

Sponsored parliamentary trips to Israel

Australian Federal parliamentarians continually take more lobby trips to Israel than any other country

Overview

From June 2018-April 2022, Israel was the top destination for Australian federal parliamentarians taking privately sponsored parliamentary trips, with the next most popular destinations being Taiwan and the USA. The total number of non-Australian Government sponsored trips to all countries in this period was 139, so Israel comprised 18% of all trips.



Important Facts

1.

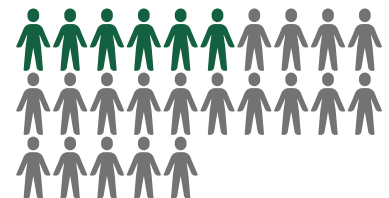
Coalition parliamentarians were almost twice as likely than Labor parliamentarians to take sponsored trips to Israel. Roughly an equal number of Coalition and Labor parliamentarians took sponsored trips to other countries in the same period.



Coalition-15
ALP-8
Crossbench-2

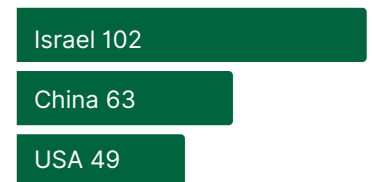
2.

Just six federal politicians visited Palestine (as well as Israel) in the same period (Coalition-2; ALP-3; Crossbench-1).



3.

This report mirrors the 2010-2018 period, where Israel was the top destination for sponsored trips for Australian federal parliamentarians, almost double the next-ranking countries of China, and the USA.



Who is sponsoring

Since 2010, the Australia/Israel & Jewish Affairs Council (AIJAC) has been the largest sponsor of trips to Israel. From June 2018, they sponsored 11 trips to Israel (44/102 trips in the 2010-2018 period).

The Taiwanese Government and Save the Children are the only groups that sponsored more trips than AIJAC during the 2018-2022 period.

Data was gathered from the federal parliamentary Registers of Interests for both the House of Representatives and the Senate, supplemented with information from a parliamentary speech regarding a trip to the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and a report from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute