

Organizations That Oppose AIPAC

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The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a powerful lobbying group that plays a significant role in shaping U.S. foreign policy towards Israel. Established in 1951, AIPAC's mission is to ensure strong and unwavering American support for Israel through extensive lobbying, campaign contributions, and public advocacy. Despite its considerable influence, AIPAC faces substantial opposition from a diverse array of organizations and coalitions. These groups argue that AIPAC's policies contribute to the perpetuation of conflict in the Middle East, undermine democratic processes, and marginalize dissenting voices. This paper provides an objective overview of the key organizations opposing AIPAC, detailing their motivations, actions, and impact on U.S. politics and policy.

Keywords: AIPAC, opposition, U.S. foreign policy, Israel, Palestine, lobbying, progressive organizations, Jewish Voice for Peace, IfNotNow, Reject AIPAC, grassroots mobilization.

Introduction

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is one of the most influential lobbying groups in the United States, primarily focused on fostering and strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship. Founded in 1951, AIPAC's mission is to ensure that American support for Israel remains strong and unwavering, advocating for policies that favor Israel's security and political interests. Over the years, AIPAC has become a formidable force in American politics, leveraging its resources to influence legislation, shape foreign policy, and support political candidates who align with its goals.

AIPAC's influence extends to various aspects of U.S. political life, including significant financial contributions to political campaigns, organizing conferences that draw top politicians, and engaging in intensive lobbying efforts. Its annual policy conference is a major event in Washington, D.C., attracting thousands of participants, including members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, and key political figures. Through its activities, AIPAC has managed to maintain a strong pro-Israel stance within the U.S. government, impacting decisions on foreign aid, military support, and diplomatic initiatives.

Despite its significant influence, AIPAC has faced substantial opposition from various organizations and coalitions that criticize its policies and the extent of its influence on U.S. politics. These opposition groups argue that AIPAC's actions contribute to the perpetuation of conflict in the Middle East, undermine U.S. foreign policy interests, and silence dissenting voices within the American political landscape. They contend that AIPAC's support for Israeli government policies, particularly those related to the Palestinian territories, has adverse humanitarian and political consequences.

The purpose of this paper is to provide an objective overview of the organizations and coalitions that actively oppose AIPAC. By examining the motives, actions, and impact of these groups, this paper aims to offer a balanced perspective on the debate surrounding AIPAC's role in American politics and its implications for U.S.-Israel relations. The following sections will detail the key organizations involved in opposing AIPAC, their specific criticisms, and the broader implications of their efforts.

Background on AIPAC

History and Mission of AIPAC

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) was established in 1951 by Isaiah L. "Si" Kenen. Initially formed as the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs, it rebranded to its current name in 1959. AIPAC's primary mission is to advocate for strong and unwavering support for Israel from the United States, ensuring that the alliance between the two nations remains robust and secure. The organization's goal is to influence American foreign policy in a manner that aligns with the interests of Israel, particularly in areas related to security, military aid, and diplomatic support.

AIPAC operates as a bipartisan organization, aiming to cultivate relationships with members of Congress from both major political parties. This strategy is designed to ensure that support for Israel transcends party lines and remains a consistent element of U.S. foreign policy regardless of which party is in power. AIPAC's influence is not limited to lobbying efforts; it also engages in extensive public outreach, education, and advocacy to shape public opinion and garner broad-based support for its objectives.

Key Activities and Influence on U.S. Foreign Policy

AIPAC's activities encompass a wide range of lobbying and advocacy efforts aimed at shaping U.S. foreign policy in ways that favor Israel. Some of the organization's key activities include:

1. **Lobbying:** AIPAC is known for its intensive lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill. The organization employs a large team of lobbyists who work tirelessly to advocate for pro-Israel legislation and policies. These efforts include direct lobbying of lawmakers, providing testimony at congressional hearings, and organizing letter-writing campaigns to influence policy decisions.
2. **Campaign Contributions:** Through its network of political action committees (PACs) and affiliated organizations, AIPAC channels substantial financial contributions to political candidates who support its agenda. This financial support helps to secure the election of pro-Israel candidates and ensure that lawmakers remain aligned with AIPAC's goals.

