

# Understanding of the Neorealist, Constructionist and Relative Deprivation Theories: A Phenomenological Study of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict with Practice Application of Integrative Negotiation

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## Abstract

10 This study discussed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as a type of an international conflict. This  
11 paper employed three international relations theories to analyze the Israeli- Palestinian  
12 conflict. The three theories used were the neorealist, constructionist and relative deprivation.  
13 This paper discussed the conceptual frame of each theory, its major thinkers, as well as its  
14 strengths and weaknesses. This study employed phenomenological method to research the  
15 Israeli-Palestinian conflict because phenomenology is a valuable qualitative approach to  
16 studying human experience. This study argued that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is  
17 considered to be one of the drivers of the security threat and the rise of terrorism in the  
18 Middle East and the world. This research stressed that the study of the Israeli-Palestinian  
19 conflict is important because it shed light on the differing views on security, cultural identity  
20 and religious beliefs of the parties.

**Index terms**— valuable qualitative, cultural identity, constructionist and relative deprivation.

## 1 Introduction

uman interaction can often lead to conflict, which can occur anywhere whether in family, in the work place, in communities or between independent states. Conflict is called international when it occurs between sovereign states. A better understanding of the sources of dynamics of international conflict can lead one to work through conflicts more constructively so that positive change might be created.

28 The first step in understanding conflict is to consider its possible definitions. The variety of the definitions of  
29 conflict reveals the complexity of understanding contentious human interactions. For Christopher Moore (2003),  
30 conflict is a "struggle between two or more people over values, or competition for status, power and scarce  
31 resources." Jeffry Rubin and Dean Pruitt (2003) define conflict as "perceived divergence of interest, or a belief  
32 that the parties' current aspirations cannot be achieved simultaneously."

33 This study will analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as it pertains to the international relations. This paper  
34 will use three international relations theories to discuss the Israeli-Palestinians conflict as it pertains to the  
35 international conflict type. The three theories that will be used to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict are the  
36 neorealist, constructionist and relative deprivation.

37 The neorealist will be the first theory that will discuss the Israeli-Palestinians. This theory pertains to the  
38 contemporary conflict paradigm and is rooted in the international relations theory perspective. This study will  
39 discuss the conceptual frame of the theory, its major thinkers, as well as its strengths and weaknesses. This study  
40 will also employ the neorealist theory to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as it pertains to the international  
41 relations. The second theory to discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will be the constructionism. This theory

## 2 II. HISTORY AND CONTEXT OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIANS CONFLICTS

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42 pertains to the post-modern conflict paradigm and is rooted in the international relations theory. This research  
43 will discuss the conceptual frame of the constructionist theory, its roots as well as the major thinkers pertaining  
44 to this theory. This study will also discuss the strengths and weaknesses of this theory. Finally this study will  
45 employ the constructionist theory to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Relative deprivation will be the  
46 third theory that will be used in this study to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This theory is rooted in  
47 the Marxian perspective. This research will discuss the conceptual frame of relative deprivation theory, its roots,  
48 major thinkers as well as its strengths and weakness.

49 This study will employ phenomenological method to research the Israeli-Palestinian conflict because phe-  
50 nomenology is a valuable qualitative approach to studying human experience. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is  
51 considered to be one of the drivers of the security threat and the rise of terrorism in the Middle East and the  
52 world. The study of this conflict will be important because it will shed light on the differing views on security,  
53 cultural identity and religious beliefs of the parties. This study will also shed light on the role of the United  
54 States in the Israeli-Palestinians conflict.

55 My statement of the problem would be the Israelis-Palestinians conflict poses security concerns in the Middle  
56 East region and the entire world. Based on my theoretical analysis of this case, I will employ qualitative method  
57 of inquiry involving phenomenological research. This study will employ integrative negotiation also known as  
58 win-win negotiation as practice application that best addresses the Israeli-Palestinians conflict.

59 The following are key words of this study: neorealist theory, social constructionist theory, relative deprivation,  
60 phenomenological research, international relations, integrative negotiation, win-win negotiation.

## 61 2 II. History and Context of the Israeli-Palestinians Conflicts

62 The fundamental of the conflict-disputes between the Israelis and the Palestinians lies on the needs for security,  
63 safety and peace between both parties. These needs have been framed from the beginning by the UN Security  
64 Resolution 242, 1967 and have guided most of peace plans-the exchange of land for peace (Reynolds, 2007). From  
65 the proposals since the UN Security Resolution 242, 1967 to the various negotiations that have taken place over  
66 decades of years, settlement has been often failed to be reached.

67 The negotiations in the Israeli-Palestinians conflict from the beginning have involved the principal negotiators  
68 known as the Israeli and the Palestinians and the shadow negotiators such as the United States and the Arab  
69 countries including Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Iran. There has been misinterpretation with respect to the UN  
70 resolution 242, 1967 which called for the withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces from the occupied territories  
71 and also for respect for an acknowledgement of the sovereignty as well as the territorial integrity and political  
72 independence of every state in the area who has the right to live in peace (Reynolds, 2007). In fact, the resolution  
73 is famous for the imprecision of its central phase concerning an Israeli withdrawal -it says simply "from territories".  
74 The Israelis argued this resolution did not necessarily mean all territories, but Arab negotiators said that it did"  
75 (Reynolds, 2007).

76 A second resolution 338 linked to the 242 has called for a ceasefire in the war of October 1973 and urged the  
77 implementation of 242 in all parts. Following the 1973 resolution, there was a peace agreement attempted in  
78 1978 in the Camp David Accords between the parties. Several other talks and negotiations have been attempted  
79 following the 1967 war, but none has reached an agreement until 1977 after the historic visit of an Egyptian  
80 president, Anwar Sadat (Reynolds, 2007).

