

How America Funds Itself Through Israel

THE LIE

The U.S. funnels most of its foreign aid to Israel, which uses that aid to commit a “genocide” in Gaza.

THE TRUTH

The U.S. spends far more on other countries than on Israel, and Israel contributes more to the U.S. economy than it receives. The claim that Israel is committing genocide has been thoroughly debunked.

BACKGROUND

- On April 2, 2026, Theo Von claimed on an episode of The Joe Rogan Experience that the U.S. sends “all of our money” to Israel, which then uses this money to commit “genocide” in Gaza. ([The Joe Rogan Experience](#))

TRUTH EXPLAINED

- **U.S. military aid to Israel benefits American taxpayers.** The United States provides \$3.8 billion annually in military aid to Israel. But roughly 75% of these funds are required to be spent on American-made products, directly benefiting the U.S. economy. ([White House](#))
- **Israel is not the largest recipient of U.S. funds.** Countries receiving far more funding from the U.S. include Ukraine, Japan, Germany, South Korea, and Qatar, making Israel a far smaller recipient than these nations when total aid and military presence are considered. ([Open Spending](#))
- **Economic aid per capita highlights disparities.** The per capita numbers tell a striking story. Some 5 million Palestinians received over \$670 million in U.S. economic and humanitarian aid between 2023 and 2024 – more than \$100 per person. Israel, by contrast, receives less than \$100 million annually in non-military U.S. programs, amounting to under \$10 per Israeli. And unlike aid to Israel, which returns to the American economy through defense contracts and procurement, Palestinian aid generates no comparable benefit for U.S. taxpayers. ([US State Department](#)), ([U.S. Embassy Jerusalem](#))
- **Israel does not require a U.S. military presence.** The U.S. maintains roughly 750 U.S. military bases in more than 80 countries and territories, costing American taxpayers an estimated \$80 billion a year to protect foreign populations. Israel is not among those countries. ([Quincy Institute](#))
- **Israel brings money back to the U.S.** Israel is a major trading and investment partner: it purchased \$14.8 billion in U.S. goods in 2024, contributing \$13.2 billion to the U.S. GDP. Israelis invest close to \$24 billion in the United States, and Israel is home to more than 2,500 U.S. firms. This makes U.S. aid to Israel uniquely tied to American economic interests. ([US Trade Representative](#)), ([U.S. Embassy Jerusalem](#))
- **The “genocide” claim is false.** Casualty figures come primarily from Hamas, whose reported numbers do not distinguish civilians from combatants, have been inflated or misclassified, and include ordinary deaths unrelated to the conflict. ([Hamas](#)), ([Henry Jackson Society](#))
- **Civilian-to-combatant ratios contradict genocide allegations.** Approximately 58,000 Hamas fighters were killed, leaving around 13,000–14,000 noncombatant deaths. That is a civilian-to-combatant ratio of roughly 0.24:1, far below the UN urban warfare average of 9:1. This decisively rules out a genocide. ([New York Post](#)), ([UN](#))
- **The number of Gazan children has increased.** Over 500,000 children under ten were vaccinated in Gaza in 2025—150,000 more than the pre-war population estimate. Populations do not grow in a genocide. ([World Health Organization](#)), ([CIA](#))
- **Gazans oppose ending the war.** Surveys show most Gazans oppose disarming Hamas, even if it would end the war. They support continued conflict with Israel, demonstrating the population is not facing systematic extermination. ([Hamas](#))
- **U.S. officials reject the genocide label.** Senior U.S. officials, including President Trump and Vice President Vance, have publicly stated that Israel’s actions do not constitute genocide, directly contradicting Theo Von’s claims. ([TOI](#)), ([TOI](#))

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QUOTES

- "Israel is the largest US aircraft carrier, which does not require American soldiers on board, cannot be sunk, and is deployed in a most critical region, economically and militarily, sparing the US the need to manufacture, deploy and maintain more real aircraft carriers and additional ground divisions, which would cost the US some \$15 billion annually." – General Alexander Haig and Admiral Elmo Zumwalt

TAKEAWAY

Theo Von's outrage is a sham. He singles out Israel while ignoring far larger U.S. expenditures, repeats false casualty claims from Hamas, and pretends to defend taxpayers, all while ignoring the massive economic benefits Israel brings to the American economy.