should be demand-driven and locally led to the extent possible. DRL requires all programs to be non-discriminatory and expects implementers to include strategies for nondiscrimination of individuals/organizations/beneficiaries based on race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status, political affiliation, or veteran's status.

Where appropriate, competitive proposals may include:

- Opportunities for beneficiaries to apply their new knowledge and skills in practical efforts;
- Solicitation of feedback and suggestions from beneficiaries when developing activities in order to strengthen the sustainability of programs and participant ownership of project outcomes;
- Input from participants on sustainability plans and systematic review of the plans throughout the life of the project, with adjustments made as necessary;
- Inclusion of vulnerable populations;
- Joint identification and definition of key concepts with relevant stakeholders and stakeholder input into project activities;
- Systematic follow up with beneficiaries at specific intervals after the completion of activities to track how beneficiaries are retaining new knowledge as well as applying their new skills.

Activities that are **not** typically allowed include, but are not limited to:

- The provision of humanitarian assistance;
- English language instruction;
- Development of high-tech computer or communications software and/or hardware;
- Purely academic exchanges or fellowships;
- External exchanges or fellowships lasting longer than six months;
- Off-shore activities that are not clearly linked to in-country initiatives and impact or are not necessary per security concerns;
- Theoretical explorations of human rights or democracy issues, including projects aimed primarily at research and evaluation that do not incorporate training or capacity-building for local civil society;
- Micro-loans or similar small business development initiatives;
- Initiatives directed towards a diaspora community rather than current residents of targeted countries.

This notice is subject to availability of funding.

B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

Primary organizations can submit 1 application in response to the NOFO.

The U.S. government may: (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, and (d) waive irregularities in applications received.

The U.S. government may make award(s) on the basis of initial applications received, without discussions or negotiations. Therefore, each initial application should contain the applicant's best terms from a cost and technical standpoint. The U.S. government reserves the right (though it is under no obligation to do so), however, to enter into discussions with one or more applicants in order to obtain clarifications, additional detail, or to suggest refinements in the project description, budget, or other aspects of an application.

DRL anticipates awarding either a grant or cooperative agreement depending on the needs and risk factors of the program. The final determination on award mechanism will be made by the Grants Officer. The distinction between grants and cooperative agreements revolves around the existence of "substantial involvement." Cooperative agreements require greater Federal government participation in the project. If a cooperative agreement is awarded, DRL will undertake reasonable and programmatically necessary substantial involvement. Examples of substantial involvement can include, but are not limited to:

- Active participation or collaboration with the recipient in the implementation of the award;
- Review and approval of one stage of work before another can begin;

- Review and approval of substantive provisions of proposed sub-awards or contracts beyond existing Federal policy;
- Approval of the recipient's budget or plan of work prior to the award.

The authority for this funding opportunity is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA).

To maximize the impact and sustainability of the award(s) that result from this NOFO, DRL retains the right to execute non-competitive continuation amendment(s). The total duration of any award, including potential non-competitive continuation amendments, shall not exceed 54 months, or four and a half years. Any non-competitive continuation is contingent on performance and **pending availability of funds**. A non-competitive continuation is not guaranteed, and the Department of State reserves the right to exercise or not to exercise this option.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

FOR APPLICATION INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS (PSI), UPDATED DECEMBER 2021 ON OUR WEBSITE.

C.1 Eligible Applicants

DRL welcomes applications from U.S.-based and foreign-based non-profit organizations/nongovernment organizations (NGO) and public international organizations; private, public, or state institutions of higher education; and for-profit organizations or businesses. DRL's preference is to work with non-profit entities; however, there may be some occasions when a for-profit entity is best suited.

Applications submitted by for-profit entities may be subject to additional review following the panel selection process. Additionally, the Department of State prohibits profit to for-profit or commercial organizations under its assistance awards. Profit is defined as any amount in excess of allowable direct and indirect costs. The allowability of costs incurred by commercial organizations is determined in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) at 48 CFR 30, Cost Accounting Standards Administration, and 48 CFR 31 Contract Cost Principles and Procedures.

Please see 2 CFR 200.307 for regulations regarding program income.

C.2 Cost Sharing or Matching

Providing cost sharing, matching, or cost participation is not an eligibility factor or requirement for this NOFO and providing cost share will not result in a more favorable competitive ranking.

C.3 Other

Applicants should have existing, or the capacity to develop, active partnerships with thematic or in-country partners, entities, and relevant stakeholders, including private sector partners and NGOs, and have **demonstrable experience** in administering successful and preferably similar projects. DRL encourages applications from foreign-based NGOs headquartered in the geographic regions/countries relevant to this NOFO. Applicants may **form consortia** in order to bring together organizations with varied expertise to propose a comprehensive program in one proposal. However, one organization should be designated in the proposal as the lead applicant, with the other members designated as sub-award partners. DRL reserves the right to request additional background information on applicants that do not have previous experience administering federal grant awards, and these applicants may be subject to limited funding on a pilot basis.

DRL is committed to an **anti-discrimination** policy in all of its projects and activities. DRL welcomes applications irrespective of race, ethnicity, color, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or other status. DRL seeks applications that demonstrate that the recipient does not discriminate against any beneficiaries in implementation of a potential award, such as, but not limited to, by withholding, adversely impacting, or denying equitable access to the benefits provided through this award on the basis of any factor not expressly stated in the award. This includes, for example, race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, gender expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status, political affiliation, or veteran's status. The recipient should insert this provision, including this paragraph, in all sub-grants and contracts under a potential award.

Any applicant listed on the Excluded Parties List System in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) (www.sam.gov) and/or has a current debt to the U.S. government is not eligible to apply for an assistance award in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR, 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 235), "Debarment and Suspension." Additionally, no entity or person listed on the Excluded Parties List System in SAM.gov can participate in any activities under an award. All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the Excluded Parties List System in SAM.gov to ensure that no ineligible entity or person is included in their application.

D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

D.1 Address to Request Application Package

Applicants can find application forms, kits, or other materials needed to apply on www.grants.gov and SAMS Domestic (<https://mygrants.servicenowservices.com>) under the announcement title "DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza," funding opportunity number "SFOP0008613." **Although solicitation details will be available via SAMS Domestic, please note that all applications in response to this NOFO must be submitted via www.grants.gov.** Please contact the DRL point of contact listed in Section G if requesting reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities or for security reasons. Please note that reasonable accommodations do not include deadline extensions.

D.2 Content and Form of Application Submission

For all application documents, please ensure:

- All documents are in English and all costs are in U.S. Dollars. If an original document within the application is in another language, an English translation must be provided (please note the Department of State, as indicated in 2 CFR 200.111, requires that English is the official language of all award documents). If any document is provided in both English and a foreign language, the English language version is the controlling version;
- All pages are numbered, including budgets and attachments;
- All documents are formatted to 8 ½ x 11 paper; and,
- All documents are single-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1-inch margins. Captions and footnotes may be 10-point Times New Roman font. Font sizes in charts and tables, including the budget, can be reformatted to fit within 1 page width.

D.2.1 Application Requirements

Complete applications must include the following:

- 1) Completed and signed **SF-424**, **SF-424A**, and **SF-424B** forms. Please see SF-424 instructions in Section 2B of the PSI.
- 2) Organizations that engage in lobbying the U.S. government, including Congress, or pay for another entity to lobby on their behalf, are also required to complete the **SF-LLL** "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form (**only if applicable**). Please see SF-LLL guidance in Section 2B of the PSI.
- 3) **Cover Page** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document) that includes a table with the organization name, project title, target country/countries, project synopsis, and name and contact information for the application's main point of contact. Please see *Cover Page* Section 2C of the PSI for a template and more details.
- 4) **Executive Summary** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document) that outlines project goals, objectives, activities, etc.
 - **The Executive Summary should include a brief section that explicitly states: (1) the problem statement addressed by the project, (2) research-based evidence justifying the unique project approach, and (3) quantifiable project outcomes and impacts.**
- 5) **Table of Contents** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document) listing all documents and attachments with page numbers.
- 6) **Proposal Narrative** (not to exceed ten (10) pages, preferably as a Word Document). Please note the ten-page limit **does not include** the Cover Page, Executive Summary, Table of Contents, Attachments, Detailed Budget, Budget Narrative, Audit, or NICRA.

Applicants are encouraged to combine multiple documents into a single Word Document or PDF (i.e. Cover Page, Table of Contents, Executive Summary, and Proposal Narrative in one file). Please see *Proposal Narrative Guidelines* in Section 2F of the PSI for more details.

- The Proposal Narrative should demonstrate the applicant's commitment to ensuring the participation of all people as a strategy for implementation. Please integrate inclusion strategies in all sections of the Proposal Narrative to enhance programmatic impact.
- 7) **Budget** (preferably as an Excel workbook) that includes three (3) columns containing the request to DRL, any cost sharing contribution, and the total budget. A summary budget should also be included using the OMB-approved budget categories (see SF-424A as a sample) in a separate tab. Costs must be in U.S. Dollars. Detailed line-item budgets for sub-grantees should be included as additional tabs within the Excel workbook (if available at the time of submission).

Please see *Budget Guidelines* Section 2G of the PSI for more information.

- The programming approach should be dedicated to strengthening inclusive societies as a necessary pillar of strong democracies. Please include costs associated with this commitment in the Budget and Budget Narrative.
- 8) **Budget Narrative** (preferably as a Word Document) that includes substantive explanations and justifications for each line item in the detailed budget spreadsheet, as well as the source and a description of all cost-share offered. Please see *Budget Guidelines* Section 2G of the PSI for more information.
- 9) The organization's most recent **audit**, if applicable. This should be a single audit, program-specific audit, or other audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS). Please see *Audit* Section 2H of the PSI for more information.
- 10) **Logic Model** (preferably as a Word Document). Please see *Logic Model* Section 2I of the PSI for more information.
- 11) **Monitoring and Evaluation Narrative** (not to exceed four (4) pages, preferably as a Word Document). Please see *Monitoring and Evaluation Narrative* Section 2J of the PSI for more information.
- As stated within the DRL Guide to Program Monitoring and Evaluation (p. 6): DRL strongly encourages applicants to consider whether their monitoring and evaluation systems are utilizing human rights-based approaches, applying a gender and equity lens, or include the participation of sub-grantees and project participants. Within the Monitoring and Evaluation Narrative, applicants should demonstrate their commitment to inclusive strategies and consider whether evaluation design, data collection, analysis, reporting and learning are conducted in an ethical and responsible way with all project participants (e.g. direct beneficiaries, sub-grantees). Applicants should still make adequate provisions to

protect the privacy of human subjects when collecting data from individuals. For instance, when collecting data from project participants, consider whether your organization will have the necessary informed consent forms, confidentiality agreements, and data security protocols.