3. **Annual Policy Conference:** AIPAC's annual policy conference is one of the most significant events on the organization's calendar. The conference draws thousands of attendees, including members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, and key political figures. It serves as a platform for AIPAC to showcase its influence, rally support for its agenda, and provide attendees with the tools and information needed to advocate for pro-Israel policies.
4. **Educational Initiatives:** AIPAC invests heavily in educational programs aimed at informing and mobilizing its supporters. These initiatives include seminars, workshops, and publications that provide detailed information on issues related to U.S.-Israel relations. AIPAC also runs a robust campus outreach program to engage and educate the next generation of pro-Israel advocates.
5. **Grassroots Mobilization:** AIPAC leverages its extensive network of grassroots supporters to exert pressure on lawmakers. Through coordinated advocacy campaigns, AIPAC mobilizes its members to contact their representatives, attend town hall meetings, and participate in other forms of civic engagement to advocate for pro-Israel policies.

Influence on U.S. Foreign Policy

AIPAC's influence on U.S. foreign policy is significant and multifaceted. The organization has played a crucial role in shaping American policy towards Israel and the broader Middle East in several key areas:

1. **Military Aid and Security Assistance:** AIPAC has been instrumental in securing substantial military aid packages for Israel. The organization has successfully lobbied for multi-year aid agreements that provide Israel with billions of dollars in military assistance, ensuring that Israel maintains a qualitative military edge in the region.
2. **Diplomatic Support:** AIPAC works to ensure that the U.S. provides robust diplomatic support for Israel in international forums. This includes advocating for American opposition to resolutions critical of Israel at the United Nations and other international bodies. AIPAC's efforts help to shield Israel from diplomatic censure and bolster its standing on the global stage.

3. **Legislative Initiatives:** AIPAC has been a driving force behind numerous legislative initiatives that strengthen U.S.-Israel relations. This includes the passage of laws that enhance security cooperation, promote joint research and development projects, and impose sanctions on entities that threaten Israel's security.
4. **Countering Iran:** AIPAC has been a vocal advocate for a hardline stance on Iran, particularly regarding its nuclear program. The organization has lobbied for stringent sanctions on Iran and supported measures aimed at preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capabilities. AIPAC's efforts have contributed to shaping U.S. policy towards Iran and ensuring that it aligns with Israel's security concerns.

By leveraging its extensive resources, political connections, and grassroots network, AIPAC has established itself as a powerful force in American politics. The organization's ability to influence policy decisions, secure substantial aid for Israel, and shape public opinion underscores its significant impact on U.S. foreign policy.

Overview of Opposition to AIPAC

General Reasons for Opposition

Opposition to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) arises from a variety of concerns about its influence on U.S. politics and foreign policy. These concerns are shared by a diverse group of organizations, coalitions, and individuals who argue that AIPAC's activities have far-reaching and often negative implications. The general reasons for opposition include:

1. **Influence on U.S. Foreign Policy:** Critics argue that AIPAC's influence leads to a U.S. foreign policy that is excessively supportive of Israel at the expense of other considerations, such as the rights and aspirations of Palestinians. This support is often seen as uncritical, overlooking actions by the Israeli government that are deemed aggressive or illegal under international law.
2. **Impact on Political Discourse:** Opponents claim that AIPAC's lobbying efforts contribute to a political environment where dissenting voices and

alternative perspectives on Israel and Palestine are marginalized. They contend that AIPAC's tactics create a chilling effect on open and honest debate about U.S. policy in the Middle East.

3. **Human Rights Concerns:** Many organizations opposing AIPAC do so on the grounds of human rights. They argue that AIPAC's support for Israeli government policies contributes to the ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories, the blockade of Gaza, and other actions that result in significant human suffering and violations of international law.
4. **Political Donations and Influence:** AIPAC's financial contributions to political candidates are seen as a means of exerting disproportionate influence on U.S. elections and legislative processes. Critics argue that this undermines democratic principles by prioritizing the interests of a specific lobby over broader national interests.
5. **Partisanship and Polarization:** While AIPAC presents itself as a bipartisan organization, some opponents argue that its actions often align more closely with specific political ideologies, contributing to increased polarization on issues related to Israel and U.S. foreign policy.