81 At that time, the United States, a shadow negotiator, capitalizing on the new mood and the presence of  
82 the Egyptian president pushed for an agreement. They met in Camp David for twelve days and reached two  
83 agreements. The first agreement reached was the framework for Peace in the Middle East. This settlement led  
84 down the principle for peace and expanded on resolution 242, which agreed that there should be a treaty between  
85 Egypt and Israel and called for other treaties between Israel and its neighbors (Reynolds, 2007).

86 The second agreement, the Camp David was the framework for the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel  
87 this followed in 1979, after an Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. This was the first recognition of Israel as a state  
88 by a major Arab country. The treaty has lasted, and it substantially strengthened Israel's position. President  
89 Sadat was himself later assassinated (Reynolds, 2007).

90 Among the other peace talks and negotiations between the Israelis and the Palestinians are the Madrid  
91 conference of 1991 co-sponsored by the United States and the Soviets. The Madrid conference meant to design to  
92 follow up the Egypt-Israel treaty by encouraging other Arab countries to sign their own agreements with Israel.  
93 According to Reynolds (2007), the conference eventually led to a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan in 1994.

94 The Oslo Agreement signed in 1993 stipulated that Israeli troops would withdraw in stages from the West  
95 Bank and Gaza that a "Palestinian Interim Self-Governing Authority" would be set up for a five-year transitional  
96 period, which will lead to a permanent settlement based on resolutions 242 and 338 (Reynolds, 2007). At the  
97 other hand, the Camp David talks of 2000 vowed to speed up the withdrawal and self-government provisions of  
98 Oslo. Then in 2000, President Bill Clinton sought to address the final status issues -including borders, Jerusalem  
99 and refugees -that Oslo had left aside for later negotiation (Reynolds, 2007). At Camp David in 2000, Barak and  
100 Arafat failed to agree.

101 Another peace talk called Saudi peace plan took place in 2002. During this conference, the building of Jewish  
102 settlements on occupied land is a key issue in the talks. After the failure of bilateral talks and the resumption of  
103 conflict, the Saudi peace plan presented at an Arab summit in Beirut in March 2002 went back to a multi-lateral

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104 approach and in particular signaled a desire by the Arab world as a whole to put an end to this dispute (Reynolds,  
105 2007).

106 After the failure of the Saudi talk, a different plan, the Arab Peace Initiative was put in place. The new  
107 initiative suggested that Israel would withdraw to the lines of June 1967; a Palestinian state would be set up in  
108 the West Bank and Gaza. In return, Arab countries would recognize the right of Israel to exist (Reynolds, 2007).  
109 After different attempts primary and shadow negotiators put forward a "road map 2003" plan aimed to in the  
110 Middle East (Reynolds, 2007).

### 111 3 III.

## 112 4 The Neorealist Theory

113 The neo-realist is one of the most influential contemporary approaches to international relations theory (Powell,  
114 1994). The major thinker of the neorealist theory is Waltz (1997) who was the first to introduce the structural  
115 based "Neorealist" theory of international relations. The neorealist theory is opposed to classical realists and  
116 sometimes called "structural realists". The neorealist theory defines the international system by anarchy meaning  
117 the absence of central authority (Waltz). According to this theory, states are sovereign and thus autonomous of  
118 each other; no inherent structure or society can emerge or even exist to order relations between them. States  
119 are bound only by coercion or by their own consent. In such an anarchic system, State power is the key indeed,  
120 the only variable of interest, because only through power States can defend themselves and hope to survive. The  
121 neorealist claims that security is the first goal of every State. Given that goal of security, states will act as best as  
122 they can in order to maximize their likelihood to exist. The neorealist views international relations essentially as  
123 a story of Great Power politics. Waltz affirms that the international anarchy does not prevent ordering nations  
124 within the international community. Nations can balance against other nations, or they can form hierarchies and  
125 balance one hierarchy against one or more rival hierarchies (Bordner, 1997).

126 The central affirmation of Waltz theory of international relations is that all states are security seekers. Waltz  
127 has argued that anarchy exists on the international level. Waltz posits that Anarchy exists and calls it structure.  
128 He describes the power on the state level as being distributed hierarchically while in the international community  
129 it is distributed horizontally. Waltz has also stressed that security seeking states are composed of units. He  
130 stresses that States as units are the second dimension of structure (Waltz). As states are security seeking, they  
131 tend to replicate each other on the unit level, thus leading to a balancing behavior. The neorealist affirms that  
132 anarchy is the cause of insecurity and conflict between states. Waltz argues that human society could be organized  
133 on a cooperative basis rather than a competitive basis.

134 The neorealist theory understands power in a variety of ways (militarily, economically, and diplomatically) but  
135 ultimately emphasizes the distribution of coercive material capacity as the determinant of international politics.  
136 In such an anarchic system, State power is the key indeed, the only variable of interest; because only through  
137 power can States defend themselves and hope to survive. Furthermore, neorealists have noted that seeking  
138 hegemony may bring a State into dangerous conflicts with its peers.

139 Instead, defensive Realists emphasize the stability of balance of power systems, where a roughly equal  
140 distribution of power amongst States ensures that none will risk attacking another. 'Polarity' the distribution of  
141 power amongst the Great Power is thus a key concept in Realist theory.

### 142 IV. Critics and Limitations of the Neo-Realism Theory

143 Waltz neorealist theory of international relations has limitations and raises questions. His theory of state  
144 being security seekers without being power maximizer sounds unrealistic. It is not possible that states be security  
145 seeking without being power maximiser. It is a shared belief that states that seek security will be reluctant to  
146 maximize their power for their own survival. Another argument that is unrealistic is Waltz belief that the state  
147 can guarantee its own security and actually not know the true intentions and capabilities of another state.

