

Moving Beyond the Stalemate? Prospects for Peace in the Middle East

Thanks to the generosity of the Atkin Foundation, ICSR has been offering young leaders from Israel and Arab countries the opportunity to come to London for periods of four months to engage in research, debate and constructive dialogue about the conflict in the Middle East.

Together with ICSR, this year's Atkin Fellows – two Israelis and two Palestinians – are organising a one-day symposium on 'Prospects for Peace'. The idea is to bring together leading thinkers and policymakers to analyse the current situation and discuss opportunities for how to move it forward.

The objective is to understand the new situation, taking into account:

- The new government in Israel
- Ongoing changes among the Palestinian leadership
- The new administration in the United States
- Significant developments among neighbouring Arab states, for example the Arab Peace Initiative and the potential for reaching out to Syria

The aim is to identify areas of convergence between different actors, and develop ideas for how these can be exploited in order to further the cause of a peaceful settlement.

The symposium will result in a short action paper put together by the Atkin Fellows and ICSR staff. The paper will be published and disseminated among policymakers currently engaged in formulating policy on the region.

7 July 2009

20.00 *Welcome Dinner*
For Atkin Fellows, speakers and ICSR Associates
Radisson Edwardian Mountbatten Hotel, Broadlands Room, Seven Dials Covent
Garden, WC2H 9HD, London United Kingdom

8 July 2009

Edmond J. Safra Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Strand Campus, King's College London

09.30 Registration and Coffee

10.00 Welcome
Dr. Peter Neumann, Director ICSR

10.15 *European and International Perspectives*

- Sir Menzies Campbell MP, former leader of the Liberal Democrats
- Sir Lawrence Freedman, King's College London
- Dr. Friedbert Pflüger, former German Secretary of State for Defence

Chaired by Odelia Englander, Atkin Fellow

11.30 Break

11.45 *Understanding Europe's Approach*
Keynote Address: Marc Otte, European Union Special Representative for the
Middle East Peace Process Council of the European Union
Introduced by Oday Abukaresh, Atkin Fellow

12.45 Buffet lunch

13.45 *Israeli Perspectives*

- Dr. Ahron Bregman, King's College London
- H.E. Ron Prosor, Ambassador of Israel
- Dr. Ely Karmon, Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya
- Dr. Ron Pundak, President of the Peres Center For Peace

Chaired by Sefi Kedmi, Atkin Fellow

15.00 Break

15.15 *Arab and Palestinian Perspectives*

- Yasar Qatarneh, Jordan Institute of Diplomacy
- Dr. Ezzedine Choukri, American University Cairo
- Dr. Sabri Saidam, advisor to the Palestinian President

Chaired by Amal Abusrour, Atkin Fellow

16.30 Conference adjourned

19.00 *Conference Dinner*
For Atkin Fellows, speakers and friends of ICSR
River Room, King's College London