- 12) **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan** (preferably as a Word Document or Excel Sheet). Please see *Monitoring and Evaluation Plan* Section 2J of the PSI for more information.
- 13) **Risk Analysis** (preferably as a Word Document). Please see *Risk Analysis* Section 2K of the PSI for more information on this requirement, including Do No Harm principles and Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) policies/plans.
- 14) **Key Personnel** (not to exceed two (2) pages, preferably as a Word Document). Please include short bios that highlight relevant professional experience. Given the limited space, CVs are not recommended for submission.
- 15) **Timeline** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document or Excel Sheet). The timeline of the overall proposal should include activities, evaluation efforts, and program closeout.
- 16) **Gender and Inclusion Analysis** (not to exceed three (3) pages, preferably as a Word Document) that provides a concise analysis of relevant gender norms, equity and equality for underserved communities and marginalized populations, power relations, and conflict dynamics in target countries. Potential domains of analysis include institutional practices and barriers, cultural norms, gender roles, access to and control over assets and resources, and patterns of decision-making. Applicants should briefly explain how they have integrated findings from their analysis into project design and/or other proposal documents, including a plan for regularly reviewing and updating the gender and inclusion analysis with local partners/beneficiaries, and making any necessary adjustments to program implementation. A set of guiding questions can be found in Section 2L of the PSI.
- 17) **Security Plan** addressing any issues involving in-person events and recruitment for said events, and safety for any online programs or communications, including independent IT security audits (to include a vulnerability assessment) of any proposed web application or platform. Organization's Security Plan should demonstrate consideration of the risks identified in the submitted risk assessment. Costs may also be identified within the budget and budget narrative. Applicants are also encouraged to include contingency plans for in-person or online activities.
- 18) **Contingency Plan** for proposed activities should the originally planned activities not be able to be implemented. The Contingency Plan should be submitted as an additional annex. Applicants should demonstrate consideration of the risks identified in the submitted risk assessment and include specific alternative activities or locations as part of the Contingency Plan. Any proposed "plan" must comply with 2CFR200.433 – Contingency provisions. Plans must not include unallocable or unallowable expenses and

must not result in a larger Total Award Value than the identified as the “competition ceiling.” DRL requires prior approval by the Grants Officer of the “plan” before any activities can take place, or costs can be incurred against the “plan.”

19) **Lessons Learned** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document) from past programs in Israel, the West Bank, and/or Gaza that demonstrate how the implementer has safely operated and responded to programmatic challenges, learning from both successes and failures, in the operating environment. To be incorporated into the ten (10) pages allowed for “Proposal Narrative.”

20) **Psychosocial Assistance** (to be incorporated into the ten (10) pages allowed for “Proposal Narrative,” and into “Budget” and “Budget Narrative”). A section in the proposal, budget, and budget narrative to reflect appropriate resources and support for the psychosocial health of staff (i.e., activities can range from access to educational materials and training opportunities to counseling services to other contextually relevant support).

References: For reference to international guidance, please see the following: Core Humanitarian Standard Commitment 8.9

(<https://corehumanitarianstandard.org/files/files/CHS-Guidance-Notes-and-Indicators.pdf>); and IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

in Emergency Settings Action Sheet 4.4

(http://www.who.int/mental_health/emergencies/guidelines_iasc_mental_health_psychosocial_june_2007.pdf).

Applications that do not include the elements listed above will be deemed technically ineligible.

D.2.2 Additional Application Documents

Strong applications will also contain the following:

- Individual Letters of Support and/or Memorandum of Understanding. Letters of support and MOUs must be specific to the project implementation (e.g. from proposed partners or sub-award recipients) and will not count towards the page limit.

Please refer to the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI), updated December 2021, on DRL’s website for detailed guidance on the documents above: <https://www.state.gov/bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/programs-and-grants/>. For an application checklist and sample templates please see the Resources page on DRL’s website: <https://www.state.gov/resources-for-programs-and-grants/>. The sample templates provided on the DRL website are suggested, but not mandatory.

DRL reserves the right to request additional documents not included in this NOFO.

Additionally, to ensure that all applications receive a balanced evaluation, the DRL review panel will review from the first page of each section up to the page limit and no further.

Note: If ultimately provided with a notification of non-binding intent to make a Federal award, applicants typically have two to three weeks to provide additional information and documents

requested in the notification of intent. The deadlines may vary in each notification of intent and applicants must adhere to the stated deadline in the notification of intent.

D.2.3 Additional Information Requested For Those Receiving Notification of Intent

Successful applicants must submit, after notification of intent to make a Federal award, but prior to issuance of a Federal award:

- Written responses and revised application documents addressing conditions and recommendations from the DRL review panel;
- A copy of the applicant's latest NICRA as a PDF file, if the applicant has a NICRA and includes NICRA charges in the budget;
- A completed copy of the Department's Financial Management Survey, if receiving DRL funding for the first time;
- Submission of required documents to register in the Payment Management System managed by the Department of Health and Human Services, if receiving DRL funding for the first time (unless an exemption is provided);
- Other requested information or documents included in the notification of intent to make a Federal award or subsequent communications prior to issuance of a Federal award;
- Applicants who submit their applications through Grants.gov will be required to create a SAMS Domestic account in order to accept the final award. Accounts must be logged into to every 60 days in order to maintain an active account.

D.3 Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

All prime organizations, whether based in the United States or in another country, must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), formerly referred to as DUNS, and an active registration with the SAM.gov **before submitting an application**. DRL may **not** review applications from or make awards to applicants that have not completed all applicable UEI and SAM.gov requirements. A UEI is one of the data elements mandated by Public Law 109-282, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), for all Federal awards.

The 2 CFR 200 requires that sub-grantees obtain a UEI number. Please note the UEI for sub-grantees is not required at the time of application but will be required before the award is processed and/or directed to a sub-grantee.

Note: The process of obtaining a SAM.gov registration may take anywhere from 4-8 weeks. Please begin your registration as early as possible.

- Organizations **based in the United States** or that pay employees within the United States will need an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code, and a UEI number prior to registering in SAM.gov.
- Organizations **based outside of the United States** and that do not pay employees within the United States do not need an EIN from the IRS, but do need a NATO CAGE (NCAGE) code and UEI number prior to registering in SAM.gov.

All prime organizations must also continue to maintain active SAM.gov registration with current information at all times during which they have an active Federal award or application under consideration by a Federal award agency. SAM.gov requires all entities to renew their registration once a year in order to maintain an active registration status in SAM. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure it has an active registration in SAM.gov and to maintain that active registration. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements at the time of application, the applicant may be deemed technically ineligible to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

For further guidance on the registration process, please see the SAM.gov Registration Guide on DRL's website: <https://www.state.gov/resources-for-programs-and-grants/>. Please refer to 2 CFR 25.200 for additional information. Also, please refer to Section D.5 - Funding Restriction of the NOFO.

Note: SAM.gov is not the same as SAMS Domestic. It is free to register in both systems, but the registration processes are different.

Information is included on the SAM.gov website to help international registrations, including "Quick Start Guide for International Registrations" and "Helpful Hints." Navigate to www.SAM.gov, click "HELP" in the top navigation bar, then click "International Registrants" in the left navigation panel. Please note, guidance on SAM.gov and the guidance on GSA's website about requirement for registering in SAM.gov is subject to change. Applicants should review the website for the most up-to-date guidance.

D.3.1 Exemptions

An exemption from these requirements may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if:

- An applicant's identity must be protected due to potential endangerment of their mission, their organization's status, their employees, or individuals being served by the applicant.

Organizations requesting exemption from UEI or SAM.gov requirements must email the point of contact listed in the NOFO at least **two weeks prior to the deadline in the NOFO providing a justification of their request**. Approval for a SAM.gov exemption must come from the warranted Grants Officer before the application can be deemed eligible for review.

Note: Foreign organizations will be required to register with the NATO Support Agency (NSPA) to receive a NCAGE code in order to register in SAM.gov. NSPA will forward your registration request to the applicable National Codification Bureau (NCB) if your organization is located in a NATO or Tier 2 Sponsored Non-NATO Nation. As of September 2021, NATO nations included Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. As of September 2021, Tier 2 nations included Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Finland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Morocco, New Zealand, Serbia, Singapore, Sweden, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates.

*NSPA and/or the appropriate NCB forwards all NCAGE code information to all Allied Committee 135 (AC/135) nations, which as of September 2021 also included Algeria, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Thailand. **All organizations are strongly advised to take this into consideration when assessing whether registration may result in possible endangerment.***

D.4 Submission Dates and Times

Applications are due no later than 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST), on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022 on <https://www.grants.gov/> under the announcement title **“DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza,”** funding opportunity number **“SFOP0008613.”****

Grants.gov automatically logs the date and time an application submission is made, and the Department of State will use this information to determine whether an application has been submitted on time. Late applications are neither reviewed nor considered. Known system errors caused by Grants.gov that are outside of the applicant’s control will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Applicants should not expect a notification upon DRL receiving their application.

D.5 Funding Restrictions

DRL will not consider applications that reflect any type of support for any member, affiliate, or representative of a designated terrorist organization. Please refer the link for Foreign Terrorist Organizations: <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/> Project activities whose direct beneficiaries are foreign militaries or paramilitary groups or individuals will not be considered for DRL funding given purpose limitations on funding.

In accordance with Department of State policy for terrorism, applicants are advised that successful passing of vetting to evaluate the risk that funds may benefit terrorists or their supporters is a condition of award. If chosen for an award, applicants will be asked to submit information required by DS Form 4184, Risk Analysis Information (attached to this solicitation) about their company and its principal personnel. Vetting information is also required for all sub-award performance on assistance awards identified by the Department of State as presenting a risk of terrorist financing. Vetting information may also be requested for project beneficiaries and participants. Failure to submit information when requested, or failure to pass vetting, may be grounds for rejecting your proposal prior to award.

The Leahy Law prohibits Department foreign assistance funds from supporting foreign security force units if the Secretary of State has credible information that the unit has committed a gross violation of human rights. Per 22 USC §2378d(a) (2017), “No assistance shall be furnished under this chapter [FOREIGN ASSISTANCE] or the Arms Export Control Act [22 USC 2751 et seq.] to any unit of the security forces of a foreign country if the Secretary of State has credible information that such unit has committed a gross violation of human rights.” Restrictions may apply to any proposed assistance to police or other law enforcement. Among these, pursuant to section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA), no assistance provided through this funding opportunity may be furnished to any unit of the security forces of a foreign

country when there is credible information that such unit has committed a gross violation of human rights. In accordance with the requirements of section 620M of the FAA, also known as the Leahy law, project beneficiaries or participants from a foreign government's security forces may need to be vetted by the Department before the provision of any assistance. If a proposed grant or cooperative agreement will provide assistance to foreign security forces or personnel, compliance with the Leahy Law is required.

U.S. foreign assistance for Burma or Burmese beneficiaries is subject to restrictions. This includes restrictions, pursuant to section 7043(a)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. G, P.L. 116-94)(SFOAA), on funds appropriated under title III of the act for assistance for Burma. Section 7043(a)(3) provides that such funds "may not be made available to any organization or entity controlled by the armed forces of Burma, or to any individual or organization that advocates violence against ethnic or religious groups or individuals in Burma, as determined by the Secretary of State." In addition, funds cannot be made available to any individual or organization that has committed serious human rights abuse.

Organizations should be cognizant of these restrictions when developing project proposals as these restrictions will require appropriate due diligence of program beneficiaries and collaboration with DRL to ensure compliance with these restrictions. Program beneficiaries subject to due diligence vetting will include any individuals or entities that are beneficiaries of foreign assistance funding or support. Due diligence vetting will include a review of open-source materials.

Federal awards generally will not allow reimbursement of pre-award costs; however, the Grants Officer may approve pre-award costs on a case-by-case basis. Generally, construction costs are not allowed under DRL awards. For additional information, please see the DRL Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) for Applications: <https://www.state.gov/bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/programs-and-grants/>.

