Pragmatic Solutions: Championing the Arab Peace Initiative

In 2002, Saudi Arabia and the Arab League introduced the Arab Peace Initiative (API), a proposal to fully normalize Arab-Israeli relations as part of a permanent status two-state agreement. The initiative, which has since been modified and was recently re-endorsed by the Arab league, was never formally responded to by Israel. A positive Israeli response to the Arab Peace Initiative could achieve the following:

- **Increase Israel’s security through new cooperation with Arab states.**
  This will help Israel deal with both local security concerns and larger regional threats emanating from Iran and ISIS. It could also signal increased intelligence sharing to further boost stability in the region.

- **Improve Israel’s international standing.**
  By positively answering the API, Israel will likely be seen by the international community as a partner for peace and will help combat international efforts against the state.

- **Sustain support for the two-state solution.**
  Israel’s support for the API would demonstrate its commitment to the two-state solution and muster its support among Palestinians and Arab states.

- **Open new economic opportunities for both Israelis & Palestinians.**
  The promise of a more secure future and normalized relations with Arab states would open new economic partnerships between Israelis and the Palestinians and Arabs.