148 Waltz also believes that states can only have perceptions of another states intentions and capabilities. It  
149 is arguable that state cannot be security seeking and not be a power maximize. The neo-realism theory of  
150 international relations as conceptualized by Waltz can be used to analyze the Israeli-Palestinians conflicts. Before  
151 any attempt to apply this theory to the Israeli-Palestinians conflict it, it is important to situate this conflict in  
152 the context and revisit the background history of the Israeli-Palestinians conflicts.

153 V.

## 154 5 The Neo-Realist and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

155 The neorealist theory can be used to analyze the Israeli-Palestinians conflicts as this conflict pertains to the  
156 international relations. The neorealist core theory affirms that all states are security seeking. The neorealist  
157 is about the security of states, not individuals. States will do everything in their power to protect their own  
158 security. The core of the conflicts between the Israelis and the Palestinians is fundamentally the dispute over  
159 security versus land. The solution over the conflict can only come through an agreement that allow both parties  
160 to exchange security for Israel to land for the Palestinians. According to the neorealist, only states matter, not  
161 individuals. Institutions and states remain, but individual passes.

162 Besides the principal negotiators in the Israeli-Palestinians conflicts, there are a number of shadow negotiators  
163 that are committed to the security of both parties in conflict. Arab states such as Egypt and Iran are committed

## 8 CONSTRUCTIVISM THEORY

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164 to the security of the Palestinians whereas the United States is committed to the security of the Israeli. For  
165 instance, the United States would do anything to ensure that the Israelis are protected from the Hamas terrorist  
166 attacks or the Iranian nuclear weapon. Furthermore, the behavior of the United States in this conflict has been  
167 dictated by its willingness to ensure that the security of Israel is protected, the Palestinians recognized the right  
168 of Israel to exist as a state. One way of ensuring that is to maximize power of Israel by military cooperation and  
169 alliance.

170 The United States by announcing that President Obama trip in the Middle East is not to propose a new  
171 initiative in the peace talk is because President Obama is more concern about Israel security which currently  
172 passes though preventing Iran getting a nuclear weapon. In fact during his visit President Obama said in a  
173 speech in Israel that he was more concern about the Israel security and will do everything in his power to prevent  
174 Iran develop a nuclear weapon. President Obama behaviors underscore his neorealist international relations  
175 policy in the world. In fact, he is neorealist for whom all states are security seekers and only states matter, not  
176 the individuals. At the other hand, according to this theory, the Palestinians also are concerned about their  
177 own security. Palestinians believe with the two states solutions and the exchange of security for land they will  
178 guarantee the security of both parties. The Palestinians will do everything they can, including violence and acts  
179 of violence to pressure Israel to come back to the table of the negotiation for a settlement because it is important  
180 for them to have their own state which put them in security.

## 181 6 VI. The Neorealist Theory: Cooperation and International 182 Organizations

183 According to the neorealist, a state will cooperate if state security is not placed at risk. The look in the Israeli-  
184 Palestinians conflict negotiation shed light on the nature of alliances and corporations between international  
185 organization and institution. For instance, both parties have sought cooperation of the United Nations in search  
186 of their own security.

187 The Palestinians has recently sought the recognition of the United Nations as a non member in order to  
188 maximize it power and pressure the Israelis to come back to the table of the negotiation. The recognition by  
189 an international institution such as the United Nations gives the Palestinians a leverage to pressure the Israeli  
190 to resume the peace talk. Nevertheless in support and commitment to the security of Israel, the United States  
191 publicly opposed the Palestinians move on seeking the recognition while other countries mainly if the Middle  
192 East supported the Palestinians.

193 Both parties seek support of international organizations and states to side with them for their security. Both  
194 parties as security seeking states are concerned about the relative gains made by other states through military  
195 and economic cooperation. For instance, the Israeli will consider the United as a friend but Hamas or the Iranians  
196 as enemies. This situation can be seen in the Israeli-Palestinians peace process over the years. While the United  
197 States government may have had cordial relations with the Israeli, the future direction of the Israeli-Palestinians  
198 peace process remains in question, as does its relations with the United States. Coming to a peaceful agreement  
199 or settlement of two states will contribute to the security and peace of both Israeli and Palestinians and the  
200 security and peace of the Middle East region as well.

## 201 7 VII.

## 202 8 Constructivism Theory

203 Social constructivism is another theory that will be used to analyze the Israeli-Palestinians conflict. Construct-  
204 tivism is often view as the basic theories of international relations. The core idea of the Constructionist theory  
205 lies on the affirmation that most or even all important elements of international politics are the product of specific  
206 social circumstances and historical processes (Bukika, 2010). The concept of constructionism was first employed  
207 by Nicholas Onuf in the international study; however, Alexander Wendt (Social Theory of International Politics)  
208 is the best-known constructivist scholar, emerging during the 1990s as a direct challenge to the ascendancy of  
209 Kenneth Waltz's neorealist during the 1980s (Bukika, 2010).

210 Alexander Wendt, John Ruggie, and Martha Finnemore are among the pioneers of constructionist theory.  
211 According to constructivism human relations are guided more by ideas than by material things. This affirmation  
212 is an opposing view to Waltz neorealist who has argues that state behavior was determined by the international  
213 system in which states existed and operated. Instead, constructivists note that someone (or rather, many people)  
214 must have constructed that system in the first place; in fact, that system is continually being built, modified,  
215 and rebuilt as we speak (Bukika, 2010).

216 Constructivists search for how states perceive of themselves and their actions have changed. Unlike the  
217 neorealist, the constructionist believes that international system does not exist or that smaller states, in particular,  
218 but instead they argue that international society is what human beings make it to be (Bukika, 2010). As a post-  
219 modern theory of international relations, constructionist has emerged as a challenger to the continuing domination  
220 of neorealist and neoliberalist institutionalism (Hoft, 1998).