D.6 Application Submission

All application submissions must be made electronically via www.grants.gov. Please note that the Grants.gov registration process can take ten (10) business days or longer, even if all registration steps are completed in a timely manner.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that it has an active registration in Grants.gov. Applicants are required to document that the application has been received by Grants.gov in its entirety. DRL bears no responsibility for disqualification that result from applicants not being registered before the due date, for system errors in Grants.gov, or other errors in the application process. Additionally, applicants must save a screen shot of the checklist showing all documents submitted in case any document fails to upload successfully.

Faxed, couriered, or emailed documents will not be accepted. Reasonable accommodations may, in appropriate circumstances, be provided to applicants with disabilities or for security reasons. Applicants must follow all formatting instructions in the applicable NOFO and these instructions.

DRL encourages organizations to **submit applications during normal business hours** (Monday – Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)). If an applicant experiences technical difficulties and has contacted the appropriate helpdesk but is not receiving timely assistance (e.g. if you have not received a response within 48 hours of contacting the helpdesk), you may contact the DRL point of contact listed in the NOFO in Section G. The point of contact may assist in contacting the appropriate helpdesk.

Note: The Grants Officer will determine technical eligibility of all applications.

Grants.gov Applications:

Please be advised that completing all the necessary registration steps for obtaining a username and password from Grants.gov **can take ten (10) business days or longer.**

Please refer to the Grants.gov website for definitions of various "application statuses" and the difference between a submission receipt and a submission validation. Applicants will receive a validation e-mail from Grants.gov upon the successful submission of an application. Validation of an electronic submission via Grants.gov can take up to two business days. Additionally, organizations **must** remember to save a screenshot of the checklist showing all documents submitted in case any document fails to upload successfully.

Grants.gov Helpdesk:

For assistance with Grants.gov, please call the Contact Center at +1 (800) 518-4726 or email support@grants.gov. The Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except federal holidays.

See <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/federal-holidays/> for a list of federal holidays.

E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

E.1 Proposal Review Criteria

The DRL review panel will evaluate each application individually against the following criteria, listed below in order of importance, and not against competing applications. Please use the below criteria as a reference, but **do not structure your application according to the subsections.**

Quality of Project Idea

Applications should be responsive to the program framework and policy objectives identified in the NOFO, appropriate in the country/regional context, and should exhibit originality, substance, precision, and relevance to DRL's mission of promoting human rights and democracy. Projects should have the potential to have an immediate impact leading to long-term, sustainable reforms. DRL prefers new approaches that do not duplicate efforts by other entities. This does not exclude from consideration projects that improve upon or expand existing successful projects in a new and complementary way. In countries where similar activities are already taking place, an explanation should be provided as to how new activities will not duplicate or merely add to

existing activities and how these efforts will be coordinated. Proposals that promote creative approaches to recognized ongoing challenges are highly encouraged. DRL prioritizes project proposals with inclusive approaches for advancing these rights.

Project Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives

A strong application will include a clear articulation of how the proposed project activities contribute to the overall project objectives, and each activity will be clearly developed and detailed. A comprehensive monthly work plan should demonstrate substantive undertakings and the logistical capacity of the organization. Objectives should be ambitious yet measurable, results-focused and achievable in a reasonable timeframe. A complete application must include a Logic Model to demonstrate how the project activities will have an impact on its proposed objectives. The Logic Model should match the objectives, outcomes, key activities, and outputs described in the narrative. Applications should address how the project will engage relevant stakeholders and should identify local partners as appropriate.

If local partners have been identified, DRL strongly encourages applicants to submit letters of support from proposed in-country partners. Additionally, applicants should describe the division of labor among the direct applicant and any local partners. If applicable, applications should identify target geographic areas for activities, target participant groups or selection criteria for participants, and the specific roles of sub-awardees, among other pertinent details.

DRL recognizes that all programs have some level of risk due to internal/external variables that have the potential to adversely affect a program. Risk management should address how the program design incorporates the identification, assessment, and management of key risk factors. DRL will review the Risk Analysis based on the organization's ability to identify risks that could have an impact on the overall program as well as how the organization will manage these risks.

Institution's Record and Capacity

DRL will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Applications should demonstrate an institutional record of successful democracy and human rights programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past grants. Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the project's objectives. Projects should have potential for continued funding beyond DRL resources.

Addressing Barriers to Equal Participation

DRL strives to ensure its projects advance the rights and uphold the dignity of all persons. As the U.S. government's lead bureau dedicated to promoting democratic governance, DRL requests a programming approach dedicated to strengthening inclusive societies as a necessary pillar of strong democracies. Discrimination, violence, inequity, and inequality targeting any members of society undermines collective security and threatens democracy. DRL prioritizes inclusive and integrated program models that assess and address the barriers to access for individuals and groups based on their race, ethnicity, religion, income, geography, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability. The proposal should also demonstrate how the program will further engagement in underserved communities and with individuals from underserved communities. Applicants should describe how programming will impact all of its beneficiaries, including

support for underserved and underrepresented communities. This approach should be an integral part of both the concept and explicit design, and implementation of all proposed project activities, objectives, and monitoring. Strong proposals will provide specific analysis, measures, and corresponding targets as appropriate. Stakeholders shall identify the difference between opportunities and barriers to access, and design programs accordingly to not perpetuate these inequalities, but rather enhance programmatic impact by including all people in society. The goal of this approach is to bring communities and those in power together in support of more stable and secure societies.

Cost Effectiveness

DRL strongly encourages applicants to clearly demonstrate project cost-effectiveness in their application, including examples of leveraging institutional and other resources. However, cost-sharing or other examples of leveraging other resources are not required. Inclusion of cost-sharing in the budget does not result in additional points awarded during the review process. Budgets should have low and/or reasonable overhead and administration costs, and applicants should provide clear explanations and justifications for these costs in relation to the work involved. All budget items should be clearly explained and justified to demonstrate necessity, appropriateness, and connection to the project objectives.

Please note: If cost share is included in the budget, the recipient must maintain written records to support all allowable costs that are claimed as its contribution to cost share, as well as costs to be paid by the Federal government. Such records are subject to audit. In the event the recipient does not meet the minimum amount of cost-sharing as stipulated in the recipient's budget, DRL's contribution may be reduced in proportion to the recipient's contribution.

Multiplier Effect/Sustainability

Applications should clearly delineate how elements of the project will have a multiplier effect and be sustainable beyond the life of the grant. A good multiplier effect will have an impact beyond the direct beneficiaries of the grant (e.g. participants trained under a grant go on to train other people; workshop participants use skills from a workshop to enhance a national level election that affects the entire populace). A strong sustainability plan may include demonstrating continuing impact beyond the life of a project or garnering other donor support after DRL funding ceases.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Complete applications will include a detailed M&E Narrative and M&E Plan, which detail how the project's progress will be monitored and evaluated. Incorporating well-designed monitoring and evaluation processes into a project is an efficient method for documenting the change (intended and unintended) that a project seeks. Applications should demonstrate the capacity to provide objectives with measurable outputs and outcomes.

The quality of the M&E sections will be judged on the narrative explaining how both monitoring and evaluation will be carried out and who will be responsible for those related activities. The M&E Narrative should explain how an external evaluation will be incorporated into the project implementation plan or how the project will be systematically assessed in the absence of one.

Please see the section on *Monitoring and Evaluation Plan* in the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) for more information on what is required in the narrative.

The output and outcome-based performance indicators should not only be separated by project objectives but also should match the objectives, outcomes, and outputs detailed in the Logic Model and Proposal Narrative. Performance indicators should be clearly defined (i.e., explained how the indicators will be measured and reported) either within the table or with a separate Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (PIRS). For each performance indicator, the table should also include baselines and quarterly and cumulative targets, data collection tools, data sources, types of data disaggregation, and frequency of monitoring and evaluation. There should also be metrics to capture how project activities target those who face discrimination due to their religion, gender, disabilities, ethnicity or sexual orientation and gender identity, where applicable. Please see the section on *Monitoring and Evaluation Plan* in the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) for more information on what is required in the plan.

E.2 Review and Selection Process

DRL strives to ensure that each application receives a balanced evaluation by a DRL review panel. The Department's Office of Acquisitions Management (AQM) will determine technical eligibility for all applications. All technically eligible applications for a given NOFO are reviewed against the same seven criteria, which include quality of project idea, project planning/ability to achieve objectives, institutional record and capacity, inclusive programming, cost effectiveness, multiplier effect/sustainability, and project monitoring and evaluation.

Additionally, the DRL review panel will evaluate how the application addresses the NOFO request, U.S. foreign policy goals, and the priority needs of DRL overall. DRL may also take into consideration the balance of the current portfolio of active projects, including geographic or thematic diversity, if needed.

In most cases, the DRL review panel includes representatives from DRL, the appropriate Department of State regional bureau (to include feedback from U.S. embassies), and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) (to include feedback from USAID missions). In some cases, additional panelists may participate, including from other Department of State bureaus or offices; U.S. government departments, agencies, or boards; representatives from partner governments; or representatives from entities that are in a public-private partnership with DRL. At the end of the panel's discussion about an application, the review panel votes on whether to recommend the application for approval by the DRL Assistant Secretary. If more applications are recommended for approval than DRL can ultimately fund, the review panel will rank the recommended applications in priority order for consideration by the DRL Assistant Secretary. The Grants Officer Representative (GOR) for the eventual award does not vote on the panel. All panelists must sign non-disclosure agreements and conflicts of interest agreements.

DRL review panels may provide conditions and recommendations on applications to enhance the proposed project, which must be addressed by the applicant before further consideration of the award. To ensure effective use of DRL funds, conditions or recommendations may include requests to increase, decrease, clarify, and/or justify costs and project activities.

F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

F.1 Federal Award Notices

DRL will provide a separate notification to applicants on the result of their applications. Successful applicants will receive a letter electronically via email requesting that the applicant respond to review panel conditions and recommendations. This notification is not an authorization to begin activities and does not constitute formal approval or a funding commitment.

Final approval is contingent on the applicant successfully responding to the review panel's conditions and recommendations; being registered in required systems, including the U.S. government's Payment Management System (PMS), unless an exemption is provided; and completing and providing any additional documentation requested by DRL or AQM. Final approval is also contingent on Congressional Notification requirements being met and final review and approval by the Department's warranted Grants Officer.

The notice of Federal award signed by the Department's warranted Grants Officers is the sole authorizing document. If awarded, the notice of Federal award will be provided to the applicant's designated Authorizing Official via SAMS Domestic to be electronically counter-signed in the system.

F.2 Administrative and National Policy and Legal Requirements

DRL requires all recipients of foreign assistance funding to comply with all applicable Department and Federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to the following: The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards set forth in 2 CFR Chapter 200 (Sub-Chapters A through F) shall apply to all non-Federal entities, except for assistance awards to Individuals and Foreign Public Entities. Sub-Chapters A through E shall apply to all foreign organizations, and Sub-Chapters A through D shall apply to all U.S. and foreign for-profit entities. The applicant/recipient of the award and any sub-recipient under the award must comply with all applicable terms and conditions, in addition to the assurance and certifications made part of the Notice of Award. The Department's Standard Terms and Conditions can be viewed at <https://www.state.gov/about-us-office-of-the-procurement-executive/>.

Additionally, DRL supports implementation of the Women Peace and Security Act of 2017, which highlights the U.S. commitment to the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention, management, and resolution. For additional information, please refer to the following link: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1141>.

