



**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

October 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 September 29, 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 33 responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined all 33 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](mailto: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, decorative initial "J".

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

Enclosures: As stated.

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**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)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: GO Technical Eligibility Decision: SFOP0008613 Full Proposal Applications  
**Date:** Wed, 20 Apr 2022 03:37:41 +0000

Also—thank you for doing this so quickly. NEA immediately came back and asked why the ineligible ones were marked so, and I was able to share your breakdown. Thank you!

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: GO Technical Eligibility Decision: SFOP0008613 Full Proposal Applications

Dear (b)(6)

Received 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

(b)(6)@state.gov

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2022 11:47 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: GO Technical Eligibility Decision: SFOP0008613 Full Proposal Applications

Hello (b)(6)

Please find all the requested letters attached.

Best,

(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN JUSTICE FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



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**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2022 4:48 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** GO Technical Eligibility Decision: SFOP0008613 Full Proposal Applications

Hi (b)(6)

Please find attached two draft technical ineligibility letters addressed to organizations responding to the recent open-source solicitation, *DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza* (Funding Opportunity Number SFOP0008613).

1. **Individual** (b)(6) was missing the following submission requirements:

- a. Cover Page
- b. Executive Summary
- c. Table of Contents
- d. Proposal Narrative
- e. Budget
- f. Logic Model
- g. M&E Narrative
- h. M&E Plan/Table
- i. Risk Analysis
- j. Key Personnel
- k. Gender and Inclusion Analysis
- l. Security Plan
- m. Contingency Plan
- n. Lessons Learned
- o. Psychosocial Assistance

2. (b)(4); (b)(6) was missing the following submission requirements:

- a. Cover Page
- b. Executive Summary
- c. Table of Contents
- a. Logic Model
- b. M&E Narrative
- c. M&E Plan/Table
- d. Risk Analysis
- a. Timeline
- b. Gender and Inclusion Analysis
- c. Security Plan
- d. Contingency Plan

e. Psychosocial Assistance

Please review and confirm that these applications are technically ineligible and if the attached draft letters are approved to send out.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

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

(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request  
**Date:** Mon, 2 May 2022 13:43:09 +0000

You too! Hopefully we'll overlap in the office soon! (I'm in Mondays/Tuesdays)

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 9:42 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Awesome, thank you! Great seeing you on Friday!

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 9:26 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for the reminder! We received (b)(6) applications for DRL FY21 Increasing the Agency of Women with Disabilities in West Africa.

Thanks!

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 8:57 AM  
**To:** DRL\_ProgramSpecialists <DRL\_ProgramSpecialists@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Good morning, and happy Monday! Friendly reminder to please complete the below by COB; I've highlighted those that are outstanding (recognizing some just closed on Friday!)

As a note, the total number of applications is fine – no need to differentiate based on eligibility.

Thanks very much,

(b)(6)  
 Programs Communication and Outreach Coordinator | Office of Global Programs  
 U.S. Department of State  
 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Contractor – Contracting Resources Group

(b)(6)@state.gov

From (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 11:38 AM

To: DRL\_ProgramSpecialists <DRL\_ProgramSpecialists@state.gov>

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

Subject: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Good morning, PS colleagues,

I'm hoping to compile information on the number of applications received for each of the below solicitations that closed/are closing in April for a communications product for the FO. By **COB Monday, May 2**, would it be possible for you to please populate the below for your respective grants? Please respond to me individually rather than replying to all.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns. Thank you!

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Closing Date	# of Applications
SFOP0008625	Promoting Justice Sector Independence in Latin America and the Caribbean	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008593	DRL Youth Empowered to Protect Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Sri Lanka	04/19/2022	
SFOP0008556	DRL Improving the Security of Technology for Ukrainian and Moldovan Anticorruption Efforts	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008668	DRL: Combatting Online Gender-Based Violence in the East Asia and Pacific Region	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008661	DRL Strengthening Respect for Freedom of Expression in Malaysia	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008656	DRL Strengthening Rights of Gig Workers in Colombia and Brazil	04/27/2022	
SFOP0008652	DRL: Supporting a Credible Local Election Environment in Angola	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008649	DRL Bolstering Democratic Governance and Respect for Human Rights in Indonesia	04/14/2022	
SFOP0008542	DRL Supporting Environmental Defenders in Latin America	04/23/2022	
SFOP0008574	DRL Anti-Corruption and Election Integrity Programs in the Balkans	04/05/2022	
SFOP0008633	DRL Strengthen Independent Media and/or Credible Transitional Justice Efforts in Yemen	04/18/2022	
SFOP0008613	DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability	04/13/2022	

	in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza		
SFOP0008602	DRL FY21 Increasing the Agency of Women with Disabilities in West Africa	04/28/2022	
SFOP0008594	DRL Program to Promote Youth Engagement in Democratic Processes and the Protection of Human Rights in Bangladesh and Nepal	04/12/2022	
SFOP0008590	DRL Promoting Justice Sector Reform in Moldova	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008573	DRL FY21 Strengthening Disability Inclusive Governance in Georgia	04/06/2022	

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Programs Communication and Outreach Coordinator | Office of Global Programs  
 U.S. Department of State  
 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)  
 Contractor – Contracting Resources Group

(b)(6)

@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED FROM AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request  
**Date:** Mon, 2 May 2022 20:24:37 +0000

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

I just filled in the info for EUR's projects! For the Balkans program, technically there were [redacted] applications, but [redacted] of those belonged to the "Chew Bros" (b)(6) or I or many one of the other PSs could show you their blockbuster movie idea if you're interested), and they have absolutely nothing to do with any of DRL's NOFOs.

Best,  
 (b)(6)

P.S. It was good to see you at the happy hour on Friday! 😊

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**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 8:57 AM  
**To:** DRL\_ProgramSpecialists <DRL\_ProgramSpecialists@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Good morning, and happy Monday! Friendly reminder to please complete the below by COB; I've highlighted those that are outstanding (recognizing some just closed on Friday!)

As a note, the total number of applications is fine – no need to differentiate based on eligibility.

Thanks very much,  
 (b)(6)

(b)(6)  
 Programs Communication and Outreach Coordinator | Office of Global Programs  
 U.S. Department of State  
 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)  
 Contractor – Contracting Resources Group  
 (b)(6)@state.gov




---

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 11:38 AM  
**To:** DRL\_ProgramSpecialists <DRL\_ProgramSpecialists@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



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

**Subject:** For action by COB Monday 5/2 - Application # Request

Good morning, PS colleagues,

I'm hoping to compile information on the number of applications received for each of the below solicitations that closed/are closing in April for a communications product for the FO. By **COB Monday, May 2**, would it be possible for you to please populate the below for your respective grants? Please respond to me individually rather than replying to all.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns. Thank you!

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Closing Date	# of Applications
SFOP0008625	Promoting Justice Sector Independence in Latin America and the Caribbean	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008593	DRL Youth Empowered to Protect Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Sri Lanka	04/19/2022	
SFOP0008556	DRL Improving the Security of Technology for Ukrainian and Moldovan Anticorruption Efforts	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008668	DRL: Combatting Online Gender-Based Violence in the East Asia and Pacific Region	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008661	DRL Strengthening Respect for Freedom of Expression in Malaysia	04/29/2022	
SFOP0008656	DRL Strengthening Rights of Gig Workers in Colombia and Brazil	04/27/2022	
SFOP0008652	DRL: Supporting a Credible Local Election Environment in Angola	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008649	DRL Bolstering Democratic Governance and Respect for Human Rights in Indonesia	04/14/2022	
SFOP0008542	DRL Supporting Environmental Defenders in Latin America	04/23/2022	
SFOP0008574	DRL Anti-Corruption and Election Integrity Programs in the Balkans	04/05/2022	
SFOP0008633	DRL Strengthen Independent Media and/or Credible Transitional Justice Efforts in Yemen	04/18/2022	
SFOP0008613	DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza	04/13/2022	
SFOP0008602	DRL FY21 Increasing the Agency of Women with Disabilities in West Africa	04/28/2022	
SFOP0008594	DRL Program to Promote Youth Engagement in Democratic Processes and the Protection of Human Rights in Bangladesh and Nepal	04/12/2022	
SFOP0008590	DRL Promoting Justice Sector Reform in Moldova	04/25/2022	
SFOP0008573	DRL FY21 Strengthening Disability Inclusive Governance in Georgia	04/06/2022	

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION THROUGH LITIGATION

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Programs Communication and Outreach Coordinator | Office of Global Programs  
U.S. Department of State  
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL)  
Contractor – Contracting Resources Group

(b)(6)@state.gov



~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED FROM AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



**From:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem)" <(b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@hotmail.com>  
**CC:** (b)(6) ( Jerusalem ) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) <(b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Flagging Notice of Funding Opportunity  
**Date:** Thu, 24 Mar 2022 18:05:35 +0000

Wonderful. Have a great weekend too!

**From:** (b)(6)@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 6:26 PM

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

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

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

**Subject:** Re: Flagging Notice of Funding Opportunity

**Dear** (b)(6)

**Dear Colleagues,**

I hope this email finds you well,

Many thanks for sharing the announcement for the call for proposal ,

We are interested in applying for this chance of funding .

Have a nice weekend

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

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

**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 5:43 PM

**To:** (b)(6)@hotmail.com>

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

**Subject:** Flagging Notice of Funding Opportunity

Dear (b)(6)

Hope all is well. FYI on this funding opportunity through State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, in case not seen and of interest: <https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>. Feel free to flag for others working on human rights as well. Applications are due on April 13.



DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza - United States Department of State

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: [...]

[www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov)

Best,

(b)(6)

Political Officer  
Palestinian Affairs Unit

(b)(6)

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

(b)(6)@hotmail.com>;

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

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

OBTAINED THROUGH DISCOVERY FIRST LOOK INFORMATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6); (b)(6)  
**To:** DRL-NEAProgramInfo <DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov>  
**CC:** (b)(6); (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: Duke Proposal Notification - DRL Funding Opportunity SFOP0008613  
**Date:** Sun, 10 Jul 2022 20:08:31 +0000

Dear (b)(6)

Apologies for the delayed response. Is it possible to still receive feedback on the proposal? This would be of great use to us as we seek to revise the proposal and look for other funding sources.

And more so, can you share with us the list of projects that were funded?

