Israeli Petition on EU Labeling of Settlement Products by "Indication of Origin" Contributes Significantly to the Future of Israel and to Peace

We, Israelis who care deeply about the future of our country, now more than ever, welcome the European Union's decision to label products from Israeli settlements with correct indication of origin, and hope that other countries will follow suit.

The international community distinguishing between Israel and the settlements is a step that could help promote a peace agreement, and it will also strengthen Israel's overall status in the world and will undermine attempts to delegitimize Israel. This kind of distinction can also serve to reduce the current levels of tension, fear and despair, among both Israelis and Palestinians.

This is an important first step.

We call upon the EU and other world governments to take further steps in this direction, in order to differentiate between Israel within the 1967 borders and the occupied territories. Millions of Israelis and Palestinians may now hope for a better future if the International community continues to be involved, helping both sides to achieve a fair two-state solution, which will make possible the existence of both nations, the Israeli and the Palestinian, side by side, in peace and security.

Among the over 550 signatories, are the following notable individuals:

Alex Levac Israel Prize in photography

Alon Liel Former Director General of the Israeli MFA & former Ambassador to S.

Africa and Zimbabwe

Avishai Margalit Israel Prize in philosophy

Avraham Burg Former Speaker of the Knesset and Chairman of The Jewish Agency

Baruch Minke Prince of Asturias Prize for Science and EMET Prize

Dani Karavan Israel Prize in sculpture
Daniel Kahneman Nobel Prize in economics

David Harel Israel Prize in computer science, EMET Prize, and Vice President of the

Israeli Academy of Sciences and Humanities

David Shulman EMET Prize & Rothschild Prize
David Tartakover Israel Prize in art design

Elie Barnavi Former Israeli Ambassador to France

Ilan Baruch Former Ambassador to S. Africa & Zimbabwe

Immanuel EtkesBialik Prize in Jewish studiesMichael BenyairFormer Attorney-GeneralMichal Ne'emanIsrael Prize in plastic artsMiki KratsmanEMET Prize in photography

Mossi Raz Former MK (Meretz) & General Secretary of Meretz

Naomi Chazan Former MK (Meretz), and former President of the New Israel Fund

Nurit Peled Elhanan Sakharov Prize

Ram Loevy Israel Prize in communications

Ruth Berman Israel Prize & EMET Prize in linguistics
Shimon Sandbank Israel Prize in poetry translation

Tzali Reshef Former MK (Labor)
Uri Segal Orchestra conductor

Yael Dayan Former MK (Labor) & former Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv Yair Tzaban Former MK (Meretz) & former Minister of Absorption

Yehoshua Kolodny Israel Prize in earth sciences
Jona Rosenfeld Israel Prize in social work

Yoram Bilu Israel Prize in sociology & anthropology
Yossi Sarid Former Minister of education & MK (Meretz)

Zeev Sternhell Israel Prize in political science