Due to the determination made under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) for FY 2021, assistance that benefits the governments of the following countries may be subject to a restriction under the TVPA. The Department of State determines on a case-by-case basis what constitutes assistance to a government; the general principles listed below apply.

Assistance to the government includes:

- All branches of government (executive, legislative, judicial) at all levels (national, regional, local);
- Public schools, universities, hospitals, and state-owned enterprises, as well as government employees;
- Cash, training, equipment, services, or other assistance provided directly to the government, assistance provided to an NGO or other implementer for the benefit of the government, and assistance to government employees.

Additional requirements may be included depending on the content of the program.

F.3 Reporting

Applicants should be aware that DRL awards will require that all reports (financial and progress) are uploaded to the grant file in SAMS Domestic on a quarterly basis. The Federal Financial Report (FFR or SF-425) is the required form for the financial reports and must be submitted in PMS, as well as a copy from PMS then uploaded to the grant file in SAMS Domestic. The progress reports uploaded to the grant file in SAMS Domestic must include a narrative as described below and Project Indicators (or other mutually agreed upon format approved by the Grants Officer) for the F Framework indicators. The F Framework indicators will be reviewed and negotiated during the final stages of issuing an award.

Narrative progress reports should reflect the focus on measuring the project's impact on the overarching objectives and should be compiled according to the objectives, outcomes, and outputs as outlined in the award's Scope of Work (SOW) and in the Monitoring & Evaluation Narrative. An assessment of the overall project's impact should be included in each progress report. Where relevant, progress reports should include the following sections:

- Relevant contextual information (limited);
- Explanation and evaluation of significant activities of the reporting period and how the activities reflect progress toward achieving objectives, including meeting benchmarks/targets as set in the M&E Plan. In addition, attach the M&E Plan, comparing the target and actual numbers for the indicators;
- Any tangible impact or success stories from the project, when possible;
- Copy of mid-term and/or final evaluation report(s) conducted by an external evaluator; if applicable;
- Relevant supporting documentation or products related to the project activities (such as articles, meeting lists and agendas, participant surveys, photos, manuals, etc.) as separate attachments;
- Description of how the recipient is pursuing sustainability, including looking for sources of follow-on funding;
- Any problems/challenges in implementing the project and a corrective action plan with an updated timeline of activities;
- Reasons why established goals were not met;
- Data for the required F Framework indicator(s) for the quarter as well as aggregate data by fiscal year;
- Program Indicators or other mutually agreed upon format approved by the Grants Officer;
- Proposed activities for the next quarter; and,

- Additional pertinent information, including analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs, if applicable.

Foreign Assistance Data Review: As required by Congress, the Department of State must make progress in its efforts to improve tracking and reporting of foreign assistance data through the Foreign Assistance Data Review (FADR). The FADR requires tracking of foreign assistance activity data from budgeting, planning, and allocation through obligation and disbursement. Successful applicants will be required to report and draw down federal funding based on the appropriate FADR Data Elements, indicated within their award documentation. In cases of more than one FADR Data Element, typically program or sector and/or regions or country, the successful applicant will be required to maintain separate accounting records.

A final narrative and financial report must also be submitted within 120 days after the expiration of the award.

Please note: Delays in reporting may result in delays of payment approvals and failure to provide required reports may jeopardize the recipient's ability to receive future U.S. government funds. DRL reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial project information during the award period.

G. CONTACT INFORMATION

For technical submission questions related to this NOFO, please contact DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov.

For assistance with Grants.gov accounts and technical issues related to using the system, please call the Contact Center at +1 (800) 518-4726 or email support@grants.gov. The Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except federal holidays.

For a list of federal holidays visit:

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/federal-holidays/>

Except for technical submission questions, during the NOFO period U.S. Department of State staff in Washington and overseas shall not discuss this competition with applicants until the entire proposal review process has been completed and rejection and approval letters have been transmitted.

H. OTHER INFORMATION

Applicants should be aware that DRL understands that some information contained in applications may be considered sensitive or proprietary and will make appropriate efforts to protect such information. However, applicants are advised that DRL cannot guarantee that such information will not be disclosed, including pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or other similar statutes.

The information in this NOFO and "Proposal Submission Instructions for Applications" is binding and may not be modified by any DRL representative. Explanatory information provided

by DRL that contradicts this language will not be binding. Issuance of the NOFO and negotiation of applications does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government. DRL reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets.

This NOFO will appear on www.grants.gov, [SAMS Domestic](#), and DRL's website <https://www.state.gov/bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/programs-and-grants/>.

Background Information on DRL and General DRL Funding

DRL has the mission of promoting democracy and protecting human rights globally. DRL supports projects that uphold democratic principles, support and strengthen democratic institutions, promote human rights, prevent atrocities, combat and prevent violent extremism, and build civil society around the world. DRL typically focuses its work in countries with egregious human rights violations, where democracy and human rights advocates are under pressure and where governments are undemocratic or in transition.

Additional background information on DRL and its efforts can be found on <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-civilian-security-democracy-and-human-rights/bureau-of-democracy-human-rights-and-labor/>.

(b)(6)

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(4)

(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Post-NOFO Stage					
Funding Type	Project / Solicitation #	\$ Amount	Grantee	POC	Status

(b)(5)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Post-Panel Stage					
Funding Type	Project	\$ Amount	Grantee	POC	Status
(b)(5); (b)(6)					

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Completed FY21 Award Actions ("Ordered" status in Ariba):

- 1. (b)(5)
- 2.

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>;
 (b)(6)@usaid.gov>;
 (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank Gaza
Date: Wed, 20 Apr 2022 11:33:44 -0400

Likewise, (b)(6). Will do!

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Crisis, Stabilization & Governance Officer
U.S. Agency for International Development
Mobile: (b)(6)

On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 10:50 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Excellent, thank you both! (b)(6) it's nice to see your name pop up again.

Please look out for an email from my colleague, (b)(6) with details on the panel.

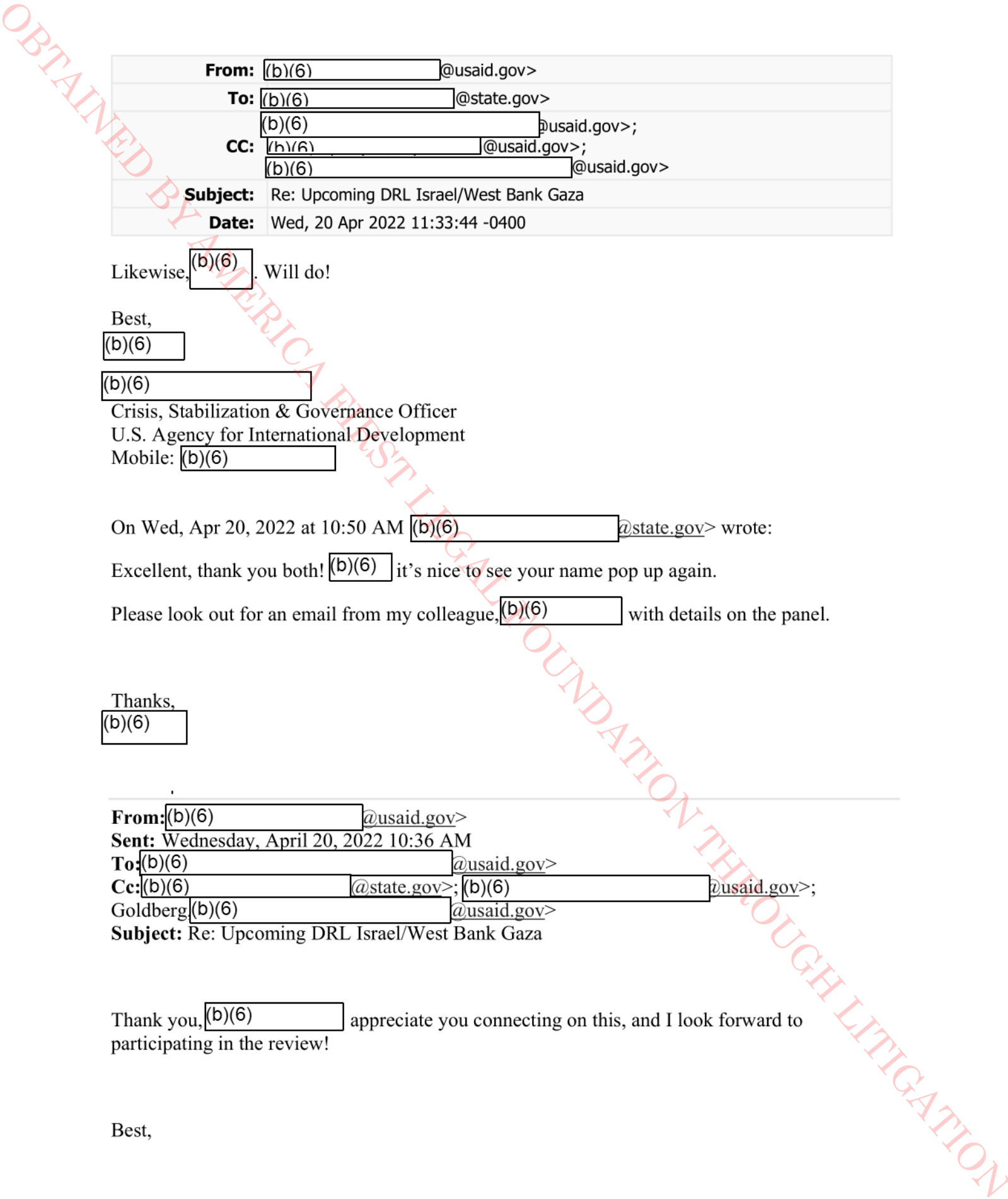
Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 10:36 AM
To: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@usaid.gov>;
 Goldberg (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank Gaza

Thank you, (b)(6) appreciate you connecting on this, and I look forward to participating in the review!

Best,



(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Crisis, Stabilization & Governance Officer

U.S. Agency for International Development

Mobile: (b)(6)

On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 10:31 AM (b)(6) <(b)(6)@usaid.gov> wrote:

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for reaching out. I think the best person for this is (b)(6) (cc'd). She is currently

(b)(6)

(b)(6) We are very excited to have her out there and re-starting programming there. I know she will be in a period of intense training so it will be useful to have the proposals shared with her early on so she can get through them while also in training.

(b)(6) over to you to coordinate with (b)(6)

Copying (b)(6) for their awareness on this request (b)(6) is supporting the mission on other upcoming DG work so good for her to be aware of DRL activities.

Best

(b)(6)

On Wed, Apr 20, 2022 at 9:27 AM (b)(6) <(b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Hi (b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

I hope you're doing well! Quick question for you—We have a proposal review panel coming up on May 10 and are seeking participation from USAID. I'm attaching the solicitation here for reference.

We received 5 proposals, so it should be a relatively light lift. Any idea who might be a good participant?

Thank you!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

(b)(6) NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at (b)(6)

--

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20523

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Tel: (b)(6)

Mobile: (b)(6)

Sender: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
Recipient: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>;
(b)(6)@usaid.gov>;
(b)(6)@usaid.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From:	DRL-NEAProgramInfo <DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
CC:	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject:	FW: DOS-DRL NEA NOFOs - Psychosocial Assistance requirement
Date:	Tue, 12 Apr 2022 11:50:28 +0000

H (b)(6)

I was checking the neat inbox today and noticed this email that I had missed earlier. I am not sure how to respond and wanted to run it by your for any guidance or recommended response.