Thank you,  
(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Nicholas School of the Environment  
Duke University  
[https://nicholas.duke.edu/people/\(b\)\(6\)](https://nicholas.duke.edu/people/(b)(6))

(b)(6)

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**From:** DRL-NEAProgramInfo <DRL-NEAProgramInfo@state.gov>  
**Date:** Monday, June 6, 2022 at 10:57 AM  
**To:** (b)(6); (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Duke Proposal Notification - DRL Funding Opportunity SFOP0008613

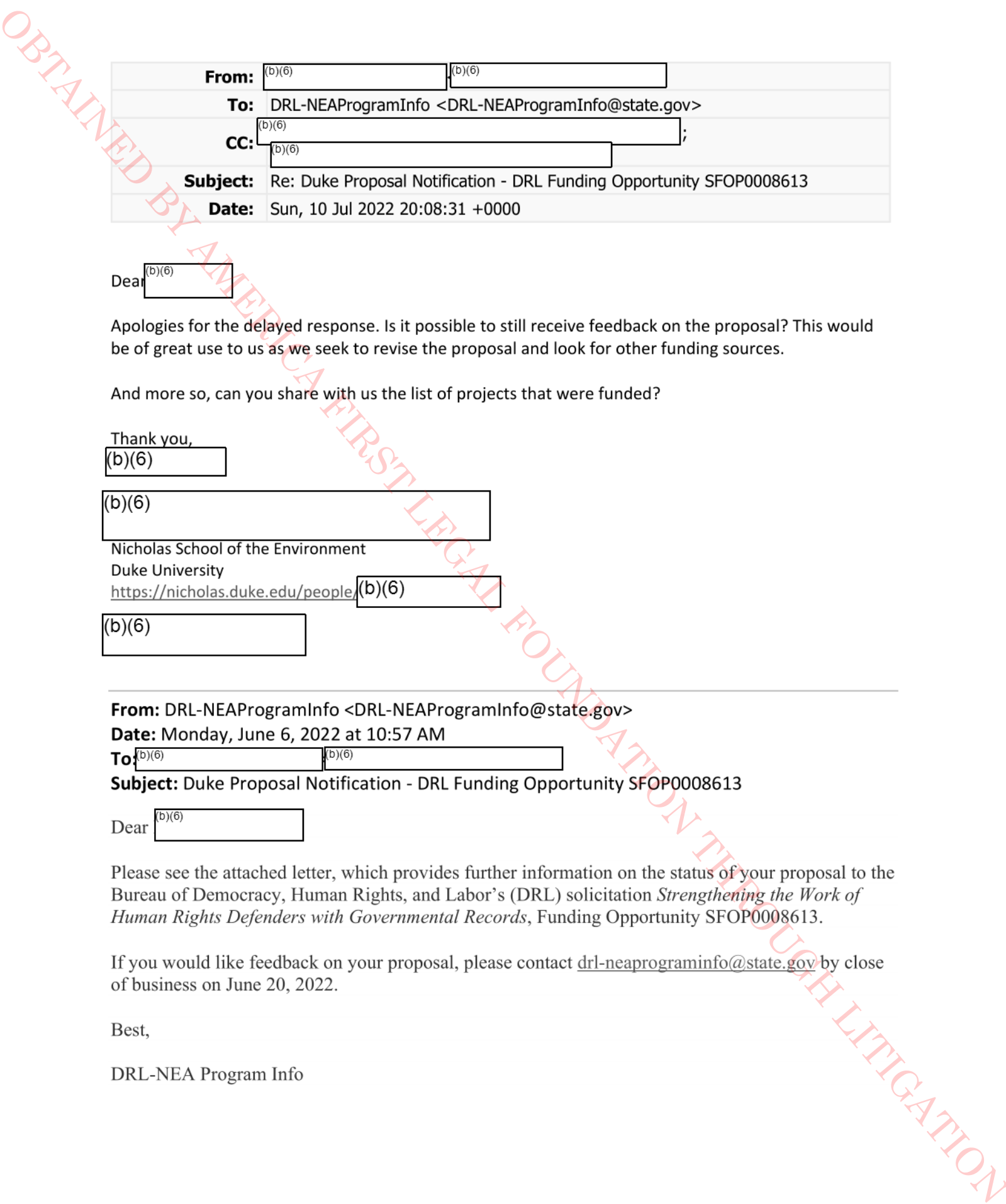
Dear (b)(6)

Please see the attached letter, which provides further information on the status of your proposal to the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor's (DRL) solicitation *Strengthening the Work of Human Rights Defenders with Governmental Records*, Funding Opportunity SFOP0008613.

If you would like feedback on your proposal, please contact [drl-neaprograminfo@state.gov](mailto:drl-neaprograminfo@state.gov) by close of business on June 20, 2022.

Best,

DRL-NEA Program Info



~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@usaid.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 4 May 2022 11:46:34 -0400

Thank you and confirmed for USAID.

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (she/her)

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

On Wed, May 4, 2022 at 10:30 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Dear all,

DRL/GP is looking forward to your participation in next week's full proposal review panel for programs strengthening human rights and accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. We will conduct this panel on Tuesday, **May 10, 2022, from 9:00-10:30 AM ET** via Teams.

Voting members for this review panel are listed below. **If you have not done so already, please confirm who will attend the panel and serve as your office's voting entity by COB May 6, 2022.**

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

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

(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) (HCTM) (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)

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

(b)(6)@state.gov

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

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

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

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

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

(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)

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:

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2. **Proposal Scoresheet:** Please complete one scoresheet for each proposal and submit via email to
3. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Please complete and submit via email to  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 Reilly 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**
6. **Proposal Documents**

(b)(6)

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-

**Conditions & Recommendations**

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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

(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Tue, 3 May 2022 11:59:18 +0000

(b)(6) (Jerusalem) has shared OneDrive for Business files with you. To view them, click the links below.

4. Confidentiality Agreement

(b)(6) docx

3. Conflict of Interest Disclosure - (b)(6) docx

Hi (b)(6)

It's not a problem. I've edited the forms and attached them here. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Best,

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 2:51 PM

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

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

Hi (b)(6)

My apologies for including that language from another panel. Please feel free to edit the form directly when filling it out or I can send you a corrected copy.

(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

(b)(6)@state.gov

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 5:06 AM

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

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

Hi (b)(6)

The confidentiality agreement that I have references a NOFO for DRL/GP Cost Extension Panel: Syria Programs – Batch Two. Should I just amend the version I have to refer to the RL: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza? Please let me know what you prefer and I'll sign and return it to you.

Many thanks,

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 9:19 PM

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

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

Join by phone: +

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Voting members for this review panel are:

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2. DRL/NEA
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5. J/SEAS

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5. **Panel Agenda**

(b)(6)

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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

(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

From: (b)(6)

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



OBTAINED THROUGH LITIGATION

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) (HCTM) (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: 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)

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- 2. DRL/NEA
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(b)(6)

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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

(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY JERUSALEM LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 20 Apr 2022 18:57:04 +0000

(b)(5)

(b)(6)  
 (b)(6) to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism  
 U.S. Department of State  
 (b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:53 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

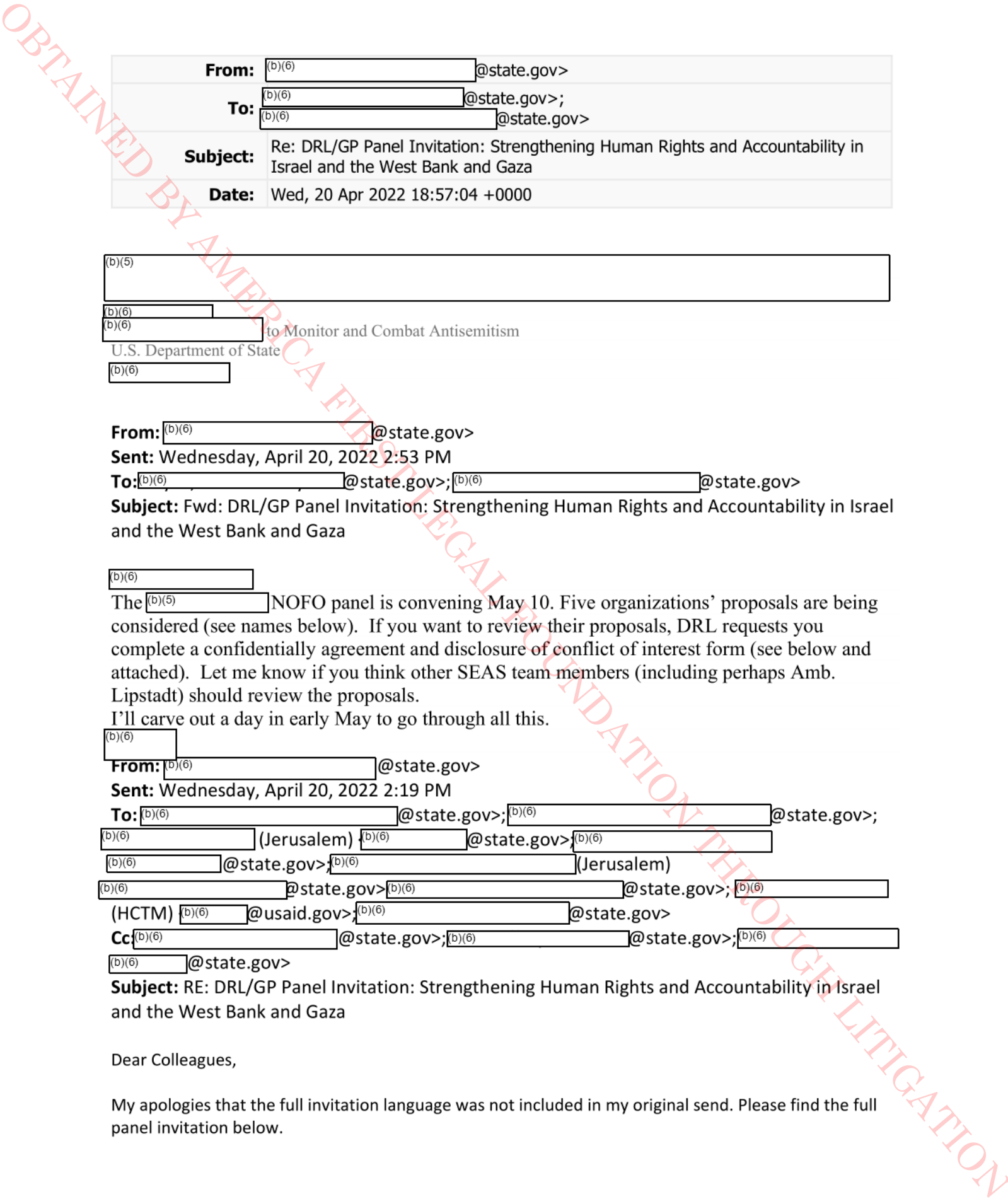
(b)(6)  
 The (b)(5) NOFO panel is convening May 10. Five organizations' proposals are being considered (see names below). If you want to review their proposals, DRL requests you complete a confidentially agreement and disclosure of conflict of interest form (see below and attached). Let me know if you think other SEAS team members (including perhaps Amb. Lipstadt) should review the proposals.  
 I'll carve out a day in early May to go through all this.