221 Other major constructivist scholars include John Ruggie and Martha Finnemore (Bukika, 2010). In the  
222 international relations realm, constructionist is an international relations theory who has rationalism as a

223 counterpart. Constructionist argues that power, trade relations, international institutions, or domestic preferences  
224 are important because they have certain social meanings constructed from a complex and specific mix of history,  
225 ideas, norms, and beliefs which scholars must understand if they are to explain State behavior (Wendt 2000).  
226 Constructionist emphasizes on social context in which international relations occur, which leads to emphasis on  
227 issues of identity and belief. Moreover, the perception of friends and enemies, in groups and out groups, fairness  
228 and justice all become the key determinant of a state behavior.

229 Constructivism is also attentive to the role of social norms in international politics. Following March and Olsen  
230 constructivists distinguish between logic of consequences where actions are rationally chosen to maximize the  
231 interests of a State and logic of appropriateness where rationality is heavily mediated by social norms ??Wendt,  
232 2000). In other words, according to this theory, the variable of interests such as a military power, trade relations,  
233 international institutions or domestic preferences are important not because they are objectives facts but rather  
234 because they convey a social meaning; which is constructed by history, ideas, norms, and beliefs which scholars  
235 must understand if they are to explain state behavior ??Wendt, 2000).

236 From the constructionist point of view, the Israeli-Palestinian dispute can be understood primarily a conflict  
237 of social identity and religious belief constructed from a complex and specific mix of history ideas, norms, and  
238 beliefs. Each side reclaiming strongly that the land in dispute has been somehow handed over by a God according  
239 to a made promise made and that the other (side) do not have the right to own a piece of it nor to exist.

240 A close look in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict shows how social identity and religious affiliations play on how  
241 secondary parties align themselves with the primary parties; the Israeli with the Egyptians and the Iranians at  
242 one hand; the Israeli with the Americans in the other. Parties are bound and formed according to the religious  
243 identity and the beliefs of the parties. It is important to reflect on how according to the constructionist theory  
244 social identity and religious belief of both side have been formed throughout history.

245 According to constructionist theory, It is fundamentally the constructed social identity and religious beliefs of  
246 each side that should be considered as drivers of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These two constructs determine or  
247 dictate the social context in which international relations occur and mold the perception of friends and enemies,  
248 in-groups and outgroups, fairness and justice between states involved in the conflict. Based on the socially  
249 constructed Identity and belief, the Israelis would perceive the Americans as friends and the Iranians as enemies  
250 whereas the Palestinians would perceive the Iranians as friends and the United States as enemies.

## 251 **9 VIII. Critics and Limitations of the Constructionist Theory**

252 Constructionist has often being criticized of obfuscation and incoherence, ignoring the reality on the ground  
253 in favor of increasingly cluttered academic theorizing. In addition, its actual alternative conception lacks  
254 ethical consideration or moral validity of actual alternative conceptions of international systems (Bukika, 2010).  
255 Although constructivism affirms that present social structures are socially constructed; it does not suggest what  
256 social constructions are preferable to others, nor does it suggest, except in vague terms, how one might consciously  
257 alter the continuing evolution of state identity and interest in the international system (Bukika, 2010).

## 258 **10 IX.**

## 259 **11 Relative Deprivation**

260 This study will employ relative deprivation as third theory in the analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.  
261 Relative deprivation is a contemporary conflict theory rooted in the Marxian perspective. This theory was  
262 first coined by Sam Stouffer and his associates in their wartime study The American Soldier ??1949). It is  
263 W G Runciman who in 1996 rigorously formulated relative deprivation as social theory. In the 1980s, relative  
264 deprivation was employed in criminology by theorists such as S Stack, John Braithwaite and particularly the left  
265 realists for whom it is a key concept.

266 Relative deprivation (Cliffsnotes.com) refers to the negative perception that differences exist between wants  
267 and actualities. In other words, people may not actually be deprived when they believe they are. A relatively  
268 deprived group is disgruntled because they feel less entitled or privileged than a particular reference group. For  
269 example, in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Palestinians may feel relatively deprived when they compare their  
270 political, economic and social situation to that of their counterpart Israelis.

271 The analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through relative deprivation theory pin points this dispute as a  
272 social discontent that has been translated into social movement. The Palestinians feel that they deserve, or have  
273 a right to the same land, opportunity, power and status than the Israelis. They have become the dissatisfied  
274 group and have concluded conclude that they cannot attain their goals via conventional methods, whether or not  
275 this is the case. That is why the Palestinians have organize themselves into a social movement such as Hamas  
276 and seek the help of others like the Hezbollah, Muslim brotherhood, the Iranians because they feel that collective  
277 action will help their pursuit of reclaiming the right to a land and a state.

278 The relative-deprivation theory takes criticism from a couple of different angles. From the sociologists stand  
279 point, feelings of deprivation do not necessarily prompt people into action. Nor must people feel deprived before  
280 acting. A second critic stresses that relative deprivation has not been able to address why perceptions of personal  
281 or group deprivation cause some people to reform society, and why other perceptions do not (Cliffsnotes.com).

## 17 BACK GROUND OF THE PHENOMENOLOGICAL METHOD OF INQUIRY

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282 The rise of crime in most of the industrial societies has attracted theories, and was used as an explanatory  
283 variable in the post-war period. According to Burr, relative deprivation occurs where individuals or groups  
284 subjectively perceive themselves as unfairly disadvantaged over others perceived as having similar attributes  
285 and deserving similar rewards (their reference groups). This theory contrasts with absolute deprivation, where  
286 biological health is impaired or where relative levels of wealth are compared based on objective differences.  
287 The theory of relative deprivation is more concerned with subjective experiences of deprivation. It argues that  
288 deprivation is more likely when the differences between two groups' narrows so that comparisons can be easily  
289 made than where there are caste-like differences.