Thank you!

(b)(6)

Program Specialist

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor | Office of Global Programs

U.S. Department of State | Contracting Resources Group (CRG) - Contractor

+1 (b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@konterragroup.net>
Sent: Friday, April 1, 2022 2:49 PM
To: DRL-NEAProgramInfo <DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@konterragroup.net>
Subject: DOS-DRL NEA NOFOs - Psychosocial Assistance requirement

Dear DOS-DRL NEA colleagues:

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(4)

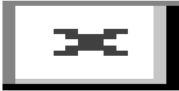
We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

(b)(6)

--

(b)(6)



Business Development Advisor
 +(b)(6) (Cell/WhatsApp)
 700 12th St. NW - Suite 700 | Washington, DC 20005
www.konterragroup.net | (b)(6) (Skype)

This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is confidential and may not be disclosed under applicable law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission by someone other than the intended addressee or its designated agent is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return email and delete the original message. Thank you. This disclaimer may not be removed for any purpose.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	DRL-NEAProgramInfo <DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION AND HIGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
To:	J_StaffAssistants <J_StaffAssistants@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC:	QFR_NOMS <QFR_NOMS@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject:	Action Item: H QFR Tasker, H20220321QFR108 Zeya-Cruz QFR 1-4; Due March 30, 2022, QFR 108
Date:	Mon, 21 Mar 2022 21:52:58 +0000

J Colleagues,

Attached are Questions for the Record from Senator Cruz, following the March 15, 2022, U. S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations briefing, submitted to Undersecretary (J) Zeya:

Provide responses to the attached QFRs.

The deadline for responding is March 30, 2022, 5:00 p.m.

Please make sure your response uses information only available at date of the hearing. This response will be part of the official Congressional Record for the date of the hearing, so responses should match what was available at the same date. Any new information available after the hearing that you wish to convey will require that the Department send a separate letter to Congress.

Send all the QFR responses as one Word Document after approved by the nominee.

The attached Sample Format is included for reference.

All QFR responses must be cleared with H (Congressional Advisor) and the Drafting Bureau. Info by Request D, P, S/P and D-MR.

Addition clearance(s) from other bureaus may be requested, please review the incoming QFR(s) and tasker(s).

Please send fully cleared responses by e-mail to the QFR NOMS" distribution list.

Requests to transfer action on Hearing QFRs/Takebacks:

Requests to transfer action on hearing QFRs or Take-backs should be made directly between respective bureaus. Once action is accepted, QFR_NOMS will note the transfer.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
J_StaffAssistants <J_StaffAssistants@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
QFR_NOMS <QFR_NOMS@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Risk Assessment

(b)(4)

(b)(6)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Gender and Inclusion Analysis

(b)(4)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From:	Department of State Media Inquiries <mediainquiries@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)@jewishinsider.com <(b)(6)@jewishinsider.com>
CC:	drl-press@state.gov <drl-press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov <(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject:	RE:: DRL Human Rights Grant / Israel-Palestine - 00232736 [ref: _00D30mqyv._5003d3FCkh:ref]
Date:	Thu, 26 May 2022 19:04:29 +0000

Hi (b)(6)

Just checking in to let you know I have flagged your inquiry for my wonderful colleagues to see if we can get you some more information by deadline.

All the best,

(b)(6)

----- Original Message -----

From: Media Inquiries System [noreplymediainquiry@state.gov]

Sent: 5/26/2022 2:13 PM

To: (b)(6)@jewishinsider.com

Subject: Confirmation: DRL Human Rights Grant / Israel-Palestine - 00232736

Thank you for your inquiry. It has been received by the State Department Office of Press Relations. We'll be in touch with you soon. For your reference, your inquiry ticket number is 00232736, and a summary of your inquiry has been included below. If you'd like to follow-up on this inquiry, you may reply to this e-mail.

Case Summary

Name: (b)(6)

Media Outlet: Other

Media Outlet (if not listed): Jewish Insider

Deadline: 5/27/2022 5:00 PM

Due ASAP:

Description:

Hello,

I'm hoping you can offer more information about this grant program from DRL (<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>). I saw that the application closed in April. A few questions:

Can you share information about how many applications you received for this grant?

Do you know how many grants you'll be awarding, and to whom?

Has DRL offered a grant on this issue before or is this the first time?

What prompted the creation of this grant? Were there particular actions taken in the region that led State to want to fund this work?

Do you anticipate that successful projects will focus on abuses by Israelis, by Palestinians, or by both?

Thank you,

(b)(6)

ref:_00D30mqyv._5003d3FCkh:ref

Sender:	Department of State Media Inquiries <mediainquiries@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@jewishinsider.com <(b)(6)@jewishinsider.com>; drl-press@state.gov <drl-press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: UPDATED for clearance to Prior lines re DRL NOFO Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
Date: Tue, 29 Mar 2022 15:35:08 +0000

Plus (b)(6)

If these are pre-cleared lines, I think it's fine.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:34 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: UPDATED for clearance to Prior lines re DRL NOFO Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Hi (b)(6) Sorry for another email on this, if in the future you want me to make the call when DRL is deploying already cleared lines on the NOFO please let me know.

(b)(5) please let me know if you clear and if I need to check again with (b)(6) This is in response to inquiry from Ron Kampeas.

Inquiry:

Is this tender new and unprecedented as it has been portrayed in some media? Or is this something DRL has advanced in the past?

Cleared lines:

- The State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to build respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- The Department vets recipients of federal funds per our well-established processes.

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN PEOPLE'S FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

- The solicitation referenced here has been drafted specifically to allow local civil society organizations to submit proposals designed based on their assessment of local needs.
- As part of a normal procurement process, we are seeking only proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 9:33 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Hi (b)(6),

(b)(5)

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Lahav Harkov of Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program (via NEA-Press at 2:30 pm)

Question: Is this tender new and unprecedented as it has been portrayed in some media? Or is this something DRL has advanced in the past?

<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

My deadline is Monday 3 pm.

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Response:

- The State Department regularly seeks grant applications from and funds programs with non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to build respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- As part of a normal procurement process, all proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 9:07 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

(b)(5)

Post wants to be aware of any lines we move forward on this so hoping for clarity so I can flag for them. Thanks!

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 8:36 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH INVESTIGATION

(b)(6) - please see (b)(6) request below that we revert to the SPOX-cleared lines from last week - would that work for NEA Press?

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov<
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>
Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

+ NEA/Press

Hi (b)(6)

This is drawn from last week's lines. (b)(5)

(b)(5) (NEA/Press ran this RTQ by DAS Amr and cleared on this edited version. Adding NEA/Press in case they have any other thoughts/concerns.

- The State Department regularly seeks grant applications from and funds programs with non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to build respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- As part of a normal procurement process, all proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)

@state.gov

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 5:23 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Hi (b)(6)

Apologies for the delay. Didn't we use these SPOX-cleared lines previously? If this is a query on the same issue any reason not to just use the previously cleared lines?

- The State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to build respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- The Department vets recipients of federal funds per our well-established processes.
- The solicitation referenced here has been drafted specifically to allow local civil society organizations to submit proposals designed based on their assessment of local needs.
- As part of a normal procurement process, we are seeking only proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

(b)(6)

Director of Press Operations

U.S. Department of State

Office: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 4:12 PM

To: PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

GPA Colleagues,

Repinging for your clearance asap - deadline was 3 pm. Thank you.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 2:36 PM

To: PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: FOR GPA FLACH CLEARANCE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Dear GPA Colleagues,

OBTAINED

AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Please clear ASAP on the below RTQ - another one on the DRL Grant Program in Israel. The reporter's deadline is 3 pm today. We drew from the lines cleared last week (removing two bullets) and NEA edited slightly.

2022.03.5 RTQ - Jewish Telegraphic Agency - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza - Copy.docx

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Lahav Harkov of Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program (via NEA-Press at 2:30 pm)

Question: Is this tender new and unprecedented as it has been portrayed in some media? Or is this something DRL has advanced in the past?

<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

My deadline is Monday 3 pm.

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Response:

- The State Department regularly seeks grant applications from and funds programs with non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to build respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- As part of a normal procurement process, all proposals will be subject to the Department’s rigorous review process.

Clearances:

DRL/GP: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL/NEA: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL/Press: (b)(6) (ok)
 NEA/Press: (b)(6) (ok)
 GPA/PRS: (b)(6) ()

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 4:08 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Fwd: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Correcting chain.

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

On March 25, 2022 at 15:26:55 EDT, (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
If we get our talking points together we have an opportunity to engage on this...

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Ron Kampeas (b)(6)
Date: March 25, 2022 at 14:26:00 EDT
Subject: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>, PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>, (b)(6)@state.gov>

Hi all-

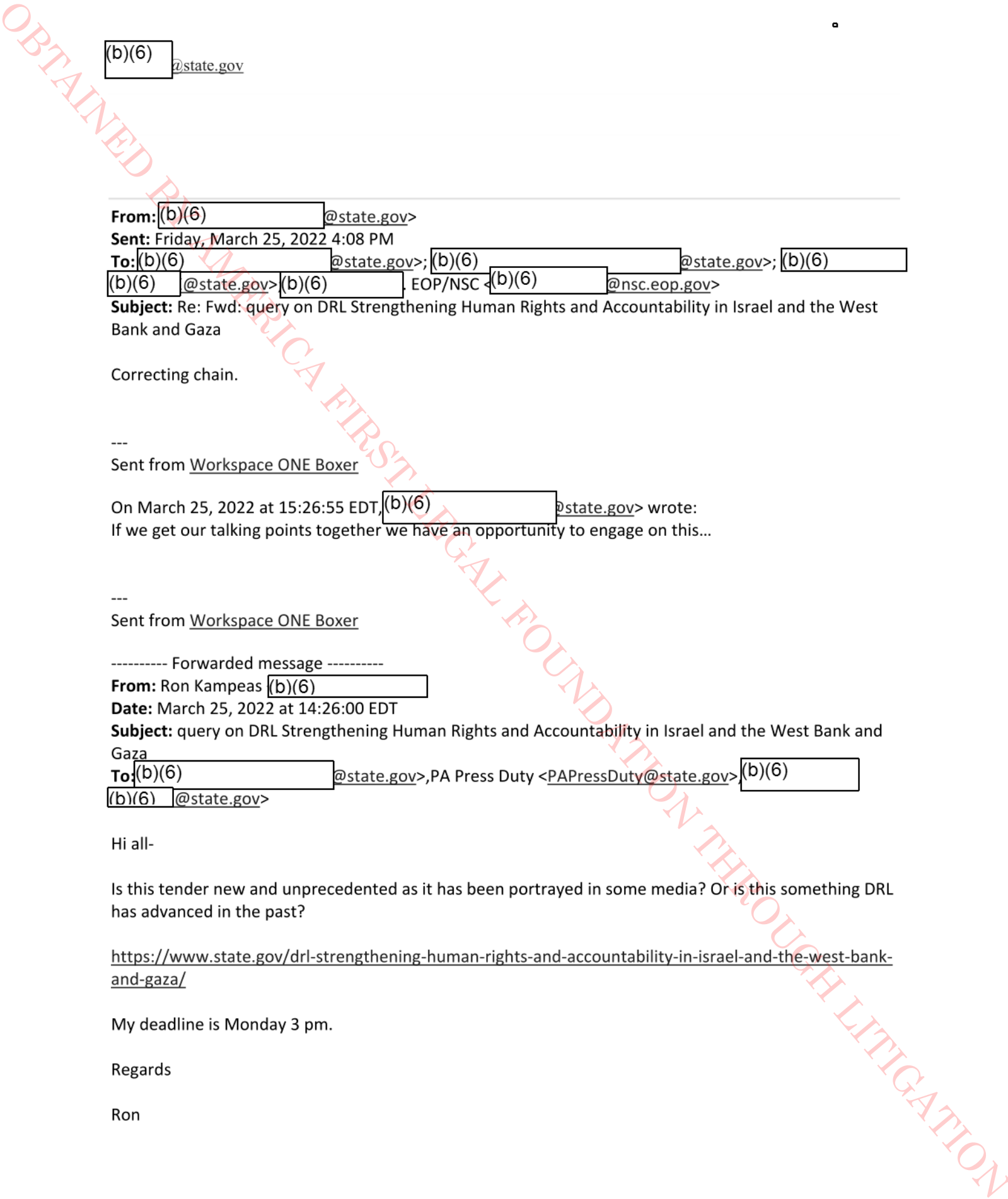
Is this tender new and unprecedented as it has been portrayed in some media? Or is this something DRL has advanced in the past?