Impact of AIPAC's Policies on Different Groups and Perspectives

The policies advocated by AIPAC and their implementation have varying impacts on different groups and perspectives within the U.S. and internationally. These impacts can be broadly categorized as follows:

1. **Palestinians:** The most direct impact of AIPAC's policies is on Palestinians living in the occupied territories. AIPAC's support for Israeli military aid and its opposition to measures that would hold Israel accountable for its actions contribute to the continuation of the occupation, restrictions on movement, economic hardships, and human rights abuses.
2. **U.S. Politicians and Candidates:** AIPAC's financial support and endorsements are highly sought after by many U.S. politicians. This support can influence the positions that candidates take on Israel and Palestine, often leading to a lack of critical examination of Israeli policies. Candidates who express pro-Palestinian views or criticize Israeli actions may face significant political and financial challenges.

3. **American Jewish Community:** Within the American Jewish community, there are diverse views on AIPAC's role and policies. While some see AIPAC as a crucial defender of Israel, others, particularly progressive Jewish groups, oppose its uncritical support for the Israeli government. This internal division reflects broader debates about Zionism, human rights, and the future of Israel and Palestine.
4. **Progressive Movements:** Progressive movements in the U.S., which often prioritize human rights and social justice, tend to oppose AIPAC's policies. They argue that AIPAC's influence perpetuates injustices against Palestinians and undermines broader efforts to promote peace and equality in the region.
5. **International Relations:** AIPAC's advocacy for strong U.S. support for Israel affects the broader geopolitical landscape. It influences U.S. relations with other Middle Eastern countries and complicates diplomatic efforts aimed at resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Critics argue that this dynamic contributes to regional instability and undermines prospects for a lasting peace.

Conclusion

The opposition to AIPAC is multifaceted, involving a wide range of organizations and individuals who raise concerns about its influence on U.S. foreign policy, political discourse, human rights, and international relations. By understanding the reasons for this opposition and its diverse impacts, a more nuanced view of AIPAC's role and its critics can be developed. This paper aims to provide a balanced perspective on these issues, contributing to an informed and constructive debate about U.S. policy towards Israel and Palestine.

Key Organizations Opposing AIPAC

Reject AIPAC Coalition

Members

The Reject AIPAC Coalition comprises a diverse group of progressive organizations including:

- **Justice Democrats**
- **Jewish Voice for Peace Action**
- **IfNotNow**
- **Working Families Party**
- **Sunrise Movement**
- **MPower Change Action Fund**
- **Democratic Socialists of America**
- **Our Revolution**
- **Peace Action**
- **National Iranian American Council**
- **Gen-Z for Change**

Objectives and Actions

The coalition's primary objective is to counter AIPAC's influence on U.S. politics, particularly in Democratic primaries. They seek to:

- Encourage candidates to reject endorsements and financial contributions from AIPAC.
- Advocate for a U.S. foreign policy that is balanced and considers both Israeli and Palestinian rights.
- Mobilize grassroots support to exert pressure on lawmakers to adopt more progressive stances on Middle East policy.

Actions taken by the coalition include organizing campaigns, lobbying efforts, and public demonstrations to raise awareness and influence policy decisions ([Common Dreams](#)) ([The Forward](#)).

Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP)

Mission and Objectives

Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) is an activist organization that seeks to achieve:

- An end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem.
- Equal rights for Palestinians and Israelis.
- A U.S. foreign policy that promotes peace and justice in the Middle East.

Specific Criticisms of AIPAC

JVP criticizes AIPAC for:

- Unconditionally supporting Israeli government policies, which JVP argues perpetuate the occupation and human rights abuses against Palestinians.
- Influencing U.S. politicians to adopt positions that JVP believes are not conducive to peace and justice.
- Marginalizing dissenting voices within the American Jewish community and the broader political landscape ([Common Dreams](#)) ([The Nation](#)).

IfNotNow

Goals and Activities

IfNotNow is a progressive Jewish organization that aims to:

- End American Jewish support for the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.
- Transform the American Jewish community's approach to Israel-Palestine by advocating for human rights and equality.