(b)(6)  
**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:19 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (HCTM) (b)(6)@usaid.gov>; (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

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

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(b)(6)

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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  
(b)(6)@state.gov

~~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) (HCTM) (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:** 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)

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2. DRL/NEA
3. NEA (inclusive of post and NEA/AC)
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(b)(6)

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(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  
(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



**From:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem)" (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza  
**Date:** Thu, 21 Apr 2022 06:27:07 +0000

Perfect - say hi to (b)(6) for me! And happy to try to help. ??

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

**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 9:25 AM

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

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

I'm on my way to (b)(6) pitch now. We will talk about it.

Thanks so much for guiding me. I really appreciate it.

Get Outlook for iOS

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

**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2022 9:22:27 AM

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

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

Hi - I'll let you discuss with (b)(6) which of you (or both) will join this. I think it could be very useful to have a Palestinian-facing rep on the panel though, and (b)(6) may prefer that you be on the panel anyway, given his leadership's focus on this NOFO.

Best,

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 9:19 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) (HCTM) (b)(6)@usaid.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

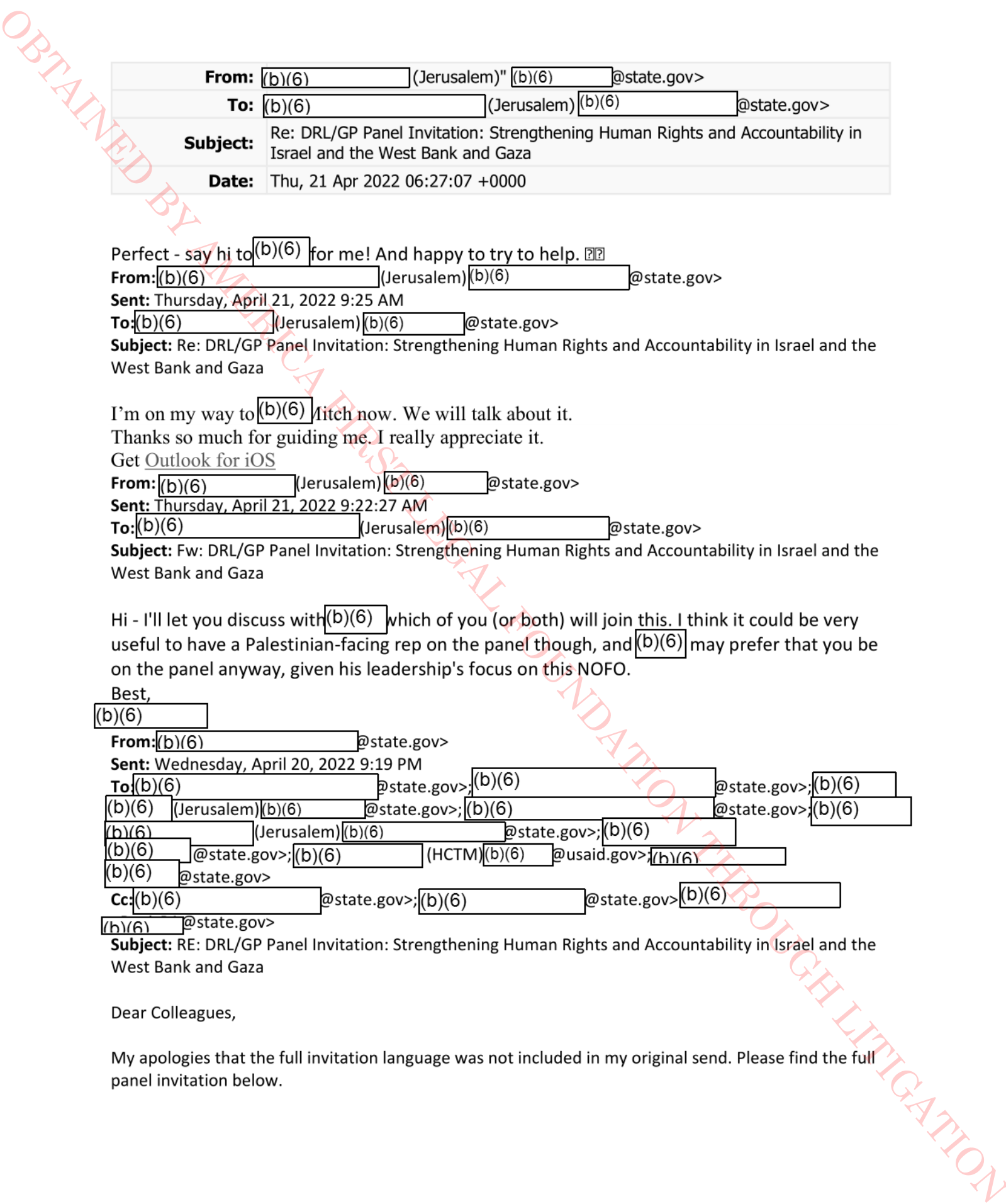
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor | Office of Global Programs  
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(b)(6)@state.gov

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**From:** (b)(6)  
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**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) (b)(6) (HCTM); (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:** 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)

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 Reilly.
3. **Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** Please complete and submit via email to Reilly 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 Reilly 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**
6. **Proposal Documents**

(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!

Reilly and Neginia

(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  
(b)(6)@state.gov

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~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



*Embassy of the United States of America*

*Jerusalem, Israel*

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

April 29, 2022

Read by \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION MEMO FOR AMBASSADOR NIDES**

THROUGH DCM – Jonathan Shrier

FROM: POL (b)(6)

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

**Background**

(SBU) DRL released on February 28 a \$1 million Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for “Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza.” Per the NOFO, program proposals 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 documenting legal or security sector violations and housing, land, and property rights; understanding and accessing the forums and processes available to take meaningful action in pursuing truth, accountability, and memorialization; and/or providing psychosocial support to survivors of atrocities. We cleared on the

(b)(5)

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**Process and Next Steps**

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

**Proposals (not listed in prioritized order):**

(b)(6)

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

Withheld pursuant to exemption

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**Tab 1 – DRL NOFO Released February 22**

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

**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

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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](http://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](http://www.grants.gov) and SAMS Domestic

(<https://mygrants.servicenow.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](http://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:



6. Completed and signed **SF-424**, **SF-424A**, and **SF-424B** Please see SF-424 instructions in Section 2B of the PSI.
7. 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.
8. **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.
9. **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.**
10. **Table of Contents** (not to exceed one (1) page, preferably as a Word Document) listing all documents and attachments with page numbers.
11. **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.

**12. 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.

**13. 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.

14. 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.

**15. Logic Model** (preferably as a Word Document). Please see *Logic Model* Section 2I of the PSI for more information.

**16. 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.

**17. 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.

**18. 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.

**19. 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.

**20. 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.

**21. 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.

- 22. 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.
- 23. 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."
- 24. 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."

**25. 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](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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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 sub-sections.**

#### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~



**Tab 2 – Embassy Jerusalem ‘s Approval of DRL NOFO**

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~



(b)(6)@state.gov>

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

Dear all,

DRL/GP is looking forward to your participation in next week's full proposal review panel for programs strengthening human rights and accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. We will conduct this panel on Tuesday, **May 10, 2022, from 9:00-10:30 AM ET** via Teams.

Voting members for this review panel are listed below. **If you have not done so already, please confirm who will attend the panel and serve as your office's voting entity by COB May 6, 2022.**

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

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

(b)(6)

@state.gov

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**From:** (b)(6)

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

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
(h)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov; (h)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6) (HCTM)(b)(6)@usaid.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov  
Cc: (h)(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)

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 Reilly 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

(b)(6)@state.gov

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

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2. DRL/NEA
3. NEA (inclusive of post and NEA/AC)
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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**
6. **Proposal Documents**

(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

(b)(6) @state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

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## DRL Panel Guidance

### Panelists are responsible for the following:

- Reading and familiarizing themselves with the proposals and other supporting materials prior to the panel;
- Evaluating each proposal on its own merit and providing comments on the proposal that adhere to the evaluation criteria from the solicitation;
- Completing scoresheets as a record of concerns and evaluation of the proposals;
- Understanding that their evaluations will form the basis for funding decisions. Panelists do not have the responsibility of recommending funding amounts;
- Identifying any conflict of interest that could preclude an unbiased evaluation (and excusing themselves from the review of those proposals);
- Including comments from Post in the Regional Bureau scoresheet, as applicable;
- Including specific suggested conditions and/or recommendations that could enhance each proposal in the evaluation scoresheet, and sharing 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.

Please Note: Should a disagreement on a condition or recommendation occur, there will be a discussion and vote at the panel on the condition/recommendation in question.

**Panelist who cannot meet these qualifications must abstain and forfeit the vote.**

- Recommend for funding
- Do NOT recommend for funding
- \_\_\_ Rank

**DRL-ADMINISTERED FUNDS PANELIST SCORE SHEET**

(b)(5)

[Redacted content area]

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Fw: DRL/GP Panel Invitation: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 6 May 2022 06:24:25 +0000

Hello (b)(6) and (b)(6)