290 The theory of relative deprivation can be used to explain the disputes between the Israelis and Palestinians  
291 over land upon which they dare to build their own state different of that of the Israeli. The Palestinians perceive  
292 themselves as entitled to the land in dispute and thinks that they have the same rights as the Israelis. They also  
293 feel that they have been disadvantaged and prevented what they are entitled to compare to their counterpart, the  
294 Israeli. Furthermore, based on the relative deprivation theory, this conflict can be perceived as a dispute between  
295 two groups of which one (the Palestinians) subjectively perceive themselves as unfairly disadvantaged over others  
296 (the Israelis). The Palestinians perceive themselves as having similar attributes and deserving similar rewards  
297 than the Israelis.

298 The usual distinction made is that religious fervor or demand for political change is a collective response to  
299 relative deprivation whereas crime is an individualistic response. The connection is, therefore, largely under-  
300 theorized -a reflection of the separate development of the concept within the seemingly discrete disciplines of  
301 sociology of religion, political sociology and criminology(Cliffsnotes.com).

### 302 12 X.

### 303 13 Research Method

304 In order to research the Israeli-Palestinian conflicts as stated above, the phenomenological research method will  
305 be used. Using the phenomenological method of inquiry I will research the lived experience of the Israeli and  
306 Palestinians who are survivors of the conflicts and who live in Israel and Palestine. This study will employ  
307 qualitative method of inquiry involving phenomenological research. The phenomenological method will locate  
308 the essence of the lived experience of the Palestinians and will describe the meaning of that experience. The  
309 expectation will be to create a discourse that would lead to empathize with the participants in the research. This  
310 discourse will be essentially about making sense of the Palestinians lived experience of "insecurity" and of being  
311 "Stateless" or "Homeless". In other words, what it means for the Palestinians to live without their own land/  
312 state? Or, what it means for the Palestinians to live in a conflict without knowing that there is a peace prospect  
313 initiative that might lead to a settlement? It is impossible to be a human being, and not empathize with the  
314 survival participants. The question asked during the research would lead participants to express their feelings.

### 315 14 XI.

### 316 15 Understanding of the Phenomenological Method of Inquiry

317 There are three elements that define phenomenological method of inquiry that the research will have to consider  
318 when conducting this research method. The first is the social study of the lived experience of a person. In  
319 employing phenomenological method of inquiry, the phenomenological researcher has to recognize that the  
320 researcher is engaging the Palestinians to relive their experience of being stateless and homeless which becomes a  
321 conscious process. The second element is the conscious experience. It is critical to recognize that in answering the  
322 researcher's questions, the Palestinians, participants in the research are re-living this experience. The researcher  
323 must be careful to recognize that it is a conscious process because the researcher has to take into consideration  
324 the fact that he is putting the participant back in time and therefore the researcher should be careful in doing  
325 so. This can draw dangerous emotion. The third element is the development of interpretation of the essence  
326 of the experience. The researcher needs to recognize that there is an experience, and that experience has many  
327 interpretations. The example of the Palestinians re-living their experience of insecurity, living in a land without  
328 owning it or the experience of losing of social identity for the first time can underscore the development of  
329 interpretation. The more research has people, and because of the spectrum the population, the researcher will  
330 have a lot of interpretation for this case.

### 331 16 XII.

### 332 17 Back Ground of the Phenomenological Method of Inquiry

333 The Encyclopedia of Phenomenology(2008) shows, that Husserl's work was followed by a variety of traditional  
334 phenomenological writings. The found articles indicate some seven types of phenomenology. (Kluwer Academic  
335 Publishers, 1997). The diversity of traditional phenomenology found in separate First the transcendental  
336 constitutive phenomenology which studies how objects are constituted in pure or transcendental consciousness,  
337 setting aside questions of any relation to the natural world around us. Second the naturalistic constitutive  
338 phenomenology; which studies how consciousness constitutes or takes things in the world of nature, assuming

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339 with the natural attitude that consciousness is part of nature. Third the existential phenomenology; which  
340 studies concrete human existence such as the experience of free choice or action in concrete situations. Fourth, the  
341 generative historicist phenomenology; which studies how meaning, as it is found in our experience, is generated in  
342 historical processes of collective experience over time(Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2008).Fifth, Genetic  
343 phenomenology studies the genesis of meanings of things within one's own stream of experience. Sixth the  
344 hermeneutical phenomenology studies interpretive structures of experience, how we understand and engage things  
345 around us in our human world, including ourselves and others. Seventh the Realistic phenomenology studies  
346 the structure of consciousness and intentionality, assuming it occurs in a real world that is largely external to  
347 consciousness and not somehow brought into being by consciousness (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, 2008).

348 Although there is diversity of phenomenological method of inquiry, researchers agree on some basic guidelines.  
349 They have indicate that the approach to a phenomenological method design should be flexible and adapted  
350 to suit the phenomena under investigation (Crotty, 1996;Crotty, 1998;Giorgi, 1994;Giorgi, 1997;Pollio, Henley  
351 &Thompson, 1997; ??alle, 1998; ??alle & King, 1978; ??anManen, 1990).