Campaigns Against AIPAC's Influence

IfNotNow has launched several campaigns to counter AIPAC's influence, including:

- "Reject AIPAC" campaign, which pressures members of Congress to refuse AIPAC's endorsements and financial contributions.
- Organizing protests and educational events to raise awareness about the occupation and AIPAC's role in sustaining it ([The Times of Israel](#)).

Progressive Jewish Americans

Prominent Figures Involved

Several prominent Jewish Americans have publicly opposed AIPAC, including:

- **Judith Butler**, Professor at the University of California, Berkeley.
- **Peter Beinart**, Editor-at-Large of Jewish Currents.
- **Medea Benjamin**, Co-founder of CODEPINK.
- **Marjorie Cohn**, Professor Emerita of Law, past president of the National Lawyers Guild.

Public Statements and Campaigns

These individuals and others have signed statements and participated in campaigns that criticize AIPAC's influence on U.S. politics, particularly its role in promoting policies that they argue are detrimental to peace and justice in the Middle East ([The Nation](#)).

Other Progressive Groups

Center for International Environmental Law

- **Reasons for Opposition:** Criticizes AIPAC for its alignment with policies that they believe contribute to environmental degradation and conflict in the region.
- **Activities:** Engages in advocacy and public education to highlight the intersection of environmental and human rights issues.

Food Research and Action Center

- **Reasons for Opposition:** Opposes AIPAC's influence on U.S. foreign policy, which they argue prioritizes military aid over humanitarian needs.
- **Activities:** Works to redirect U.S. policy towards addressing food security and poverty in the Middle East.
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Iraq Veterans Against the War

- **Reasons for Opposition:** Opposes AIPAC's support for U.S. military interventions that they believe are unjust and exacerbate conflicts.
- **Activities:** Engages in public advocacy, education, and mobilization of veterans to speak out against AIPAC's policies.

US Robin Hood Tax Campaign

- **Reasons for Opposition:** Criticizes AIPAC for its role in influencing U.S. fiscal policies that prioritize military spending over social welfare.
- **Activities:** Advocates for financial transaction taxes to fund social programs and reduce military expenditures ([Common Dreams](#)).

Conclusion

These organizations and coalitions represent a broad spectrum of opposition to AIPAC, each bringing unique perspectives and criticisms. Their collective efforts aim to reshape U.S. policy towards a more balanced approach that considers the rights and needs of all parties involved in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

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Specific Campaigns and Actions Against AIPAC

Examples of Campaigns Led by the Opposition Groups

"Reject AIPAC" Campaign

The "Reject AIPAC" campaign is spearheaded by a coalition of progressive organizations including IfNotNow, Jewish Voice for Peace Action, and others. The campaign aims to pressure members of Congress, particularly those representing states with large Jewish populations, to refuse endorsements and financial contributions from AIPAC. This campaign involves grassroots organizing, lobbying, and public demonstrations to raise awareness about the influence of AIPAC on U.S. politics and to promote alternative approaches to U.S.-Israel relations.

#SkipAIPAC Campaign

Launched by IfNotNow, the #SkipAIPAC campaign encourages politicians and public figures to boycott AIPAC's annual policy conference. The campaign argues that participating in the conference signifies support for AIPAC's policies, which many critics view as contributing to the ongoing occupation and conflict in the Palestinian territories. The campaign has gained traction with several high-profile politicians publicly announcing their decision to skip the conference.

Justice Democrats Campaigns

Justice Democrats, part of the Reject AIPAC Coalition, run campaigns to support progressive candidates who oppose AIPAC's influence. These campaigns include fundraising, endorsements, and mobilization of grassroots supporters to elect candidates who advocate for a balanced U.S. foreign policy that considers both Israeli and Palestinian rights. Justice Democrats also work to unseat incumbents who are seen as overly aligned with AIPAC's agenda.

Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) Actions

JVP has organized numerous campaigns and actions to oppose AIPAC. One notable campaign is "Deadly Exchange," which aims to end U.S.-Israel police exchange programs that JVP argues contribute to the militarization of police forces and human rights abuses. JVP also organizes protests, educational events, and lobbying efforts to challenge AIPAC's influence and promote a vision of peace and justice in the Middle East.

