



**“The best way to end a war is to prevent it from happening in the first place.
We must use more firm diplomacy to make this happen. ”**

-Jessica Liebau

Jessica envisions a stronger and more diplomatic America in the international community through the use of diplomacy and firm sanctions. She will also support ending Middle Eastern conflicts through proper tactics and win the war on terror once and for all, ensuring a safer America and a safer world.

Decrease US Involvement in Foreign Conflict and Increase Diplomacy

The United States has been too heavily involved in the conflicts of other countries, especially in the Middle East in recent years. This decade has been plagued by wars in Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Iran, and many of these countries have been left worse than they were before, struggling not only with civil war but fighting ISIS as well. Libya, four years after the US-led deposition of Gaddafi, is now a torn nation and an ISIS stronghold. In the pursuit of spreading freedom from tyranny to the people of the world, we must start turning towards negotiations and international sanctions if we are to avoid further conflict and divide in the countries we are trying to help.

Confront ISIS and Terrorism

ISIS remains an immediate threat to international safety as long as it is present. We must continue our war against terror, and can only do so with a two pronged attack through diplomacy and strategic military offensives. On the diplomatic front, we must respect that ISIS strongholds are currently within foreign borders, and we must work together with Syrian and Iraqi governments for maximum efficiency on the ground and protection of civilians. Meanwhile, we will intensify drone airstrikes on confirmed terrorist hotspots, while doing our best to minimize civilian impact. On the cyber battleground, we will intensify our attacks on jihadist networks and strengthen our online defenses from attack. These steps will ensure that we cripple the ISIS offensive while maintaining civilian support, taking away yet another resource that terrorism networks will be unable to use to advance their agenda.

Israel-Palestine Conflict

Israel is one of our nation's closest allies, and because of that relationship we are obligated to their aid and ensuring their safety. However, we must also recognize that the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict must come to a resolution that is fair for both the Palestinian and Israeli people, and that our support for one cause cannot undermine our desire for minimal involvement in coming up with a resolution. We will pledge support to ending the conflict through indirect negotiations between the two parties, and work with the Palestinians to improve their standard of living in their borders. We will support ending the occupation on Palestinian territory, establish mutually agreed-upon borders, and advocate against the Israeli seizure of the 579 acres along the west bank. Through diplomacy, we know that we can work out an agreement in which both parties are satisfied about.

Russia

Russia is one of the most powerful countries on the other side of the world, with significant influence in the international community that we cannot ignore. Although many of our policies do not align with that of our Eastern Hemisphere counterpart, we can at least set solid foundations for cooperation that will serve us well in the future. This does not mean letting down our guard. This means setting firm regulations, such as Russian influence in the Ukrainian civil war, with severe sanctions should those regulations be violated. We will demand the pacification of Russian aggression in Middle Eastern affairs such as Ukraine and Syria, while withdrawing some of the forces currently stationed in Poland. We must respect Russia as an equal power if they are to respect us the same way. However, this also means a full investigation and proper retaliation to the interference of Russia in our most recent presidential election, one that cannot be ignored nor forgiven. Once an understanding is established, we can then proceed to advance our own agenda with the full confidence of Russia's cooperation.