



**The Mossawa Center:  
The Advocacy Center for the Arab  
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**Mossawa Center delegation arrives in the US  
to advocate for the rights of Palestinian Arab Citizens of Israel**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Mossawa Center, the Advocacy Center for Arab Citizens in Israel, has sent a delegation to the US on an advocacy tour, and will be in Washington the week of April 19. Mossawa Center works to promote the rights of Palestinian, Arab citizens in Israel through activities in community development, legal advocacy, socio-economic development, international advocacy, and media outreach. Mossawa works to build and develop institutions of civil society within the Palestinian, Arab community, as well as initiates broad coalitions for working on common thematic problems such as fighting racism, advancing social economic justice, and promoting legal protection of civil and minority rights.

Commenting on the timing of the tour, Mossawa's director, Jafar Farah, stated, "The new US administration offers openings in efforts towards peace and recognition of the role and rights of Palestinian Arab citizens in Israel. The directions of the new government in Israel require that such efforts must no longer be delayed." In addition to exploring roles that Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel can play in the peace process, Mossawa's delegation will call on the new US administration and Congress to follow with concern the efforts of extreme right wing players in Israel's new government to complicate the Middle East conflict by fueling a civil conflict.

For several years, Mossawa has been involved in sustained advocacy in Israel and the European Union, however the time has come for Mossawa to also reach out to the US. On its advocacy tour, Mossawa's delegation will meet with members of Congress, the new Administration and civic organizations involved in Arab, Jewish, and human rights issues, think tanks, and foundations. Mossawa's delegation will also be speaking at a number of public events (schedule available at [mossawa.org](http://mossawa.org)).

On its tour Mossawa wishes to convey the message that Palestinian Arab citizens must be considered as a factor in the wider Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Legislation, diplomacy, foreign aid, and other US activities in relation to Israel must take into account the role and effect on Palestinian Arab citizens. Mossawa wishes to also increase general awareness about this community, its history, current circumstances and role in society.

Furthermore, as a community very much caught in the crossroads of the conflict, Palestinian Arab citizens have a unique ability to understand and communicate with both sides and can play a constructive role in the peace process.

Mossawa's delegation includes Jafar Farah, Mossawa's director and two board members, Dr. Khaled Furani, Anthropologist at Tel Aviv University, and Dr. Mary Totry, Political Scientist at Oranim College.

Jafar Farah is available for comment and interview.

Public events published at [mossawa.org](http://mossawa.org)

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