IfNotNow's Direct Actions

IfNotNow has conducted direct actions, such as sit-ins and protests at AIPAC offices and events. These actions are designed to draw public attention to the negative impacts of AIPAC's policies and to disrupt business as usual for the organization. IfNotNow also engages in social media campaigns and public education efforts to shift public opinion and mobilize supporters.

Impact and Outcomes of These Campaigns

Raising Awareness and Shifting Public Opinion

One of the significant impacts of these campaigns is raising public awareness about AIPAC's influence on U.S. foreign policy and its consequences for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. By organizing protests, educational events, and social media campaigns, opposition groups have succeeded in bringing these issues into the public discourse and challenging the narrative presented by AIPAC.

Influencing Political Decisions

The campaigns have also influenced political decisions and actions. For instance, the #SkipAIPAC campaign has led several politicians to publicly distance themselves from AIPAC by refusing to attend its annual policy conference. This signifies a growing willingness among some politicians to challenge AIPAC's influence and adopt more progressive stances on Middle East policy.

Legislative Impact

Efforts by organizations like Jewish Voice for Peace and Justice Democrats have contributed to legislative initiatives that promote human rights and accountability. For example, progressive members of Congress who are supported by these groups have introduced resolutions and bills that call for greater scrutiny of U.S. military aid to Israel and advocate for the rights of Palestinians.

Grassroots Mobilization

The campaigns have successfully mobilized grassroots support, creating a broad base of activists who are engaged in advocating for a more balanced U.S. foreign policy. This grassroots mobilization has led to increased pressure on lawmakers to

consider alternative perspectives and policies that prioritize human rights and justice for all parties involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Conclusion

The campaigns and actions led by organizations opposing AIPAC have had a measurable impact on public awareness, political decisions, and legislative initiatives. By challenging AIPAC's influence and advocating for a more balanced approach to U.S. foreign policy, these groups are contributing to a broader debate about the future of U.S.-Israel relations and the pursuit of peace and justice in the Middle East.

Analysis of the Opposition's Influence

Effectiveness of the Opposition Movements

Raising Awareness and Public Opinion

Opposition movements against AIPAC have been notably effective in raising public awareness about AIPAC's influence on U.S. foreign policy and its implications for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Campaigns such as "Reject AIPAC" and #SkipAIPAC have garnered significant media attention, drawing public scrutiny to AIPAC's practices and encouraging a broader discussion on U.S. policy in the Middle East. Social media campaigns, protests, and educational events have amplified these efforts, reaching diverse audiences and galvanizing grassroots support ([Common Dreams](#)) ([The Times of Israel](#)).

Political Impact

The opposition has also made strides in influencing political decisions. Several progressive candidates supported by groups like Justice Democrats and IfNotNow have won elections, indicating a shift towards more critical views of U.S. support for Israel within certain segments of the electorate. These candidates have introduced and supported legislative measures that advocate for human rights and accountability, signaling a tangible impact on policy discussions in Congress. Additionally, some politicians have chosen to distance themselves from AIPAC, as evidenced by their refusal to attend AIPAC's annual policy conferences ([Common Dreams](#)) ([The Nation](#)).

Grassroots Mobilization

Grassroots mobilization efforts have been a cornerstone of the opposition's strategy. Organizations such as Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) and the Sunrise Movement have successfully mobilized activists and constituents to advocate for more balanced U.S. policies. This mobilization has not only exerted pressure on lawmakers but has also fostered a sense of solidarity and collective action among activists who are committed to promoting peace and justice in the Middle East ([Common Dreams](#)).

Response from AIPAC and Its Supporters

Defensive Strategies

In response to the growing opposition, AIPAC and its supporters have employed several defensive strategies. AIPAC has ramped up its lobbying efforts, increasing financial contributions to political candidates who align with its views. The organization's super PAC, the United Democracy Project, has raised substantial funds to support pro-Israel candidates and counter the influence of progressive challengers. AIPAC has also intensified its public relations campaigns to reinforce its narrative and defend its policies ([Common Dreams](#)).