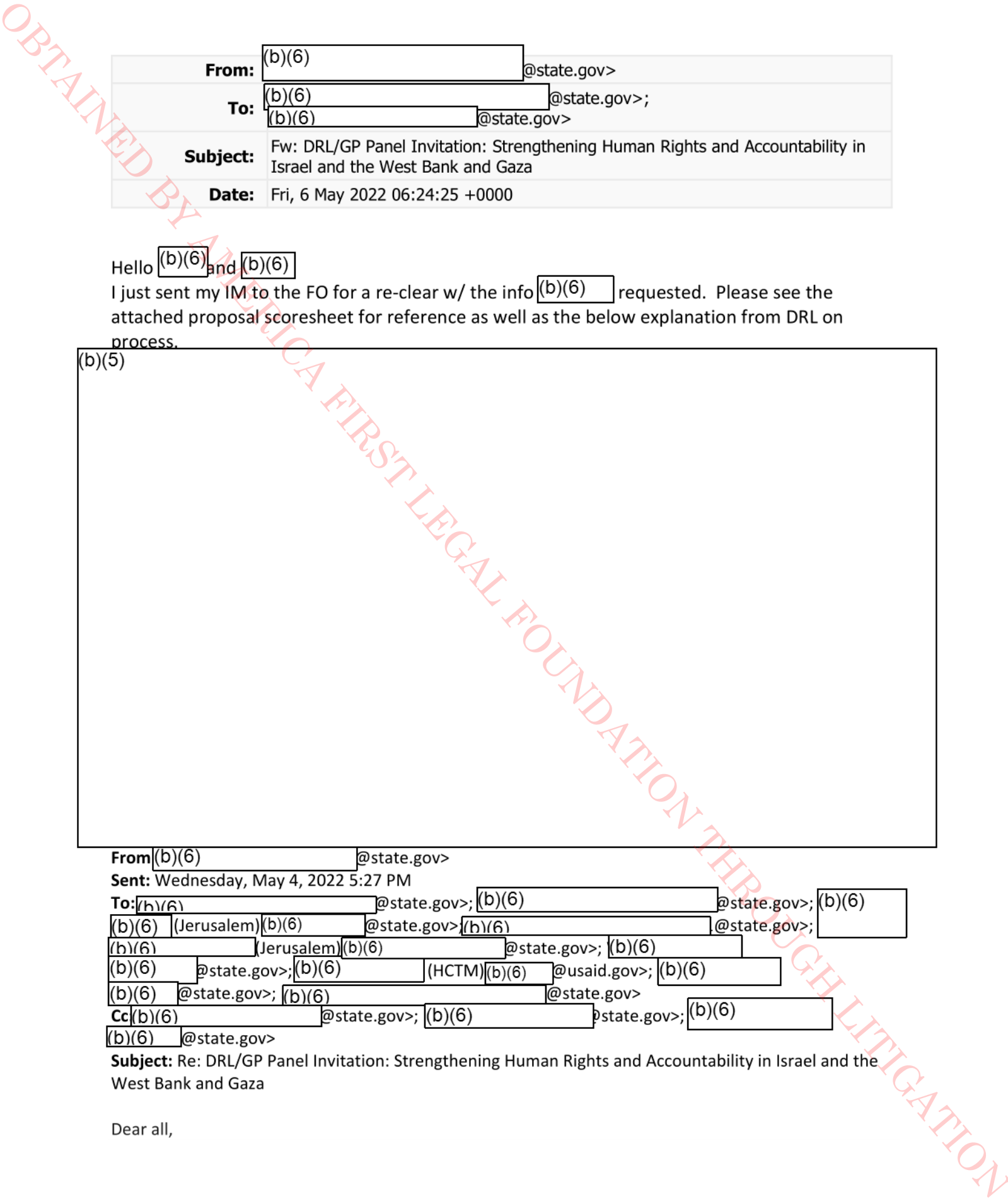
I just sent my IM to the FO for a re-clear w/ the info (b)(6) requested. Please see the attached proposal scoresheet for reference as well as the below explanation from DRL on process.

(b)(5)

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 4, 2022 5:27 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) (Jerusalem)(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HCTM)(b)(6)@usaid.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (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 all,



DRL/GP is looking forward to your participation in next week's full proposal review panel for programs strengthening human rights and accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. We will conduct this panel on Tuesday, **May 10, 2022, from 9:00-10:30 AM ET** via Teams.

Voting members for this review panel are listed below. **If you have not done so already, please confirm who will attend the panel and serve as your office's voting entity by COB May 6, 2022.**

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

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

(b)(6)

@state.gov

**From:** (b)(6)

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

**To:** (b)(6)

(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) (HCTM)(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)(6); (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.**

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### **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

(b)(6)@state.gov

~~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) (HCTM) (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:** 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)

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:

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5. **Panel Agenda**
6. **Proposal Documents**

(b)(6)

**Directions for Reviewing Proposals**

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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  
+(b)(6)@state.gov

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

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### U.S. Department of State DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

As a reviewer of applications submitted to DRL, I find the following conflicts with proposals that I have received to review:

- I am listed as a staff member, consultant, or advisor on a proposal.
- I have close personal or familial relationship with the author or staff on a proposal.
- I have or recently (i.e., within last year) had a financial relationship with the author or staff on a proposal involving grants, publications, presentations, etc.
- I have or recently had a professional relationship with an applicant under review, including serving as an officer or having served as a past officer or as a member of the board of directors of the submitting organization.
- I am or recently been a faculty or staff member of a department, school, university, or organization submitting a proposal.
- I have or recently had collaborative relationship (outside of my USG work) with a proposal's author or project staff.
- I cannot review a proposal objectively or I feel that others would view such action to be problematic.

Provide the name of the applicant and proposal in conflict: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not have a conflict with any of the proposals assigned to the panel on which I serve.

NAME (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Panel Name/NOFO Title:** DRL: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

**Panel Dates:** May 10, 2022

## U.S. Department of State CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

---

As a reviewer of applications submitted to DRL, I agree to abide by the terms of confidentiality set forth in this agreement and the Instructions to Reviewers for the review panel process.

I understand that all information in grant applications is respected under this confidentiality agreement for the purpose of protecting the integrity of the competitive review process. With this in mind, as a panel review member I agree not to discuss oral or written communications initiated and created in the context of, or resulting from, the grant review activities:

I agree that:

- I will not discuss the proposals, evaluations, recommendations, or names of applicants with any individual not involved in the review of these applications.
- I agree to destroy any written material, such as proposals at the conclusion of or immediately after the review panel.
- I will not share any of the documents received electronically with any individual not involved in the review of these applications.
- I further understand that the integrity of the review process is based on maintaining the confidentiality of reviewers as well as of applicants and applicant submissions.
- At no time will I discuss the names of other reviewers with any individual not involved in the review panel.
- At no time will I put the name of a reviewer on any of the documents from the panel.
- At no time will I contact applicants or respond to questions from applicants regarding their proposals or the results of the grant review.

NAME (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Panel Name/NOFO Title:** DRL: Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

**Panel Dates:** May 10, 2022



Proposal Review Panel  
**DRL/GP Panel: Strengthening Human Rights  
and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza**  
(FY2021 Democracy Fund/Human Rights Democracy Fund (DF/HRDF))

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor,  
Office of Global Programing (DRL/GP)  
May 10, 2022, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM ET | Teams

**Voting Panelists:**

- DRL/GP
- DRL/NEA
- NEA
- USAID
- J/SEAS

**Tentative Agenda:**

**9:00 AM** – Introductions and Logistics

**9:10 AM** – Review of Proposals (**Organization**, *Proposal Title*, Requested Amount)

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

**10:20 AM** – Overview of Panel/Panel Conclusion

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

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

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); (b)(6)

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(b)(4)

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In addition to the budget information required on the SF-424A, applicants must provide the following three elements as part of the budget submission:

- A. Summary Budget (*Note: using the OMB cost categories, see SF-425A*)
- B. Detailed Line Item Budget (Direct and Indirect Costs)
- C. Budget Narrative

**A1.6A Summary Budget** (*Note: TEMPLATE ON TAB 3, autofills from Tab 2 "Detailed Budget"*)

**A1.6B Detailed Line Item Budget** (*Note: TEMPLATE ON TAB 2*)

*Note: Applicants must provide a detailed line-item budget (in Microsoft Excel or similar spreadsheet format) outlining specific cost requirements within each of the summary budget categories.*

- 10 font or larger; must fit on 8x11 letter sized paper, not legal size
- Any cost sharing should be included in a separate column. See Section A1.6D for more details on Cost Share.
- The budget should be for the entire project period. Successful applicants may be asked to provide a year-by-year budget after the award is signed.
- All sub-award costs should be listed under Line F, Contractual, and should also be broken out and organized according to the subcategories. All sub-awardees must be organizations with DUNS numbers (certain exceptions apply).
- All line items must be described in the budget narrative (see A1.6C)

The budget sample on Tab 2 is an example of the required format, but is not exhaustive: your budget might have additional items not listed here. Please edit it to reflect your planned expenditures.

### **A1.6C Budget Narrative**

*Note: Include a budget narrative (preferably in Microsoft Word format) to explain each line-item and how the amounts were derived, as well as the source and description of all cost-share offered.*

**Personnel** – Identify staffing requirements by each position title and brief description of duties. List annual salary of each position, percentage of time and number of months devoted to project (e.g., Administrative Director:

\$30,000/year x 25% x 8.5 months; calculation:  $\$30,000/12 = \$2,500 \times 25\% \times 8.5 \text{ months} = \$5,312$ ).

**Fringe Benefits** - State benefit costs separately from salary costs and explain how benefits are computed for each category of employee - specify type and rate.

**Travel** - Staff and participant travel, including international and in-country travel, domestic U.S. travel, if any, and per diem/maintenance: includes lodging, meals and incidentals for both participant and staff travel. Per diem rates may not exceed the published U.S. government allowance rates (available from the [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov) website); however, applicants may use per diem rates lower than official government rates.

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100000>

Explain differences in fares among travelers on the same routes: e.g., project staff member traveling for three weeks whose fare is higher than that of staff member traveling for four months. All travel must be in compliance with the Fly America Act.

**Equipment** – provide justification for any equipment purchase/rental, defined as tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5000 or more.

**Supplies** - list items separately using unit costs (and the percentage of each unit cost being charged to the grant) for photocopying, postage, telephone/fax, printing, and office supplies (e.g., Telephone:  $\$50/\text{month} \times 50\% = \$25/\text{month} \times 12 \text{ months}$ ).

**Contractual** – For each subaward/contract please provide a detailed line item breakdown explaining specific services. Subaward budgets should be submitted in a separate tab with the same level of detail for all line items (personnel, travel, supplies, direct costs, etc) required of the direct applicant.

- *Subrecipients*: A subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of a Federal award and creates a Federal assistance relationship with the subrecipient. See §200.92 Subaward.
- *Contractors*: A contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the non-Federal entity's own use and creates a procurement relationship with the contractor. See §200.22 Contract.

Other Direct Costs - these will vary depending on the nature of the project. Justify each in the budget narrative.

Indirect Charges - See OMB Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations" for non-profit organizations; Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 48 CFR part 31 for commercial firms.

- If your organization has an indirect cost-rate agreement (NICRA) with the U.S. Government, a copy must be included with the application.
- If your organization does not have a NICRA, you may not claim indirect charges in this field -- all indirect charges must be listed in Field H, Other Direct Costs.
- Indicate how the rate is applied--to direct administrative expenses, to all direct costs, to wages and salaries only, etc.
- If sub-grantees are claiming indirect costs, they should have an established NICRA that is also submitted with the proposal package
- Do not include indirect costs against participant expenses in the budget.

The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor WILL CONSIDER budgeted line items for :

- Independent evaluations to assess the project's impact (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable);
- Costs associated with an internal evaluation conducted by the applicant (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable).
- Visa Fees and Immunizations associated with program travel.

The Bureau WILL NOT CONSIDER budgeted line items for:

- Any unallowable costs, as described in OMB cost principle circulars
- Projects designed to advocate policy views or positions of foreign governments or views of a particular political faction;
- Entertainment expenses, including alcoholic beverages;

**Before grants are awarded, the Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the Bureau's program needs and availability of funds.**

#### **A1.6D Cost Share**

- Cost sharing is the portion of program cost not borne by OES. Refer to the RFA to determine whether cost sharing is required or encouraged; in general, applications that include in-kind and/or cash contributions from non-U.S. Government sources will be more competitive, since cost-sharing demonstrates a strong commitment to the activities and greater cost effectiveness.
- If cost share is included, it should be listed as a separate column in the budgets. Cost share can be either cash or in-kind; assign a US dollar monetary value to each in-kind contribution. If the proposed project is a component of a larger program, identify other funding sources for the proposal and indicate the specific funding amount to be provided by those sources.
- Applicants should consider all types of cost sharing. Examples include the use of office space owned by other entities; donated or borrowed supplies and equipment; (non-federal) sponsored travel costs; waived indirect costs; and program activities, translations, or consultations. The values of offered cost share should be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-110 (Revised). **Other federal funding does not constitute cost sharing.**
- The recipient of an assistance award must maintain written records to support all allowable costs which 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. The basis for determining the value of cash and in-kind contributions must be in accordance with OMB Circular A-110 (Revised). In the event the recipient does not meet the amount of cost-sharing stipulated in their application, the Bureau's contribution may be reduced in proportion to the recipient's stated contribution.

#### **A1.6E Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars**

Organizations should be familiar with OMB Circulars A-110 (Revised) 22 CFR 145 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations), A-122/A-21 (Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations; Indirect Costs), and A-133/A-128 (Audits of Institutions of Higher Education and Other Nonprofit Organizations) on cost accounting principles. OMB circulars are available at:

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars\\_default](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_default)

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(b)(4)

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**SUB-GRANTEE BUDGET (if applicable)**

Sub-Grantee Organization Name

Project Title

Project Duration

	Unit Cost				Requested Federal Funds	Cost-Share by Applicant	Program Total
	Unit	Number	Amount	Rate			
<b>A Personnel</b>	months or years		salary (month or year)	% effort			
A.1 <i>US-Based personnel</i>							
A.1.1 Project Manager					0.00		0.00
A.1.2 Project Officer, etc.					0.00		0.00
A.2 <i>Field Personnel</i>							0.00
A.2.1					0.00		0.00
Subtotal Personnel					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>B Fringe Benefits</b>							
B.1 US-Based Personnel Fringe Benefits							0.00
B.2 Field Personnel Fringe Benefits							0.00
Subtotal Fringe Benefits					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>C Travel</b>	# people	# days	Cost				
C.1 <i>International Travel</i>							
C.1.1 International Airfare (from...to /RT)					0.00		0.00
C.1.2 International Lodging					0.00		
C.1.3 Per Diem (City, Country)				100%	0.00		0.00
C.2 <i>Domestic Travel</i>							
C.2.1 Domestic Transportation (specify)					0.00		
C.2.2 Domestic Lodging					0.00		
C.2.3 Domestic Per Diem (City, Country)				100%	0.00		0.00
Subtotal Travel					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>D Equipment (&gt; \$5,000 per unit)</b>		# units	unit cost				
D.1 (description, e.g. generators)					0.00		0.00
Subtotal Equipment					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>E Supplies (&lt; \$5,000 per unit)</b>		# units	unit cost				
E.1 (description)					0.00		
Subtotal Supplies					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>F Contractual</b>							
F.1 <i>Subawards</i>							
F.1.1 Subrecipient (Name)*							0.00
F.2 <i>Contracts</i>							
F.2.1 Contractor							0.00
Subtotal Contractual					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>G Construction</b>							
G.1 (description)							0.00
Subtotal Construction					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>H Other Direct Costs</b>							
H.1 Specify, itemize (e.g. Program Audit)							0.00
H.2 (e.g. Training: venue and catering)							0.00
Subtotal Other Direct Costs					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>I Total Direct Costs</b>					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>J Total Indirect Costs</b> (NICRA %, Final, Pre-determined, Provisional and Basis or 10% De Minimis based on MTDC)							
<b>K Total Project Cost</b> (must match award amount)					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>



In addition to the budget information required on the SF-424A, applicants must provide the following three elements as part of the budget submission:

- A. Summary Budget (*Note: using the OMB cost categories, see SF-425A*)
- B. Detailed Line Item Budget (Direct and Indirect Costs)
- C. Budget Narrative

**A1.6A Summary Budget** (*Note: TEMPLATE ON TAB 3, autofills from Tab 2 "Detailed Budget"*)

**A1.6B Detailed Line Item Budget** (*Note: TEMPLATE ON TAB 2*)

*Note: Applicants must provide a detailed line-item budget (in Microsoft Excel or similar spreadsheet format) outlining specific cost requirements within each of the summary budget categories.*

- 10 font or larger; must fit on 8x11 letter sized paper, not legal size
- Any cost sharing should be included in a separate column. See Section A1.6D for more details on Cost Share.
- The budget should be for the entire project period. Successful applicants may be asked to provide a year-by-year budget after the award is signed.
- All sub-award costs should be listed under Line F, Contractual, and should also be broken out and organized according to the subcategories. All sub-awardees must be organizations with DUNS numbers (certain exceptions apply).
- All line items must be described in the budget narrative (see A1.6C)

The budget sample on Tab 2 is an example of the required format, but is not exhaustive: your budget might have additional items not listed here. Please edit it to reflect your planned expenditures.

### **A1.6C Budget Narrative**

*Note: Include a budget narrative (preferably in Microsoft Word format) to explain each line-item and how the amounts were derived, as well as the source and description of all cost-share offered.*

Personnel – Identify staffing requirements by each position title and brief description of duties. List annual salary of each position, percentage of time and number of months devoted to project (e.g., Administrative Director:

\$30,000/year x 25% x 8.5 months; calculation:  $\$30,000/12 = \$2,500 \times 25\% \times 8.5 \text{ months} = \$5,312$ ).

Fringe Benefits - State benefit costs separately from salary costs and explain how benefits are computed for each category of employee - specify type and rate.

Travel - Staff and participant travel, including international and in-country travel, domestic U.S. travel, if any, and per diem/maintenance: includes lodging, meals and incidentals for both participant and staff travel. Per diem rates may not exceed the published U.S. government allowance rates (available from the [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov) website); however, applicants may use per diem rates lower than official government rates.

<http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100000>

Explain differences in fares among travelers on the same routes: e.g., project staff member traveling for three weeks whose fare is higher than that of staff member traveling for four months. All travel must be in compliance with the Fly America Act.

Equipment – provide justification for any equipment purchase/rental, defined as tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5000 or more.

Supplies - list items separately using unit costs (and the percentage of each unit cost being charged to the grant) for photocopying, postage, telephone/fax, printing, and office supplies (e.g., Telephone:  $\$50/\text{month} \times 50\% = \$25/\text{month} \times 12 \text{ months}$ ).

Contractual – For each subaward/contract please provide a detailed line item breakdown explaining specific services. Subaward budgets should be submitted in a separate tab with the same level of detail for all line items (personnel, travel, supplies, direct costs, etc) required of the direct applicant.

- *Subrecipients*: A subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of a Federal award and creates a Federal assistance relationship with the subrecipient. See §200.92 Subaward.
- *Contractors*: A contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the non-Federal entity's own use and creates a procurement relationship with the contractor. See §200.22 Contract.

Other Direct Costs - these will vary depending on the nature of the project. Justify each in the budget narrative.

Indirect Charges - See OMB Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations" for non-profit organizations; Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 48 CFR part 31 for commercial firms.

- If your organization has an indirect cost-rate agreement (NICRA) with the U.S. Government, a copy must be included with the application.
- If your organization does not have a NICRA, you may not claim indirect charges in this field -- all indirect charges must be listed in Field H, Other Direct Costs.
- Indicate how the rate is applied--to direct administrative expenses, to all direct costs, to wages and salaries only, etc.
- If sub-grantees are claiming indirect costs, they should have an established NICRA that is also submitted with the proposal package
- Do not include indirect costs against participant expenses in the budget.

The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor WILL CONSIDER budgeted line items for :

- Independent evaluations to assess the project's impact (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable);
- Costs associated with an internal evaluation conducted by the applicant (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable).
- Visa Fees and Immunizations associated with program travel.

The Bureau WILL NOT CONSIDER budgeted line items for:

- Any unallowable costs, as described in OMB cost principle circulars
- Projects designed to advocate policy views or positions of foreign governments or views of a particular political faction;
- Entertainment expenses, including alcoholic beverages;

**Before grants are awarded, the Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the Bureau's program needs and availability of funds.**

#### **A1.6D Cost Share**

- Cost sharing is the portion of program cost not borne by OES. Refer to the RFA to determine whether cost sharing is required or encouraged; in general, applications that include in-kind and/or cash contributions from non-U.S. Government sources will be more competitive, since cost-sharing demonstrates a strong commitment to the activities and greater cost effectiveness.
- If cost share is included, it should be listed as a separate column in the budgets. Cost share can be either cash or in-kind; assign a US dollar monetary value to each in-kind contribution. If the proposed project is a component of a larger program, identify other funding sources for the proposal and indicate the specific funding amount to be provided by those sources.
- Applicants should consider all types of cost sharing. Examples include the use of office space owned by other entities; donated or borrowed supplies and equipment; (non-federal) sponsored travel costs; waived indirect costs; and program activities, translations, or consultations. The values of offered cost share should be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-110 (Revised). **Other federal funding does not constitute cost sharing.**
- The recipient of an assistance award must maintain written records to support all allowable costs which 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. The basis for determining the value of cash and in-kind contributions must be in accordance with OMB Circular A-110 (Revised). In the event the recipient does not meet the amount of cost-sharing stipulated in their application, the Bureau's contribution may be reduced in proportion to the recipient's stated contribution.

#### **A1.6E Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars**

Organizations should be familiar with OMB Circulars A-110 (Revised) 22 CFR 145 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations), A-122/A-21 (Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations; Indirect Costs), and A-133/A-128 (Audits of Institutions of Higher Education and Other Nonprofit Organizations) on cost accounting principles. OMB circulars are available at:

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars\\_default](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_default)

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**SUB-GRANTEE BUDGET (if applicable)**

Sub-Grantee Organization Name

Project Title

Project Duration

	Unit Cost				Requested Federal Funds	Cost-Share by Applicant	Program Total
	Unit	Number	Amount	Rate			
<b>A Personnel</b>	months or years		salary (month or year)	% effort			
A.1 <i>US-Based personnel</i>							
A.1.1 Project Manager					0.00		0.00
A.1.2 Project Officer, etc.					0.00		0.00
A.2 <i>Field Personnel</i>							0.00
A.2.1					0.00		0.00
Subtotal Personnel					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>B Fringe Benefits</b>							
B.1 US-Based Personnel Fringe Benefits							0.00
B.2 Field Personnel Fringe Benefits							0.00
Subtotal Fringe Benefits					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>C Travel</b>	# people	# days	Cost				
C.1 <i>International Travel</i>							
C.1.1 International Airfare (from...to /RT)					0.00		0.00
C.1.2 International Lodging					0.00		
C.1.3 Per Diem (City, Country)				100%	0.00		0.00
C.2 <i>Domestic Travel</i>							
C.2.1 Domestic Transportation (specify)					0.00		
C.2.2 Domestic Lodging					0.00		
C.2.3 Domestic Per Diem (City, Country)				100%	0.00		0.00
Subtotal Travel					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>D Equipment (&gt; \$5,000 per unit)</b>		# units	unit cost				
D.1 (description, e.g. generators)					0.00		0.00
Subtotal Equipment					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>E Supplies (&lt; \$5,000 per unit)</b>		# units	unit cost				
E.1 (description)					0.00		
Subtotal Supplies					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>F Contractual</b>							
F.1 <i>Subawards</i>							
F.1.1 Subrecipient (Name)*							0.00
F.2 <i>Contracts</i>							
F.2.1 Contractor							0.00
Subtotal Contractual					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>G Construction</b>							
G.1 (description)							0.00
Subtotal Construction					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>H Other Direct Costs</b>							
H.1 Specify, itemize (e.g. Program Audit)							0.00
H.2 (e.g. Training: venue and catering)							0.00
Subtotal Other Direct Costs					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>I Total Direct Costs</b>					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>J Total Indirect Costs</b> (NICRA %, Final, Pre-determined, Provisional and Basis or 10% De Minimis based on MTDC)							
<b>K Total Project Cost</b> (must match award amount)					<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

S

OBTAINED THROUGH LITIGATION

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION



<b>From:</b>	"Amr, Hady A" (b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	RE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 25 Mar 2022 20:07:45 +0000

Ooops. Too many (b)(6) in my life!

---

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

On March 25, 2022 at 15:29:43 EDT (b)(6) @state.gov> wrote:  
Hi Hady,

I think I'm on here by mistake unless my empire has grown without my knowledge 😊

(b)(6)

---

**From:** Amr, Hady A (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

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 <rkampeas@jta.org>  
**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 (b)(6) @state.gov>, Amr, Hady A (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: 212-643-1202

Cell: (b)(6)

Sign up for The Tell, my weekly political newsletter from Washington

<https://www.jta.org/sign-up-for-the-tell>

<b>Sender:</b>	"Amr, Hady A" (b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>Recipient:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA'S FIRST FREEDOM FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	"Le Mon, Christopher J" (b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	RE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 25 Mar 2022 19:29:47 +0000

Hahahaha well LMK if you miss it

---

**From:** (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:29 PM  
**To:** Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Definitely no.

---

**From:** Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:28 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Are you working on Israel-West Bank-Gaza now?

---

**From:** Amr, Hady A (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

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 <[rkampeas@jta.org](mailto:rkampeas@jta.org)>  
**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 (b)(6)@state.gov>, Amr, Hady A (b)(6)@state.gov>

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Regards

Ron

Ron Kampeas  
Washington bureau chief  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency  
PO Box 5401  
Arlington VA 22205  
USA  
Office: 212-643-1202  
Cell: (b)(6)

Sign up for The Tell, my weekly political newsletter from Washington

<https://www.jta.org/sign-up-for-the-tell>

**Sender:** "Le Mon, Christopher J" (b)(6)@state.gov>

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

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Tue, 29 Mar 2022 17:45:59 +0000

Thank you (b)(6)!!

FYI for future - GPA changed their system, so PA press duty should be BCC only so journalists don't use it.

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:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 1:16 PM

**To:** rkampeas@jta.org <rkampeas@jta.org>

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

Good afternoon Ron,

Thank you for your patience. The following is on background to a Department of State spokesperson:

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.

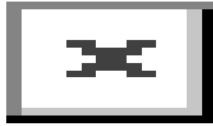
All proposals will be subject to the Department's rigorous review process.

Additionally, for future inquiries, we encourage the use of the Press Distros, or a submission at the following URL:

<https://www.state.gov/information-for-journalists>

Information for Journalists - United States Department of State

The Office of Press Operations responds to queries and interview requests from journalists related to U.S. foreign



policy, and coordinates press briefings and media events. Hours of Operation 8:15 am – 5:00 pm Monday through Friday Journalists may contact the Office of Press Operations via email PAPressDuty@state.gov. Outside of regular business hours, journalists can reach [...]

[www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov)

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

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

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

*2020 Presidential Management Fellow, 2019 Veterans Innovation Partnership Fellow*

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ron Kampeas <[rkampeas@jta.org](mailto:rkampeas@jta.org)>

**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 (b)(6)@state.gov, Amr, Hady A (b)(6)@state.gov

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My deadline is Monday 3 pm.

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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>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	"Amr, Hady A" (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	RE: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza
<b>Date:</b>	Fri, 25 Mar 2022 20:07:23 +0000

Oops. Meant to do (b)(6)

---

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

On March 25, 2022 at 15:29:33 EDT, Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:  
Why is (b)(6) in AF copied??

---

**From:** Amr, Hady A (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 25, 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: query on DRL Strengthening Human Rights and Accountability in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza

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---

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Ron Kampeas <rkampeas@jta.org>  
**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 (b)(6)@state.gov>, Amr, Hady A (b)(6)@state.gov>

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<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

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USA

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Cell: (b)(6)

Sign up for The Tell, my weekly political newsletter from Washington

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<b>Sender:</b>	"Amr, Hady A" (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Recipient:</b>	Le Mon, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post  
**Date:** Wed, 23 Mar 2022 17:52:40 +0000

I only have DRL clearances so far - I just called (b)(6) and she's going to send NEA clearance and then we can send to GPA/PRS. I'm also checking with GP to make sure they don't want to add any lines for the second inquiry.

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:47 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

I saw what you sent. it did not contain full clearance list. What is the full clearance list?

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:46 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

I'll call (b)(6) - I sent these lines to her this morning and haven't heard back. GP had drafted additional lines.

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

Hi (b)(6)

If this was previously cleared, clearance page needs to be updated; or we need to request NEA-Press clearance and GPA/PRS. Right now I see DRL clearance only.

**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

H (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:**

(b)(5)

**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:** Lahav Harkov Levine (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)



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[www.LahavHarkov.com](http://www.LahavHarkov.com)

Lahav Harkov  
Senior Contributing Editor  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
The Jerusalem Post

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(b)(6) [@jpost.com](mailto:(b)(6)@jpost.com)

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

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

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<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 23 Mar 2022 19:57:39 +0000

Never mind—PPD wrote fluff and I just added a line about local CSOs.

---

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:15 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Help!! I would love some help/guidance from PPD with my very clunky answers in green below. I really don't know how to answer these so stupid questions.

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 1:33 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6),

Another reporter sent a similar inquiry - would the same lines still stand or is there anything further we would want to add to respond to this Q?

Writing with a question about this funding opportunity being offered by the State Department "to strengthen accountability and human rights in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza." I was wondering if there's **any additional information you could share about the type of human rights work** that State hopes to support. A few more specific questions below:

- Is there a particular focus on any one entity — whether that's human rights abuses perpetrated by Israel, Fatah or Hamas? Or some combination of the three? The

(b)(5)

- In line with this funding opportunity, does Secretary Blinken plan to make human rights violations a major focus of his upcoming trip to the region? (b)(5)

(b)(5)

- Lastly: The State Department has been highly critical of human rights groups such as Amnesty and HRW for calling Israel an apartheid state. If those groups apply for this funding opportunity, would State consider funding their work in Israel? What about

other groups working in the region that call Israel an apartheid state? (b)(5)

(b)(5)

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 9:16 AM

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

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Thanks, (b)(6) Proposed response below.

---

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:10 AM

**To:** DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

GP Colleagues,

Is there anything we can offer for this media inquiry? I suggested some lines for a previous inquiry, although I don't know if there's anything more we can add to address the reporter's specific questions.

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

**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:**

- (b)(5)

- 

- 

**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 9:01 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:** Lahav Harkov Levine (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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Thank you,

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

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<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>CC:</b>	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 23 Mar 2022 13:29:45 +0000

Hi (b)(6)  
Clear for DRL/NEA.  
Thanks for flagging,

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:24 AM

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

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

I think we'd like to clear on this one and will revert ASAP.

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:24 AM

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

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6) - should I just list DRL/NEA as info for this RTQ, or would your office want to clear?

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>

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:10 AM

**To:** DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

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

**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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**Response:**

- (b)(5)

- 

- 

**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

(b)(6)  
**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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**From:** Lahav Harkov Levine (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

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Lahav Harkov  
Senior Contributing Editor  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6)

[lahavh@jpost.com](mailto:lahavh@jpost.com)

(b)(6)

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

[www.LahavHarkov.com](http://www.LahavHarkov.com)

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

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**From:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
**To:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 Jerusalem Press Officers (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post  
**Date:** Thu, 24 Mar 2022 08:59:06 +0000

Yes, and seems their only commentary on the NOFO came from NGO Monitor. Journalism at its finest.

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

**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 9:44 AM

**To:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Jerusalem Press Officers (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Looks like the article already ran today...

**David Turnbull** — داود طرنبول

Press Attaché — ملحق صحفي

U.S. Embassy Jerusalem

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Thursday, March 24, 2022 9:20 AM

**To:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Jerusalem Press Officers (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Chiming in late, but that plan sounds great to me too. Our FO signed off on this DRL grant opportunity, so makes sense that we would clear on whatever DRL drafts in response to questions about it.

Best,

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 5:35 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 Jerusalem Press Officers (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem)  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

That plan sounds good to me.

**From:** (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:41 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Jerusalem Press Officers  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

yes, plan sounds good.