352 This study will concentrate on hermeneutical phenomenology and transcendental constitutive phenomenology  
353 as types of phenomenological inquiry to explicate the phenomenon under investigation (Holroyd, 2001). For the  
354 purpose of this study, hermeneutical phenomenology will focus on locating the lived experience of the Palestinians.  
355 Moreover, hermeneutical phenomenology is a revisiting of a phenomenal; it is a perpetual self reflective process.  
356 In giving an account of what has happened, the researcher is not giving the account of the event looking into  
357 the participant life; an event of the participant past in reinterpreting this account of what happened in the  
358 past (Holroyd, 2001). For instance, with hermeneutic phenomenology, the researcher revisits the account of the  
359 Palestinians story; the researcher will look at the event in a new eye. When conducting hermeneutic research in  
360 the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the following question may be asked: what was it in your experience  
361 of being stateless or landless that has changed your life? There is the significance of the event, the interpretation  
362 of the same phenomena. With the question, what is that something has changed, the researcher will look the  
363 significance and the interpretation of the significance of that event. It is the reinterpretation of the phenomenon  
364 which is in this case of the experience of the Palestinians living in a land that they cannot own. This study will  
365 use the transcendental constitutive phenomenology because it will explicate the essence of the lived experience  
366 of the Palestinians in a way that this very experience is constituted in pure or transcendental consciousness.  
367 With transcendental constitutive phenomenology, everything is perceived as it was a novel. The researcher is  
368 required to remove his bias and hear the account as if it was a novel, the first time. The objective is to have a  
369 discriminating account of the event. The focus shifts from researcher interpretation to participant description of  
370 their lived experience. The participants describe the situation and the researcher validates, and does not attempt  
371 to interpret what the participant is saying, rather the researcher just documents the description of the event and  
372 validates it.

## 373 **18 XIII. Outlines of Phenomenological Method of Inquiry**

374 Phenomenological research attempts to locate the meaning structures developed through the experience of the  
375 participants in the study. The following model will be employed in this study as an adaption of Schweitzer (1998)  
376 from Giorgi (1997) and will summarize the methodological approach to be used.

## 377 **19 Stage 1: Holistic Understanding of the Data**

378 This stage requires reading data, repeatedly if necessary, in order to achieve a holistic and intuitive understanding  
379 of the phenomena under investigation. In this stage, the researcher needs to bracket all preconceptions and  
380 judgments (Holroyd, 2001). This process helps the researcher contextualize his bias and be objective. For  
381 instance, in conducting a research related to the Palestinians experience of the conflict or being stateless, if  
382 the researcher is an Arab, he may have a bias. From the beginning, bracketing would help the research to  
383 contextualize the researcher's bias. He or she may say I'm an Arab, I'm giving a recount of this event, and I'm  
384 trying to be objective, but to let you know I'm a Arab and because of this it may influence my interpretation  
385 and the reader would read with the researcher bracket. He has to let the readers know that because of personal  
386 experience, research could potentially be influenced by the researcher experience and the reader would read with  
387 the researcher bracket and check his/her objectivity.

## 388 **20 a) Natural Meaning Units (NMUs)**

389 NMUs are self-definable, discrete segments of expression of individual aspects of the lived experience of the  
390 participantsin the research.

## 391 **21 b) Central Themes**

392 Central Themes reduce the NMUs to recognizable sentences conveying a discrete expression of experience.

### 393 22 c) Constituent Profile

394 The reconstitution of Central Themes that provides a non-repetitive list of descriptive meaningstatements for  
395 each participant is termed the Constituent Profile.

### 396 23 Stage 3: Forming a Thematic Index

397 Constituent Profiles from each participant will be used as a basis to construct a Thematic Index, which  
398 willhighlight major themes that will emerge.

### 399 24 a) Delineating Constituent Profiles

400 As with Central Themes, Constituent Profiles will be reconstituted to remove any repeated or non-relevant  
401 statements.

### 402 25 b) Extracting Referents

403 Referents will be defined as specific words that highlight the meaning of the experience being researched.  
404 Constituent Profiles will be searched for Referents, which will be extracted and listed separately.

### 405 26 c) Thematic Index

406 The Thematic Index to be used in this research will establish a non-repetitive, sequenced list of meaning  
407 statements and Referents will be used to search for interpretive themes. The Thematic Index contains the  
408 Constituent Profiles, statements attributed to singular meanings of experience. During this step the data will be  
409 examined collectively.

### 410 27 Stage 4: Searching the Thematic Index

411 This step will enable the comparison of Referents, Central Themes and Constituent Profiles to form a set of  
412 Interpretive Themes. It is crucial to note that the focus is on the explication of data that reports the meaning  
413 of the lived experience of the participants in the study.

### 414 28 Stage 5: Arriving at an Extended Description

415 Interpretive Themes will be used to rigorously locate the meaning attributed to the lived experience of the  
416 participants in the research.

### 417 29 Stage 6: Synthesis of Extended Descriptions

418 This step will summarize the Interpretive Themes to produce an in-depth picture of the participants' lived  
419 experience (Sherwood & Silver, 1999, pp. 10-13).

### 420 30 Sampling Population

421 There will be four male participants in this research, aged between 40 and 50. Two of the participants would be  
422 members of the Fatah party will be member of the Hamas group. Two of the participants have were involved in  
423 the road map peace plan in 2003; and the two others did not and have no intention of participating in the near  
424 future. The four participants in the research will be interviewed individually after president Obama's visit in the  
425 Middle East. The aim of this study is not be to generalize findings to a population but rather to obtain insights  
426 into a phenomenon, individuals, or events; therefore, this study will purposely select individuals, groups that  
427 increase understanding of phenomena (Onwuegbuzie & al., 2007). The choice of sample size is very important  
428 consideration because it determines the extent to which the researcher will make generalizations. The selected  
429 sample size of four participants will enable the researcher to extract thick, rich data (Onwuegbuzie & al., 2007).