Public Statements and Campaigns

AIPAC and its allies have publicly criticized the opposition movements, often framing them as fringe elements that do not represent the mainstream views of the American Jewish community or the broader American public. AIPAC has accused these groups of promoting anti-Israel sentiment and undermining the U.S.-Israel alliance. By portraying its opponents as extreme and out of touch, AIPAC aims to marginalize their influence and maintain its standing within the political establishment ([The Forward](#)) ([The Times of Israel](#)).

Political Counteractions

Politically, AIPAC has sought to counteract the opposition by strengthening its relationships with lawmakers and ensuring robust bipartisan support for its agenda. The organization continues to host high-profile events and policy conferences that attract influential political figures, reinforcing its clout in Washington, D.C. Moreover, AIPAC has actively worked to unseat progressive

candidates who criticize its policies, using its financial and organizational resources to back more favorable candidates ([The Times of Israel](#)) ([Common Dreams](#)).

Conclusion

The opposition movements against AIPAC have achieved notable successes in raising awareness, influencing political discourse, and mobilizing grassroots support. Their efforts have led to a more critical examination of AIPAC's role in shaping U.S. foreign policy towards Israel and Palestine. However, AIPAC's robust response, including increased lobbying efforts, public relations campaigns, and political counteractions, underscores the ongoing contest for influence over U.S. policy in the Middle East. The dynamic between AIPAC and its critics continues to shape the debate on U.S.-Israel relations, reflecting broader tensions within American politics and society.

Conclusion

Summary of the Key Points Discussed

This paper has provided an objective overview of the organizations and coalitions that actively oppose the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). We began by outlining the history and mission of AIPAC, highlighting its significant influence on U.S. foreign policy through extensive lobbying efforts, campaign contributions, and educational initiatives. AIPAC's role in securing military aid for Israel, influencing diplomatic stances, and shaping legislative priorities underscores its substantial impact on U.S.-Israel relations.

We then examined the reasons for opposition to AIPAC, noting that critics argue AIPAC's actions perpetuate conflict in the Middle East, marginalize dissenting voices, and prioritize military support over humanitarian considerations. These concerns have mobilized a diverse array of organizations and individuals to challenge AIPAC's influence.

The key organizations opposing AIPAC include the Reject AIPAC Coalition, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), IfNotNow, and various progressive Jewish Americans. These groups employ a range of strategies, from grassroots mobilization and public

protests to lobbying and educational campaigns. They seek to promote a more balanced U.S. foreign policy that considers both Israeli and Palestinian rights.

Specific campaigns such as "Reject AIPAC," #SkipAIPAC, and the "Deadly Exchange" initiative illustrate the targeted actions taken by these opposition groups. These campaigns have raised public awareness, influenced political decisions, and mobilized grassroots support, demonstrating the effectiveness of the opposition movements.

In response, AIPAC has intensified its lobbying efforts, increased financial contributions to supportive candidates, and launched public relations campaigns to counteract the opposition. AIPAC's actions reflect its determination to maintain its influence and defend its policies.

Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy and Future Political Dynamics

The growing opposition to AIPAC has significant implications for U.S. foreign policy and future political dynamics. As more politicians and public figures distance themselves from AIPAC, there is potential for a shift in U.S. policy towards a more balanced approach that considers the rights and needs of both Israelis and Palestinians. This could lead to increased support for initiatives that promote human rights, accountability, and a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The influence of opposition groups also highlights the increasing importance of grassroots mobilization and public opinion in shaping foreign policy. As these groups continue to gain traction, they may be able to exert greater pressure on lawmakers to adopt more progressive stances on Middle East issues.

However, AIPAC's robust response and continued support from a significant portion of the political establishment suggest that any changes in U.S. policy will be gradual and contested. The dynamic between AIPAC and its critics will likely continue to shape the debate on U.S.-Israel relations, reflecting broader tensions within American politics and society.

In conclusion, the opposition to AIPAC represents a significant and growing force in U.S. politics. While the impact of these movements is still unfolding, their efforts to promote a more balanced and just foreign policy have already made a noticeable mark on the political landscape. As the debate continues, the interplay

between AIPAC and its opponents will remain a crucial factor in determining the future direction of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

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