Yours,

**Kristin Stewart**

Press Officer/Spokesperson

U.S. Embassy Jerusalem | Tel Aviv Branch Office

Cell/Whatsapp: (b)(6)



<https://il.usembassy.gov/>

**From:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:35 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) @state.gov>; Jerusalem Press Officers  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6) (Jerusalem) (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Thanks (b)(6) Adding PAU-POL folks to this and (b)(6) for her info (since it's DRL and so ESF funds I think).



DRL definitely needs to work on this but as you say we at post will definitely need to edit/clear as some of the Qs asked here have very complicated and sensitive answers.

OK with all here if the press teams send this to (b)(6) in NEA-Press to get DRL and NEA initial answers for us to clear and add to as needed?

Stacy M. Barrios  
Counselor for Public Affairs  
Palestinian Affairs Unit  
U.S. Embassy, Jerusalem

(b)(6)@state.gov

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:24 PM  
**To:** Jerusalem Press Officers (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Subject:** Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

fyi on this request. Definitely needs to go to DRL and (b)(6) to handle, but obviously clear w/ us.

Yours,

**Kristin Stewart**  
Press Officer/Spokesperson  
U.S. Embassy Jerusalem | Tel Aviv Branch Office  
Cell/Whatsapp: (b)(6)



<https://il.usembassy.gov/>

---

**From:** Lahav Harkov Levine (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 2:36 PM  
**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?  
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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,

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פרשנית בכירה  
כתבת מדינית  
ג'רוזלם פוסט

(b)(6)

(b)(6) @jpost.com

(b)(6)

טוויטר: @LahavHarkov  
[www.LahavHarkov.com](http://www.LahavHarkov.com)

Lahav Harkov  
Senior Contributing Editor  
Diplomatic Correspondent  
The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6)

lahavh@jpost.com

(b)(6)

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

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<b>Recipient:</b>	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	Jerusalem Press Officers <(b)(6) @state.gov>;
	(b)(6) @state.gov>;
(b)(6) @state.gov>;	
(b)(6) @state.gov>	

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<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>
<b>CC:</b>	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
<b>Date:</b>	Thu, 24 Mar 2022 00:51:23 +0000

+ DRL/GP/NEA since (b)(6) will be in training tomorrow.

Hi (b)(6)

You're right, it's not clear which grant program the journalist here is referring to.

(b)(6) and GP colleagues - is there any way to confirm if this inquiry is related to same or similar grants, even if we cannot reveal names or organizations? Also, USAID is asking DRL, NEA, and F if we can look into the numbers in this inquiry.

I think this can wait until tomorrow morning.

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:41 PM

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6) -

The question doesn't seem to connect to the Israel NOFO. Am I missing something?

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 7:35 PM

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

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

Another inquiry has come in from the Washington Post. Do you recommend adding/removing lines to what we've already put together given his questions on specific recipients? Flagging that the lines below are as edited by SPOX.



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

**March 23, 2022 – RTQ – Shane Harris of the Washington Post - Israel, West Bank and Gaza: DRL Grant Program (via SPOX with NEA-Press at 7:28pm):**

**Q:** We are trying to learn more about an Iranian-British journalist, Ali Hamedani, and some organizations he is associated with that we believe may have been the recipient of US grant money, perhaps indirectly as a sub-grantee. Can you provide any information on how much funding the State Department or USAID may have given (directly or indirectly, via organizations like IREX or others) to the following entities, and what years those grants or contracts took place?

- Radio Ranginkaman (Radio Rainbow)
- Century Studio Ltd.
- Small Media Foundation or Small Media Consultancy, Ltd., based in the UK
- Ali Hamedani

**Attribution: On background to a Department of State spokesperson**

**Response:**

• (b)(5)

•

•

•

**Clearances:**

DRL/GP: (b)(6) 0

DRL/NEA: (b)(6) 0

DRL/Press: 0

NEA/Press: 0

GPA/PRS:

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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<  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Hi (b)(6)

Another reporter sent a similar inquiry - would the same lines still stand or is there anything further we would want to add to respond to this Q?

Writing with a question about this funding opportunity being offered by the State Department "to strengthen accountability and human rights in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza." I was wondering if there's **any additional information you could share about the type of human rights work** that State hopes to support. A few more specific questions below:

- Is there a particular focus on any one entity — whether that's human rights abuses perpetrated by Israel, Fatah or Hamas? Or some combination of the three?
- In line with this funding opportunity, does Secretary Blinken plan to make human rights violations a major focus of his upcoming trip to the region?
- Lastly: The State Department has been highly critical of human rights groups such as Amnesty and HRW for calling Israel an apartheid state. If those groups apply for this funding opportunity, would State consider funding their work in Israel? What about other groups working in the region that call Israel an apartheid state?

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**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:16 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Thanks, (b)(6) Proposed response below.

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

GP Colleagues,

Is there anything we can offer for this media inquiry? I suggested some lines for a previous inquiry, although I don't know if there's anything more we can add to address the reporter's specific questions.

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

**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:**

- (b)(5)



(b)(5)

**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 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:** Lahav Harkov Levine (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:36 AM  
**To:** NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; Stewart, Kristin M (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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Thank you,

להב הרקוב  
פרשנית בכירה  
כתבת מדינית  
ג'רוזלם פוסט

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Lahav Harkov  
Senior Contributing Editor  
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<b>Sender:</b>	(b)(6) @state.gov>
<b>Recipient:</b>	(b)(6) @state.gov>; state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

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<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)
<b>CC:</b>	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 23 Mar 2022 23:04:38 +0000

Hello,

This is on background from a State Department spokesperson:

- 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.

Best,  
DRL-Press Team

---

**From:** Lahav Harkov Levine (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,

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The Jerusalem Post

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[www.LahavHarkov.com](http://www.LahavHarkov.com)

<b>Sender:</b>	(b)(6)	@state.gov>
<b>Recipient:</b>	lahavharkov (b)(6)	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**CC:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post  
**Date:** Wed, 23 Mar 2022 13:26:19 +0000

Yep. It looks fine. No need to add! Will clear.

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:25 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

I think it seems ok – I believe these are standard lines we've been using – pls clear for us

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:25 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

I think we'd like to clear on this one and will revert ASAP.

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:24 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post

(b)(6) should I just list DRL/NEA as info for this RTQ, or would your office want to clear?

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 9:16 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Thanks, (b)(6). Proposed response below.

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:10 AM  
**To:** DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Query from The Jerusalem Post

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

**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/>

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

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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?**

**Response:**

- (b)(5)

- 

-



**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 9:01 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:** Lahav Harkov Levine <(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

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(b)(6)

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>CC:</b>	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: Query from The Jerusalem Post
<b>Date:</b>	Wed, 23 Mar 2022 13:20:23 +0000

Thank you, (b)(6)

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 9:16 AM

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

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Query from The Jerusalem Post

Thanks (b)(6) Proposed response below.

---

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 9:10 AM

**To:** DRL-GP-NEA <DRL-GP-NEA@state.gov>

**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team-2 <DRL-NEA-Team-2@state.gov>

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**Response:**

(b)(5)

**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 9:01 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:** Lahav Harkov Levine (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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Thank you,

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פרשנית בכירה  
כתבת מדינית  
ג'רוזלם פוסט

(b)(6)

(b)(6) @jpost.com

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(b)(6)

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

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank  
**Date:** Tue, 5 Apr 2022 13:07:26 +0000

Both HFAC Maj and Min had questions on this topic. I've asked DRL to clear with J/SEAS.

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 5, 2022 09:06

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Also,

We have heard it is HFAC majority and Ted Deutch who reached out. Can you confirm if that's the case?

Best,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Monday, April 4, 2022 1:16 PM

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good afternoon (b)(6)

J/SEAS has asked to clear on any additional responses. Can you send the working docs to J-SEAS-Team@state.gov?

If it's too late, no worries.

Best,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 12:08 PM

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Thanks again (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO



Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:15 AM

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

DRL is working on additional answers regarding its programs, which were also asked in QFRs, so once those are cleared, I'll share them as well.

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 09:13

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

This is very helpful (b)(6) much appreciated!

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 9:00 AM

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

**Subject:** RE: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

We've given the following answer to HACFO and HFAC:

(b)(5)

---

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 6:53 AM

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

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good morning (b)(6)

That's good to know. Is there any chance you'd be able to share the Q's and responses with J/SEAS and I? I doubt they'd need to clear, but I know they'd like visibility as to what the Hill is asking.

Best,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

---

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

**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 6:05 PM

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

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

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Adding (b)(6) as well. The Hill has asked about this and we have questions pending answers from DRL.

---

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

**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 14:38

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

**Subject:** Fw: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good afternoon (b)(6)

I am emailing to see if you've heard anything from the Hill on the U.S. offering up to \$1 million for groups who report on human rights violations in Israel? J/SEAS is interested if the Hill is reaching out to H about this. I haven't heard anything but thought I'd ask you.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

---

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

**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 1:37 PM

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

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

(b)(6) @state.gov>

**Subject:** Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

H (b)(6)

Just curious whether/how much you're hearing about the below topic on the Hill. It's primarily a DRL item, but is related to our issue set and is of significant interest to many of our interlocutors. We know many of our office's partners are concerned about it, but are less clear about how much interest this is receiving on the Hill (no need to ask, and perhaps better not to, absent specific direction from DRL).

<https://www.ipost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-702100>

Many thanks for any insights you may be able to share,

(b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

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

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**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank  
**Date:** Mon, 28 Mar 2022 18:43:47 +0000

Appreciate it. (b)(6)

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

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

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

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good afternoon,

I haven't heard anything directly, but my H colleague who covers DRL also covers Israel and NEA. If anyone has heard anything, it'll be him. Let me see if any Hill folks have reached out.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 1:37 PM

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

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Hi (b)(6)

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**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
(b)(6)@state.gov>;  
**CC:** (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
(b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank  
**Date:** Tue, 29 Mar 2022 13:52:48 +0000

Thanks, (b)(6) I shared with our Deputy Special Envoy.

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 9:15 AM

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

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good morning,

Bipartisan committee staff on both HFAC and HACFO reached out to DRL and NEA for comments on the article. Yesterday, NEA responded:

- No program has been reviewed or awarded; the article is inaccurate and we're only in the solicitation phase.
- All of our programs are intended to foster respect for human rights and the rule of law and support democracy.
- The President has been clear regarding his support for Israel and that has not changed.

Thanks.

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO

Department of State

H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

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

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

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Good afternoon,

I haven't heard anything directly, but my H colleague who covers DRL also covers Israel and NEA. If anyone has heard anything, it'll be him. Let me see if any Hill folks have reached out.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Congressional Advisor for South + Central Asia, J/SEAS, and CSO  
Department of State  
H/RGF

(b)(6)

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

**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2022 1:37 PM

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

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** Jewish Insider - DRL Funding Opportunity in Israel, Gaza, West Bank

Hi (b)(6)

Just curious whether/how much you're hearing about the below topic on the Hill. It's primarily a DRL item, but is related to our issue set and is of significant interest to many of our interlocutors. We know many of our office's partners are concerned about it, but are less clear about how much interest this is receiving on the Hill (no need to ask, and perhaps better not to, absent specific direction from DRL).