### 430 31 Data Collection and Analysis

431 Data will be collected through interviews, questionnaires and journaling. Participants in the research may be  
432 asked to fill out a questionnaire. Participants will be interviewed regarding their experience of 'being-'stateless"  
433 and "homeless" or their experience of living in a land they do not own. These interviews will be audio taped. The  
434 interviews will be conducted separately, and will be unstructured and will proceed with the research question.  
435 Individual subjects who will participate in the study will sign an informed consent. A telephone number for the  
436 researcher will be provided in case additional information is desired by the participants .The informed consent  
437 will clearly state that participation in the study is strictly voluntary and that participants could withdraw at any  
438 time during the process.

439 In analyzing data, the researcher will first use horizontalization, which will allow the understanding of  
440 participants' experience. The researcher will also use cluster of meaning. This technique will enable the researcher  
441 to separate textual response to structural response. In separating, the researcher will create themes in the  
442 experience of the participants. Second, the researcher will also use textual and structural descriptions. Both

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443 textual and structural description are schematized to give me a better understanding of the phenomenon, based on  
444 these responses the researcher is going to unified the structural and the textural account for better understanding  
445 of the phenomenon. Third, the researcher will use presentation of the Invariant Structure; a combination of  
446 unified textural and structural descriptions ??Campbell, 2011). In unifying all the variation in textual and  
447 structural, it becomes an understanding of the phenomenon. That all the research is about, to find a unify theme  
448 for the research. It gives a more precise account of the experience; it allows a new load of an inquiry, and shows  
449 what it describes and what it does not describes. It is important to recognize that the most important thing is  
450 not to force a research model onto the researcher interest but what it is that the researcher finds interesting; the  
451 story he or she wants to tell and present to the readers (Campbell, 2011).

## 452 **32 Research question**

453 What is the experience of being stateless or homeless? This question will facilitate a free dialogic flow between  
454 research and the participants, which allowed other open-ended questions to be asked during the interview based  
455 on the emergent data. The point of this research will be to locate the (cognitive) essence of the phenomenological  
456 experience of living in a land the participant do not own. In addition, this research also will locate the emotional,  
457 visual lived experience of the participants.

458 There will be two types of questions, a general question and an interview question which should reinforce the  
459 research question. For instance recount about how it feels when President Obama declare that he is not coming  
460 to resume a new initiative for the peace process between the Israeli and the Palestinians? When asking these  
461 questions, the researcher will always empathize with the participants.

462 The first question: What is the participant experience in term of the phenomenon? The researcher will be  
463 asking participants about their experience. The participants will reflect back and give the researcher an account  
464 of their experience. For instance, a participant tells the researcher an account of this experience. It is in this  
465 point that the researcher can decide to select either a hermeneutic description and interpret the experience and  
466 convey the interpretation back to the participant and the researcher would validate or invalidate. The researcher  
467 will always make sense of the experience. The second question would be a causal question, how it feels to be  
468 foundin this situation. The researcher will want to have a causal relationship between the participants and what  
469 led to the event. There may be a textual question, how in analyzing the experience the researcher finds him self  
470 or herself? Questions should draw in common themes. It should pertain either from the experience. The more  
471 the themes of the question relate to the phenomena, the response to the question should point back to the greater  
472 understanding of the phenomena. The whole point is to engage the participants to have a better understanding  
473 of the phenomenon. Question should also urge participants to identify the effect the phenomenon has in their  
474 life. How these experiences affect their lives? The entire question should pertain to the understanding of the  
475 phenomenon.

## 476 **33 XIV. Negotiation as Practice Application to the Israeli-Palestinians Conflict**

477 There are many practice applications and approaches that can address the Israeli-Palestinians conflict. Nevertheless,  
478 based on the analysis of this conflict identified as international conflict, negotiation has been chosen as the  
479 best practice application that can address the Israeli-Palestinians. As the Israeli-Palestinians conflict pertains  
480 to the international type of conflict, negotiation practice can help the parties reach a settlement or agreement  
481 (Lewicki, 2011;Brodow, 2006). In addition, similar forms of negotiation have been used in similar international  
482 conflict situations and have produced good results.

483 There are several negotiation approaches that are employed in the field of negotiation. This study will employ  
484 integrative negotiation (win-win approach)as practice application to resolve the Israeli-Palestinians because  
485 integrative negotiation involves looking for resolutions that allow both sides to gain. Integrative negotiation  
486 allows negotiators to work together towards finding solution to their differences that result in both sides being  
487 satisfied (Lewicki, 2011).

488 The integrative approach to negotiation can be of great benefit in resolving any differences that arise between  
489 people or parties in an international basis. Unlike the distributive negotiation model, the integrative approach  
490 is known as power with, collaborative and winwin (Lewicki, 2011). It creates a free flow of information in order  
491 to understand the other negotiator's real needs and objectives. Fourth, it emphasizes the commonalties between  
492 the parties and minimizes the differences. It searches for solutions that meet the goals and objectives of both  
493 sides. There are key points for a successful integrative negotiation outcome. They include a focus on maintaining  
494 the relationship -'separate the people from the problem'focus on interests not positions, generate a variety of  
495 options that offer gains to both parties before deciding what to do, aim for the result to be based on an objective  
496 standard (Lewicki, 2011). In addition, there are also factors that facilitate successful integrative negotiation.  
497 Such factors are common objective or goal, faith in one's own problem-solving ability; beliefs in the validity of  
498 one's own position and the other's perspective, the motivation and commitment to work together, trust, clear and  
499 accurate communication, an understanding of the dynamics of integrative negotiation (Lewicki 2011). During  
500 the negotiation, the Israeli and the Palestinians as primary negotiators may use secondary negotiators or shadow  
501 negotiators such as the United States and Egypt. The United States and Egypt may also be used as third parties  
502

## 35 FAILURE TO AGREE

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503 in the negotiation. The aims of these negotiations will be to resume the peace process that has stalled and possible  
504 negotiate an agreement on the exchange security for the Israeli in exchange for Peace understanding perception,  
505 cognition and emotion are critical for a successful negotiation. Humans are both cognitive and emotional animals  
506 and emotions affect other faculties especially in conflict. Negotiator should also pay attention to the factors  
507 that may influence the perception of each other. These factors are Predisposition [the baggage we bring]. Many  
508 perceptual errors, stereotyping -group attribution, halo effectextrapolation from one factor, selective perception  
509 (and memory), projection (of self image, thoughts etc, verbal and non-verbal), attribution and attribution error  
510 (Lewicki, 2011; Brodow, 2006).