<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

My deadline is Monday 3 pm.

Regards

Ron



Ron Kampeas
Washington bureau chief
Jewish Telegraphic Agency
PO Box 5401
Arlington VA 22205
USA

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

Sign up for The Tell, my weekly political newsletter from Washington
<https://www.jta.org/sign-up-for-the-tell>

Sender:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>;
	(b)(6)	@state.gov>;
	(b)(6)	@state.gov>;
	(b)(6)	@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 12 May 2022 14:30:43 +0000

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:21 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

So there was a different IM that was approved last week before the panel was to meet this Monday. Now Nides wanted to call the AS for DRL and I put together a BCL for this call, likely scheduled for tomorrow am.

Sorry for the confusion, if easier you can give me a ring (b)(6)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b)(6) Jerusalem (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:19:12 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Is it this Updated DRL NOFO?

~~(SBU)~~ Update on DRL Notice of Funding Opportunity for Israel, West Bank, and Gaza, Project Proposals

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:06 PM
To: (b)(6) Jerusalem (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hello (b)(6)

As requested just now. did someone send up to you the information memo that I was working on? Sorry if that was sent up just now w out the attachments.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:46:58 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hello (b)(6)

This came in overnight, from DRL.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:11:03 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)

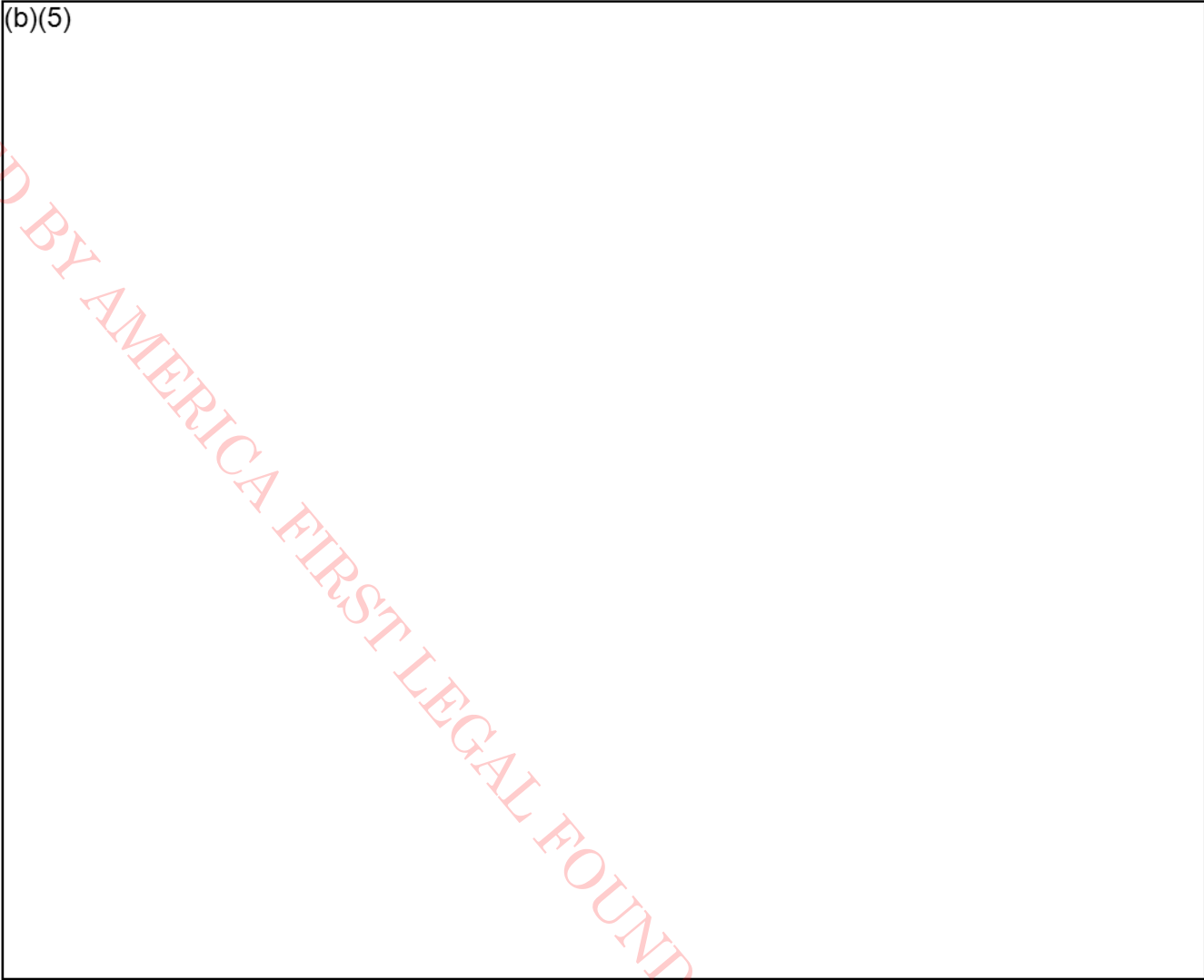
I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

OBTAINED THROUGH AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(5)



~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks again for taking the time to chat this morning (b)(5)

(b)(5)

I know it has been a couple of years since we have conducted a DRL-funded panel for Israel, so please find a couple of notes below on this process:

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

1. Per federal procurement guidelines, all panelists must come to the panel with the ability to represent their office's vote on each proposal. The panel is the opportunity for the different stakeholders across the Department to weigh in on each proposal based on their office's specific equities. We are unable to allow votes on proposals after a panel has concluded, as this would be considered actions/review outside of the procurement process.
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(b)(5); (b)(6)



(b)(5)

Happy to answer any other questions you might have. Thanks again for your time and participation in this process!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at (b)(6)

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~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

Sender:	(b)(6)	(Jerusalem)"	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)			@state.gov>

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 12 May 2022 10:33:17 +0000

So (b)(6) wanted to me to do paper 1st then a meeting. I'm working on that now and will Send up in a bit if that works?

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From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:31:19 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Yep – short tho like 15-20 mins?

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:48 AM

To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Ok amazing. I'm going to talk to (b)(6) and propose that we get on the Ambassador's calendar if you think that's a good idea?

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 7:39:38 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Yes! I'm at ebo just let me know what works

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:12:17 AM

To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Can we touch base on this Thursday am?

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:11:03 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)

I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

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(b)(5)

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~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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(b)(5)

(b)(5)

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(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at

(b)(6)

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~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

Sender:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	USUN New York) (b)(6) @state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Wed, 11 May 2022 20:49:35 +0000

(b)(5)
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 9:01 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: FW: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks again for taking the time to chat this morning! (b)(5)

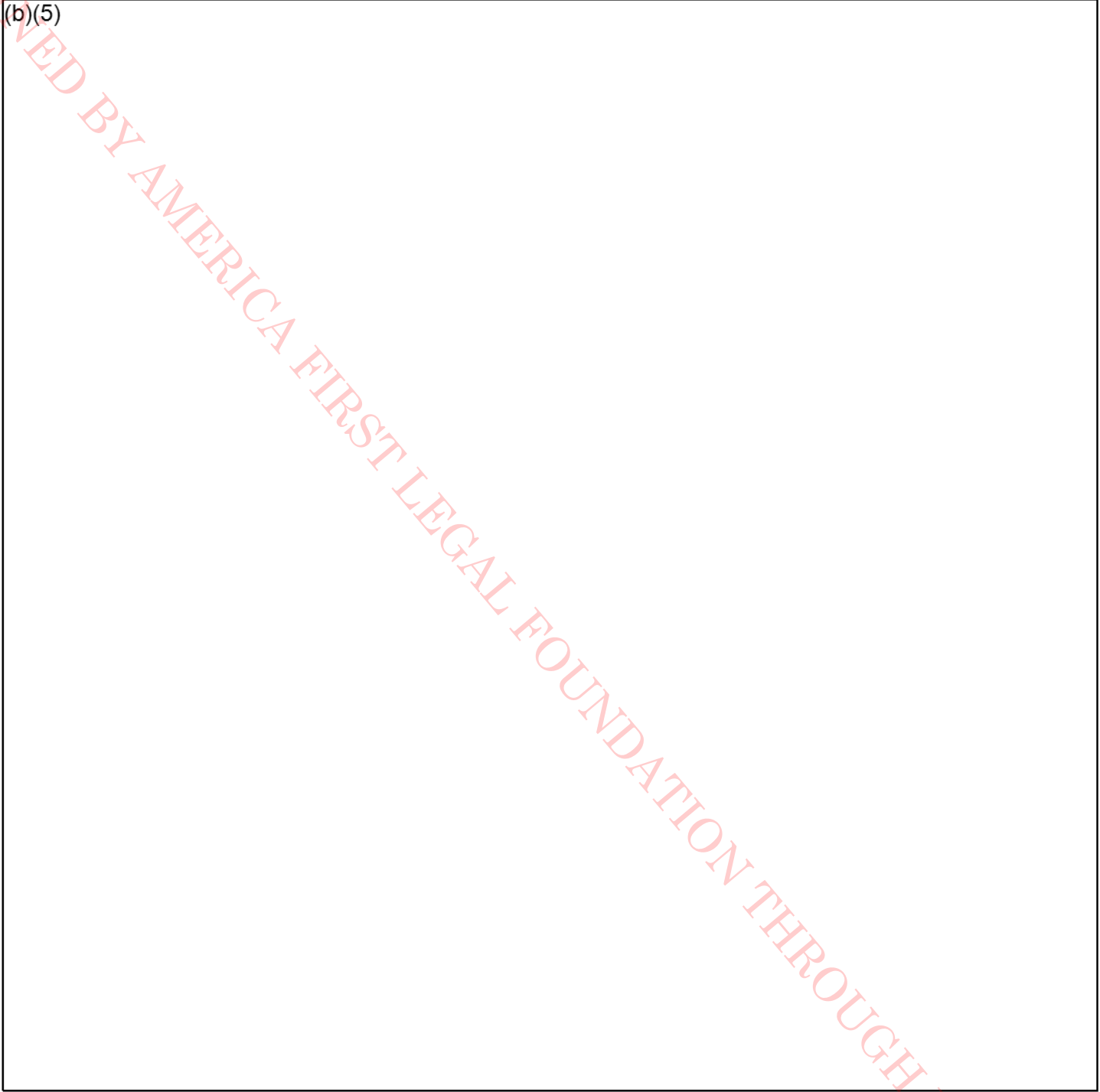
(b)(5)

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(b)(5)



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(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at (b)(6)

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Sender:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>

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From: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)" (b)(6) @state.gov>
To: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 12 May 2022 15:02:00 +0000

Great!

