

Kamala Harris



“On Day One, I would make it very clear that I value the importance of diplomacy. I value relationships. And that doesn’t take any strength from us, any power from us—it gives us power.” — Senator Kamala Harris

At a Glance

Kamala Harris, born in Oakland, California, has a long history as a prosecutor. She began her law enforcement career as a deputy district attorney for Alameda County before being elected District Attorney of San Francisco, and eventually Attorney General of California. Following the retirement of Senator Barbara Boxer, Harris ran for the U.S. Senate, defeating congresswoman Loretta Sanchez to become the third female Senator from California. You can find her thoughts, comments, and plans on issues of war and peace below.

Ending Endless Wars

- Harris cosponsored and voted for [S.J.Res. 7](#), legislation directing the president to withdraw U.S. military support for the war in Yemen, stating on Twitter, “What’s happening in Yemen is devastating. Thousands of children have died and last year alone, the war killed on average 100 civilians a week. Enough is enough. I voted YES today on a resolution to end the United States’ support for the Saudi-led coalition’s war in Yemen.”
 - She has consistently voted to block arms sales to Saudi Arabia since the start of its brutal intervention in Yemen.
 - She [has said](#) that she would remove most U.S. troops from Afghanistan, but maintains the need for a continued U.S. military presence in order to support the Afghani government.
-

Nuclear Weapons

- Harris voted against the 2018 defense budget, and explained her vote by stating, “I cannot support the Administration’s request for new, unchecked powers to develop and administer a low-yield nuclear weapons program. The development of these weapons will make us less safe by increasing the likelihood of a nuclear escalation.”
 - When pressed at a July event about no first use, she [instead discussed](#) Trump’s failures in regards to Iran and North Korea.
-

Iran

- While Harris has said she [would rejoin](#) the Iran Nuclear Deal if elected, she has also made [statements](#) about expanding it in order to cover testing of ballistic missiles, which would in fact mean working out a different agreement.
-

Pentagon Spending & Diplomatic Funding

- During her time in the Senate, Harris has typically [voted against](#) defense spending bills.
-

Korean Peninsula

- In 2018, Harris signed a letter to President Trump that stated he did not have the authority to preemptively strike North Korea without congressional approval.
 - Despite [consistently critiquing](#) the Trump administration’s approach to North Korea, she has failed to articulate an alternative vision for a peace process.
-

Israel/Palestine

- Harris has been a vocal supporter of Israel, stating, “as long as I’m a United States senator, I will do everything in my power to ensure broad and bipartisan support for Israel’s security and right to self-defense.”
- She opposes the Boycott, Divestment and Sanction movement (BDS) but voted against The Strengthening America’s Security in the Middle East Act. The act provided legal justifications for targeting the BDS movement. Harris opposed the act not because she supported BDS, but because of the First Amendment issues presented by the act.