511 Negotiation as application practice through the interactions of the parties will help change the perception  
512 that each party hold. This important process of the negotiation is framing; which is a thought organization of  
513 perceptions into the meaning, and action because same incident can be understood differently by different people  
514 (Lewicki, 2011). Framing can also be defined as a human formulation. It can change the process of negotiation.  
515 XV.

## 516 34 Stage of Integrative Negotiation

517 In the context of this international conflict, it will be critical to follow a structured approach to integrative  
518 negotiation stages in order to achieve a desirable outcome. For instance, in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict situation  
519 a pre-meeting may need to be arranged in which the primary negotiators such as the Israeli and the Palestinians  
520 and the secondary negotiators such as the Egyptians and the United States and third parties such as the French  
521 and the English) involved can come together. The process of negotiation will include the following steps:

522 Negotiators need a good and serious preparation before entering the negotiation. A decision needs to be taken  
523 as to when and where a meeting will take place to discuss the problem and who will attend (Skills You Need,  
524 2012). A limited timescale will be set in order to prevent a continuing disagreement. In this stage, a third party  
525 such as the French or the English involve in the negotiation may ensure that pertinent facts of the situation are  
526 known in order to clarify the parties' position. In the Israeli-Palestinians conflict situation case for instance, this  
527 would include knowing the "culture" of the Middle East which may have "rules", or "laws" to which you can  
528 refer in preparation for the negotiation (Skills You Need, 2012). At this stage, the Palestinians and the Israeli  
529 will make their case as they see it. They will discuss their perception of the conflicts. At this stage, the French  
530 and the English as third parties will use questioning, listening and clarifying. The neutral third party may take  
531 note forward in case there is a need for further clarification. It is critical to listen, as when disagreement takes  
532 place it is easy to make the mistake of saying too much and listening too little. The third parties will ensure that  
533 each side be given an equal opportunity to present their side of the story. This is an important step during the  
534 negotiation process. The third parties such as the French and the English will ensure that from the discussion, the  
535 goals, interests and viewpoints of both the Israeli and the Palestinians of the disagreement need to be clarified.  
536 It will be important to remember list these in order of priority. At this stage, one thing to work on is to identify  
537 or establish common grounds.

538 The integrative approach will focus on the winwin outcome through which the Israeli and the Palestinians  
539 will reach an agreement of two states solution. Both parties will ensure that the security of Israeli is guaranteed,  
540 and the Palestinians have the rights to own a land upon which they will build the State of Palestine. Through a  
541 win-win solution, both parties should feel they have gained something positive and also that their point of view  
542 has been considered.

543 The win-win solution will be the best solution when dealing with this international conflict type. This will be  
544 an ultimate goal that needs to be a pursuit. A win-win solution will be the best outcome of the negotiation (Skills  
545 You Need, 2012). However it may not always be possible but through negotiation it should be the ultimate goal.  
546 In addition, suggestions of alternative strategies and compromises may also be considered at this stage.

547 The third party will ensure that understanding of both parties' points of view and interests are considered  
548 before reaching any agreement. It will be therefore critical, for parties and the third party as well to keep an open  
549 mind in order to achieve a solution. Whenever an agreement is about to be achieved it will also be important  
550 to be transparent, and understand what has been decided. After the agreement, a course of action has to be  
551 implemented, and carry through the decision.

## 552 35 Failure to Agree

553 If the process of negotiation breaks down and agreement cannot be reached, it will be necessary to call for  
554 a further meeting. This provision has the benefit of preventing the parties becoming embroiled in a heated  
555 discussion or argument, which not only wastes valuable time but can also damage future working relationships.  
556 At the subsequent meeting, the stages of negotiation should be repeated. Any new ideas or interests should  
557 be taken into account, and the situation looked at fresh ??SkillsYouNeed, 2012). At this stage, it may also be  
558 helpful to look at other alternative solutions, and bring in another person to mediate.

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559 **36 XVI.**

560 **37 Conclusion**

561 This study discussed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as a type of an international conflict. This paper employed  
562 three international relations theories to analyze the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The three theories used were the  
563 neorealist, constructionist and relative deprivation. This study discussed the conceptual frame of each theory, its  
564 major thinkers, as well as its strengths and weaknesses.

565 This study employed phenomenological method to research the Israeli-Palestinian conflict because phenomenol-  
566 ogy is a valuable qualitative to studying human experience. This study argued that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict  
567 is considered to be one of the drivers of the security threat and the rise of terrorism in the Middle East and the  
568 world. This research stressed that the study of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is important because it shed light  
569 on the differing views on security, cultural identity and religious beliefs of the parties.

570 This study will employ integrative negotiation also know as win-win negotiation as practice application that  
571 best addresses the Israeli-Palestinians conflict. The following key words of pertained to this study: neorealist  
572 theory, social constructionist theory, relative deprivation, phenomenological research, international relations,  
integrative negotiation, win-win negotiation.



Figure 1:



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