From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:59 PM
To: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

So, the DCM cleared that fast! See other email.

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From: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:47 PM
To: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Copy, will print and have on standby

From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:20 PM
To: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(6) FYI for tomorrow's call about DRL NOFO

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From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:06 PM
To: Jerusalem Front Office Staff <JerusalemFrontOfficeStaff@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

+ FO distro.

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From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:05:47 PM
To: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hello (b)(6)

As requested just now. did someone send up to you the information memo that I was working on? Sorry if that was sent up just now w out the attachments.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:46:58 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hello (b)(6)

This came in overnight, from DRL.

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:11:03 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: @state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)

I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

[Redacted content]

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks again for taking the time to chat this morning! (b)(5)

(b)(5)

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(b)(5)

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(b)(5)

Happy to answer any other questions you might have. Thanks again for your time and participation in this process!
Negina

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at

(b)(6)

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Sender:	(b)(6)	(Tel Aviv)"	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	(Jerusalem)	(b)(6)	@state.gov>

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From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)" (b)(6) @state.gov>
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>
CC: Jerusalem Front Office Staff <JerusalemFrontOfficeStaff@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 12 May 2022 14:04:16 +0000

(b)(6) could you please send us the 2 cleared docs that (b)(6) sent you?

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From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 12:31 PM
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>; Jerusalem Front Office Staff <JerusalemFrontOfficeStaff@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Tel Aviv) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (USUN New York) <(b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Thanks, (b)(6)

I'm adding Jerusalem FO staff here to the chain in order to find a good time for the call. Given the planned panel meeting Tuesday next week, if there is an opportunity to connect sometime tomorrow, that would be great, and in the meantime, I am wondering if we might be able to have the panel meeting slide a few days while this gets sorted out?

(b)(6) I'm putting together a BCL for this call and will send up through (b)(6) ASAP.

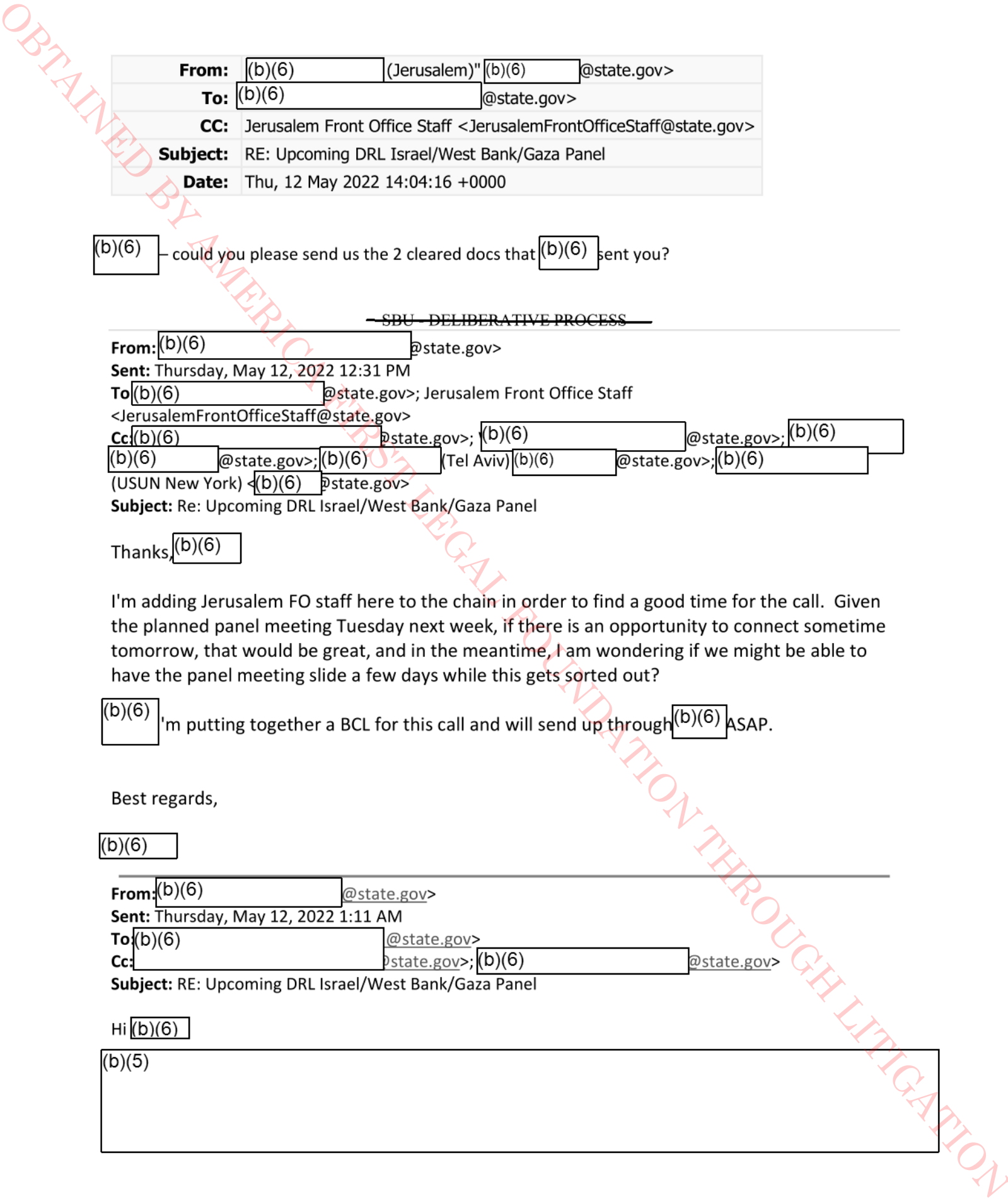
Best regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:11 AM
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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(b)(5)

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(b)(5)

Happy to answer any other questions you might have. Thanks again for your time and participation in this process!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at

(b)(6)

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~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

Sender:	(b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.gov>; Jerusalem Front Office Staff <JerusalemFrontOfficeStaff@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) <(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 19 May 2022 12:42:27 +0000

Yes indeed, if possible, thanks!

From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 3:28 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Should we get DRL on the horn too?

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 3:24 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Yes, (b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 1:16:12 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

I think a call this morning would be very helpful so everyone is on the same page. I spoke to DRL/NEA

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 5:15:15 AM
To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:13:07 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:06:28 PM

To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 11:49:28 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:35:46 AM

To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:18:52 AM
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 9:18:56 PM
To: (b)(6) (USUN New York) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: FW: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(5); (b)(6)

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From: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 6:11 PM
To: (b)(6) @state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5); (b)(6)

OBTAINED THROUGH LITIGATION AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

(b)(5)

I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

(b)(6)

1. Ambassador Nides would like to hear from AAS Peterson directly on this NOFO. He has expressed that he would prefer to hear directly from DRL.

(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov <(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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(b)(5); (b)(6)

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(b)(5)



Happy to answer any other questions you might have. Thanks again for your time and participation in this process!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at (b)(6)

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Sender:	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)	(USUN New York)(b)(6)@state.gov>;
	(b)(6)	@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)"(b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel
Date: Thu, 12 May 2022 14:49:28 +0000

Thanks

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From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:49:19 PM
To: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

fyi. I sent the BCL up to DCM to clear. Either way, you have it

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From: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:46:37 PM
To: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Copy, will print and have on standby

From: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:20 PM
To: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

(b)(6) - FYI for tomorrow's call about DRL NOFO

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:06 PM
To: Jerusalem Front Office Staff <JerusalemFrontOfficeStaff@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:05:47 PM
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Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

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To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hello (b)(6)

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Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 1:11:03 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

(b)(5)

[Redacted content]

I'm available to help provide any input into whatever paper you are drafting if you'd like. Thank you (again!) for all of your help!

(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

(b)(5)



~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:36 PM

To: (b)(6) @state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>

Subject: Upcoming DRL Israel/West Bank/Gaza Panel

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks again for taking the time to chat this morning! (b)(6)

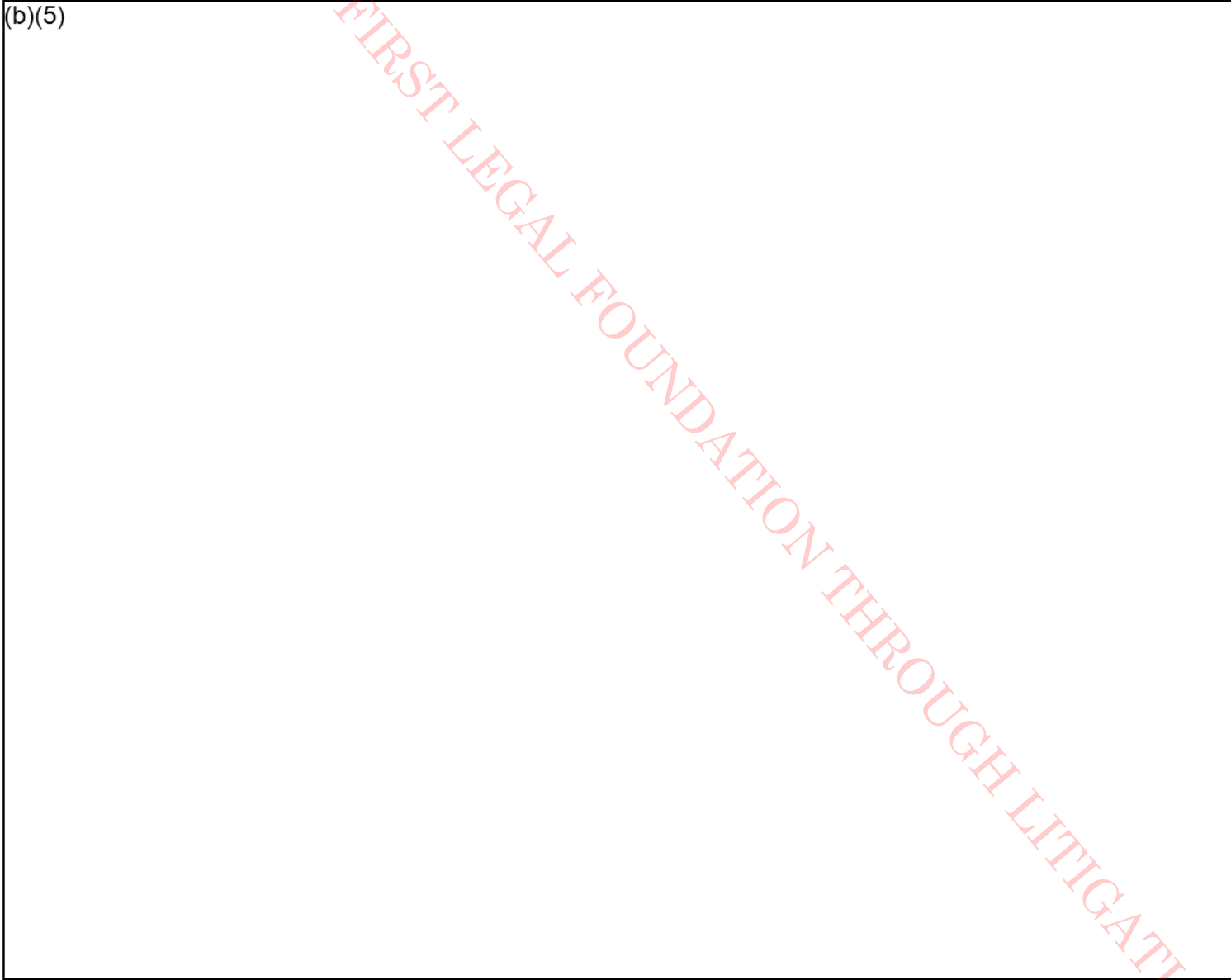
(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

I know it has been a couple of years since we have conducted a DRL-funded panel for Israel, so please find a couple of notes below on this process:

1. Per federal procurement guidelines, all panelists must come to the panel with the ability to represent their office's vote on each proposal. The panel is the opportunity for the different stakeholders across the Department to weigh in on each proposal based on their office's specific equities. We are unable to allow votes on proposals after a panel has concluded, as this would be considered actions/review outside of the procurement process.
2. Panelists who participate in the review of each proposal are highly encouraged to include specific suggested conditions and/or recommendations that could enhance each proposal in the evaluation scoresheet, and share those suggestions during the panel;
 - Conditions are hard and fast rules that must be met for the proposal to be funded. Recommendations are strong requests for clarifications that should be addressed by the applicant in a revised proposal if it is voted forward by the panel and approved by the DRL Front Office.