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-702100>

Many thanks for any insights you may be able to share,

(b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

OBTAINED FROM AMERICAN LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel Nofo letter  
**Date:** Fri, 24 Jun 2022 20:54:09 +0000

Signed Cruz letter.  
 We submitted both to H the week of June 13.

**From:** (b)(6) (DRL)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2022 4:51 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (DRL)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel Nofo letter

Signed Rogers letter.

**From:** (b)(6) (DRL)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (DRL)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel Nofo letter

They were submitted to H last week.  
 I will check to see if they have been approved.

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2022 4:40 PM  
**To:** (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (DRL) (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Israel Nofo letter

Status please (b)(6) s asking now.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
 Get Outlook for Android

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

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant  
**Date:** Thu, 10 Mar 2022 02:51:25 +0000

Thanks!

(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:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:47 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Yes, I'll take care of it. Thanks, (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:40 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: Israel NGO grant

Hi (b)(6) Do you plan to respond to the email? Or do I need to clear further? Please let me know if you need anything else from DRL Press on this one. Sorry--I don't know the specific process for a quick turn inquiry like this one since it was originally routed to PA. Thank you!

(b)(6)

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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:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:25 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; PA Press Duty (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Hi, again-DRL GP was able to reply. Proposing the below pre-cleared line if the Department needs to follow up and sending now in the interest of time. Thank you!

DRL/GP: (b)(6) (ok)

DRL/NEA: info

DRL/Press: (b)(6) (ok)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

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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:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:11 PM

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

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Thanks (b)(6) Please know that I am checking with DRL/Global Programming and DRL/NEA. Don't know that we will hear back before tomorrow morn.

(b)(6)

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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:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:36 PM

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

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

+DRL

As this is just a funding announcement I believe you DRL should have lead?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:57 PM

**To:** NEA-Press; PA Press Duty

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

All yours, NEA.

**From:** Adam Kredo (b)(6)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:44 PM

**To:** NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; PA Press Duty <PAPressDuty@state.gov>

**Subject:** Israel NGO grant

Hey all — I'm writing about the notification of this recent grant for oversight type work in Israel and surrounding areas. Some folks I've spoken to in the Hill raised concerns that this money will be spent investigations Israel by groups critical of its policies, so I just wanted to check in for any comment about possible concerns related to it. The editors asked me to file it but I'll run something tomorrow AM. Let me know if there's anything I should include from you end.

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

Thanks!

AK

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



<b>From:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>To:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
<b>CC:</b>	DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>
<b>Subject:</b>	Re: Israel NGO grant
<b>Date:</b>	Thu, 10 Mar 2022 02:27:41 +0000

Anytime!

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:21:30 PM

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

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

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Thanks so much for your responsiveness! I will respond to the other email chain with these lines and add your name as a clearance.

(b)(6)

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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:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:18 PM

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

(b)(6)@state.gov>

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

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Many thanks, (b)(6) A slight edits to your lines below would be great:

(b)(5)

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:15 PM

**To:** (b)(6)

**Cc:** DRL-Press

**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

We are looking at it.

Regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) DRL/GP

Office (b)(6)

Cell (b)(6)

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

Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:59:17 PM

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

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

Subject: Fw: Israel NGO grant

Please see below inquiry. If you have lines on this grant in response to the question, please share them. Another RTQ drew on lines similar to the below if helpful. Maybe no comment? Timing is tight, so hoping to hear back as soon as possible. Thank you!

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

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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: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:36 PM

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

Subject: Re: Israel NGO grant

+DRL

As this is just a funding announcement I believe you DRL should have lead?

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

Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:57 PM

To: NEA-Press; PA Press Duty

Subject: Re: Israel NGO grant

All yours, NEA.

From: Adam Kred (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:44 PM

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

Subject: Israel NGO grant

Hey all — I'm writing about the notification of this recent grant for oversight type work in Israel and surrounding areas. Some folks I've spoken to in the Hill raised concerns that this money will be spent investigations Israel by groups critical of its policies, so I just wanted to check in for any comment about possible concerns related to it. The editors asked me to file it but I'll run something tomorrow AM. Let me know if there's anything I should include from you end.  
<https://www.state.gov/drl-strengthening-human-rights-and-accountability-in-israel-and-the-west-bank-and-gaza/>

Thanks!

AK

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

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel NGO grant  
**Date:** Thu, 10 Mar 2022 14:22:49 +0000

Yep - fine

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 9:00 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov> (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel NGO grant

This looks fine to me

(b)(6)  
 Foreign Affairs Officer  
 Office of Near Eastern Affairs  
 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor  
 U.S. Department of State  
 (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 9:55 PM  
**To:** DRLGlobalProgrammingOffice <DRLGlobalProgrammingOffice@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team <DRL-NEA-Team@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

Hi, again-To close the loop...GPA indicated that they would follow up referring to the cleared line below. Thanks!

DRL/GP: (b)(6) (ok)  
 DRL/NEA: info  
 DRL/Press: (b)(6) (ok)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

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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: [x] [x]

---

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

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:59 PM

**To:** DRLGlobalProgrammingOffice <DRLGlobalProgrammingOffice@state.gov>; DRL-NEA-Team <DRL-NEA-Team@state.gov>

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

**Subject:** Fw: Israel NGO grant

Please see below inquiry. If you have lines on this grant in response to the question, please share them. Another RTQ drew on lines similar to the below if helpful. Maybe no comment? Timing is tight, so hoping to hear back as soon as possible. Thank you!

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

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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: [x] [x]

---

OBTAINED BY AMERICAN FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 8:36 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; PA Press Duty (b)(6)@state.gov>; DRL-Press <DRL-Press@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

+DRL

As this is just a funding announcement I believe you DRL should have lead?

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---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:57 PM  
**To:** NEA-Press; PA Press Duty  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant

All yours, NEA.

---

**From:** Adam Kredo (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:44 PM  
**To:** NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>; PA Press Duty (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Israel NGO grant

Hey all — I'm writing about the notification of this recent grant for oversight type work in Israel and surrounding areas. Some folks I've spoken to in the Hill raised concerns that this money will be spent investigations Israel by groups critical of its policies, so I just wanted to check in for any comment about possible concerns related to it. The editors asked me to file it but I'll run something tomorrow AM. Let me know if there's anything I should include from you end.

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

Thanks!

AK

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



**From:** Adam Kredo (b)(6)  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel NGO grant  
**Date:** Wed, 9 Mar 2022 21:49:12 -0500

Got it. Thanks (b)(6) Appreciate you doing this in the evening for me.

AK

On Wed, Mar 9, 2022 at 21:48 (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Adam,

On background, attributable to a State Department spokesperson:

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.

(b)(6)

Press Office

**From:** Adam Kredo (b)(6)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:44 PM

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

**Subject:** Israel NGO grant

Hey all — I'm writing about the notification of this recent grant for oversight type work in Israel and surrounding areas. Some folks I've spoken to in the Hill raised concerns that this money will be spent investigations Israel by groups critical of its policies, so I just wanted to check in for any comment about possible concerns related to it. The editors asked me to file it but I'll run something tomorrow AM. Let me know if there's anything I should include from you end.

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

Thanks!

AK

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

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
(b)(6)@state.gov>;  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
(b)(6)@state.gov>;  
(b)(6)@state.gov>  
**CC:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel congressional letter  
**Date:** Fri, 10 Jun 2022 18:44:11 +0000

Sounds good, thanks!

Regards,

(b)(6)

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2022 2:44 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Israel congressional letter

Yep! I will format, draft the Cruz letter based on NEA's edits, and send both to the FO shortly.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2022 2:42:40 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel congressional letter

FYI, FO just pinged me about this...

Regards,

(b)(6)

---

**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2022 2:11 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Israel congressional letter

(b)(6) is this now ready for our FO?

Regards,

(b)(6)

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

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 4:44 PM

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

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

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

Subject: RE: Israel congressional letter

Hi All,

We just got the NEA/FO approved language. Please see attached.

(b)(6) can you kindly let me know if you need anything from me on this to finalize the outstanding responses?

Thanks,

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From (b)(6)

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

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

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

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

Subject: RE: Israel congressional letter

Thanks, (b)(6) Just pinged (b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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

Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 9:54 AM

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

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

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

Subject: Re: Israel congressional letter

(b)(6)

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Last update I got from (b)(6) on this was that she was in the process of re-clearing the response with folks. As of 6/1 the response was with the NEA/FO.

(b)(6) - would you mind checking in with (b)(6) to see if the NEA/FO has cleared?

Thanks,

(b)(6)

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 7, 2022 7:33 AM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Israel congressional letter

Thanks folks, the attached show the 2 letters we need to respond to asap. I know they are in process.

If we can get these cleared and back to H, that would be great.

Regards,

(b)(6)

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, June 6, 2022 4:25 PM  
**To:** (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Israel congressional letter

Hi all,

Jumping in also as (b)(6) mentioned this issue in her handover notes. I believe we have a draft response to HFAC with NEA/IPA, [link here](#). (b)(6) it's the response to the email with this subject: FOR NSC: FOR CLEARANCE 4/22: Congressional Correspondence H20220418-003 Assigned. It looks like they've cleared in the doc—do you know if that is accurate, or should I ping (b)(6) to confirm?

Once that letter is cleared, (b)(6) noted that we can use that to draft an outstanding Senate letter.

Best,

(b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

---

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, June 6, 2022 4:08 PM

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION THROUGH LITIGATION

To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov  
Subject: Re: Israel congressional letter

Hi (b)(6)

I wanted to chime in with a few updates in case they are helpful. The reprogramming memo to put the money elsewhere (partially to Syria) has not yet gone up to the FO yet. The rejection letters from the Israel NOFO went out this morning.

Thanks,

(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

(b)(6)@state.gov

From: (b)(6)@state.gov  
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 3:13 PM  
To: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
Subject: Israel congressional letter

With (b)(6) out, (b)(6) - do you know the status of the congressional responses on the Israel NOFO by chance? (b)(6) approved the FRM today and actually I saw (b)(6) also sent up a reprogramming memo to put the money elsewhere (Syria if I remember correctly)

Regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor  
Office of Global Programs (DRL/GP)

(b)(6)

iPhone - (b)(6)

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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

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