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

Happy to answer any other questions you might have. Thanks again for your time and participation in this process!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
Team Lead, NEA Programs

I am working remotely. For urgent matters, please call me at (b)(6)

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

~~SBU - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS~~

Sender: (b)(6) (Jerusalem)" (b)(6) @state.gov>
Recipient: (b)(6) (Tel Aviv)(b)(6) @state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>
CC:	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Subject:	Re: RTQ on reconsidering NOFO for 'Strength ening Human Rights and Accountability in Isra el and the West Bank and Gaza
Date:	Fri, 10 Jun 2022 14:48:54 +0000

Thanks, (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist| Office of Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
U.S. Department of State| Room 5531

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Click to follow and like @StateDRL:

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 9:32 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA
<DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: RE: RTQ on reconsidering NOFO for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Hi (b)(6)

In (b)(6) absence, please see our draft lines on this below, pulling from previously cleared language:

Thank you for your interest. As noted previously, the State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with a wide range of non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to foster respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally. The Department carefully reviews all eligible proposals per our well-established and rigorous review process. However, as the review of proposals is part of internal deliberation processes within the Department of State, we are unable to publicly share information on status or outcomes.

Best,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 8:55 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: RE: RTQ on reconsidering NOFO for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Hi (b)(6)

DRL/NEA defers to GP initially as we're not sure what exactly we can say based on where the procurement process stands. Of course happy to consult/clear on lines.

Thanks.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 7:55 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: RTQ on reconsidering NOFO for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Per (b)(6) email, we look forward to your reply by 10 am today. Thank you!

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist| Office of Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
U.S. Department of State| Room 5531

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Click to follow and like @StateDRL:  

From: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 7:17 PM

To: DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

Cc: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Subject: RTQ on reconsidering NOFO for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Colleagues,

Let us know by 10am, 6/10: The Jerusalem Post is asking:

"I am reaching out because I understand that the State Department is now reconsidering the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza.'"

The February 11 announcement was said to solicit projects for up to \$987,654 in which grantee NGOs would boost the capacity of other NGOs to 'collect, archive, and maintain human rights documentation to support justice and accountability... which may include documentation of legal or security sector violations and housing, land, and property rights,'"

My question is whether it is true that you reconsider this funding."

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 6:58 PM

To: Omri Nahmias DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: media inquiry

Adding colleagues here to assist

From: Omri Nahmias

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 11:01 AM

Subject: media inquiry

I am reaching out because I understand that the State Department is now reconsidering the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for 'Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza.'"

The February 11 announcement was said to solicit projects for up to \$987,654 in which grantee NGOs would boost the capacity of other NGOs to 'collect, archive, and maintain human rights documentation to support justice and accountability... which may include documentation of legal or security sector violations and housing, land, and property rights,'"

My question is whether it is true that you reconsider this funding.

Many thanks,

Omri Nahmias,
Washington Bureau Chief,
The Jerusalem Post

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov;
(b)(6)@state.gov;
(b)(6)@state.gov;
DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>;
DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>;
DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: (b)(6) / Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
Date: Wed, 23 Mar 2022 18:37:35 +0000

yes

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6) are you still looking to get NEA clearance on this?

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program

Q: I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West

Bank. <https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

Is this the first time the State Dept is offering such a grant?

What was behind the decision to offer it at this time?

There have been cases in which high-ranking figures in Palestinian NGOs had ties to terrorist organizations, like the PFLP. What kind of vetting will be done to ensure the money does not go to terrorism?

The US has said it opposes the case against Israel in the ICC. Would the grant be able to go to organizations that have reported their findings on human rights to the ICC?

Response:

- The State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with a wide range of non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to foster respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- The Department vets recipients of federal funds per our well-established, global systems and processes.
- As part of a normal procurement process, we are only seeking proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) - checking in. Was this closed out?

Best regards,

Caitlin

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:35 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

Please see our response below. Let us know if you will reply to the journalist or if you would like us to do so.

[2022.03.23 RTQ - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza .docx](#)

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program

Q: I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West

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Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531
(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:11 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) will revert.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531
(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:01 AM
To: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

DRL can you take this on?

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:36 AM
To: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi,

I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West Bank. <https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

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The US has said it opposes the case against Israel in the ICC. Would the grant be able to go to organizations that have reported their findings on human rights to the ICC?

Thank you,

להב הרקוב
פרשנית בכירה
כתבת מדינית
ג'רוזלם פוסט
050-2052618

(b)(6) @jpost.com
(b)(6)
טוויטר: @LahavHarkov
www.LahavHarkov.com

Lahav Harkov
Senior Contributing Editor
Diplomatic Correspondent
The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6)

(b)(6) @jpost.com

(b)(6)

Follow me on Twitter: [@LahavHarkov](https://twitter.com/LahavHarkov)
www.LahavHarkov.com

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED THROUGH AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
Date: Wed, 23 Mar 2022 20:32:02 +0000

- Got my mistake trying to get cleared asap

Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

The JPost RTQ hasn't changed. As I flagged, the Jewish Insider RTQ has some added language given the slightly different questions - I highlighted the line that we added.



2022.03.23 RTQ - Jerusalem Post - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza.docx



2022.03.23 RTQ - Jewish Insider - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza - Copy.docx

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 4:26 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Clearing but the below for JPost is different than what you originally sent me..

**March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Lahav Harkov of Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza:
DRL Grant Program (via NEA-Press at 9am)**

Q: I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West Bank.

<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

- Is this the first time the State Dept is offering such a grant?

- What was behind the decision to offer it at this time?

- There have been cases in which high-ranking figures in Palestinian NGOs had ties to terrorist organizations, like the PFLP. What kind of vetting will be done to ensure the money does not go to terrorism?

- The US has said it opposes the case against Israel in the ICC. Would the grant be able to go to organizations that have reported their findings on human rights to the ICC?

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Response:

- The State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with a wide range of non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to foster respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- The Department vets recipients of federal funds per our well-established, global systems and processes.
- As part of a normal procurement process, we are only seeking proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Clearances:

DRL/GP:

 (ok)

DRL/NEA:

 (ok)

DRL/Press: CHawes (ok)

NEA/Press:

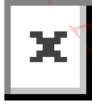
J/GCJ:

 (info by request)

GPA/PRS:

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 4:12 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

2022.03.23 RTQ - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza .docx



2022.03.23 RTQ - Jewish Insider - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza - Copy.docx

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 4:04 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Flagging that I just sent slightly different lines for the Jewish Insider RTQ for your clearance on another chain.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:44 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: (b)(6) / Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

yes sriry for delayz!!

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: (b)(6) / Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6) are you still looking to get NEA clearance on this?

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Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) - checking in. Was this closed out?

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:35 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

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Please see our response below. Let us know if you will reply to the journalist or if you would like us to do so.



2022.03.23 RTQ - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza .docx

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program

Q: I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West

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- As part of a normal procurement process, we are only seeking proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (she/her)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov<
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:11 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) will revert.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) he/her)

Public Affairs Specialist

U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov<

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:01 AM

To: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

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להב הרקוב
 פרשנית בכירה
 כתבת מדינית
 ג'רוזלם פוסט
 050-2052618

(b)(6)@jpost.com
 (b)(6)
 טוויטר: @LahavHarkov
www.LahavHarkov.com

Lahav Harkov
 Senior Contributing Editor
 Diplomatic Correspondent
 The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6)
 (b)(6)@jpost.com
 (b)(6)

Follow me on Twitter: [@LahavHarkov](https://twitter.com/LahavHarkov)
www.LahavHarkov.com

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re:(b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
Date: Wed, 23 Mar 2022 18:49:56 +0000

No worries! Also running this by J/GCJ.

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:44 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: (b)(6) // Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

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From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:33 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
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Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:33 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) checking in. Was this closed out?

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:35 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

Please see our response below. Let us know if you will reply to the journalist or if you would like us to do so.

☐ [2022.03.23 RTQ - DRL Grant Program - HRs abuses in Israel, WB, Gaza .docx](#)

March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Jerusalem Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program

Q: I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West

Bank. <https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

Is this the first time the State Dept is offering such a grant?

What was behind the decision to offer it at this time?

There have been cases in which high-ranking figures in Palestinian NGOs had ties to terrorist organizations, like the PFLP. What kind of vetting will be done to ensure the money does not go to terrorism?

The US has said it opposes the case against Israel in the ICC. Would the grant be able to go to organizations that have reported their findings on human rights to the ICC?

Response:

- The State Department seeks grant applications from and funds programs with a wide range of non-government partners around the world. These programs are intended to foster respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy globally.
- The Department vets recipients of federal funds per our well-established, global systems and processes.
- As part of a normal procurement process, we are only seeking proposals at this point. All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:11 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6) will revert.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Specialist
U.S. Department of State | DRL/Press | HST 5531

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:01 AM

To: DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

Cc: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>
Subject: Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

DRL can you take this on?

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:36 AM
To: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi,
I'm writing about the State Department grant for organizations reporting on human rights violations in Israel and the West Bank. <https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>
Is this the first time the State Dept is offering such a grant?
What was behind the decision to offer it at this time?
There have been cases in which high-ranking figures in Palestinian NGOs had ties to terrorist organizations, like the PFLP. What kind of vetting will be done to ensure the money does not go to terrorism?
The US has said it opposes the case against Israel in the ICC. Would the grant be able to go to organizations that have reported their findings on human rights to the ICC?
Thank you,

להב הרקוב
פרשנית בכירה
כתבת מדינית
ג'רוזלם פוסט

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@jpost.com

(b)(6)

@LahavHarkov :טוויטר
www.LahavHarkov.com

Lahav Harkov
Senior Contributing Editor
Diplomatic Correspondent
The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@jpost.com

(b)(6)

Follow me on Twitter: @LahavHarkov
www.LahavHarkov.com

Sender:	(b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(6)@state.gov>

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