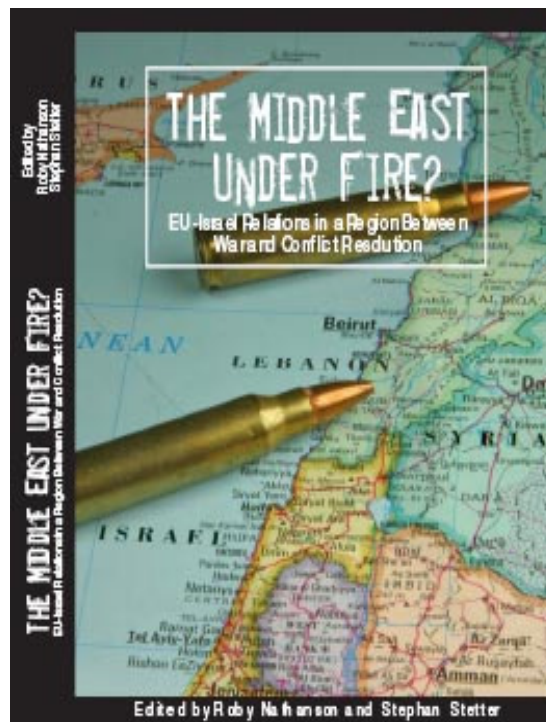


INVITATION

*Israeli European Policy Network (IEPN) Workshop
"The Middle East Under Fire ?
EU-Israeli Relations in a Region Between War and Conflict Resolution"*

May 21st 2007, Berlin, 10.00 h
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, room 121/122
Hiroshimastraße 17
10785 Berlin



On the occasion of the German Presidency of the EU Council, the *Israeli European Policy Network* (IEPN) is presenting its most recent publication "The Middle East under Fire? EU-Israel Relations in a Region between War and Conflict Resolution". During the term of its EU Presidency Germany has committed itself to renew and enhance the initiative of the Middle East Quartet to revitalize the peace process.

For the past four years the IEPN has fulfilled its function as a platform for dialogue on concrete issues of European-Israeli relations, thereby further strengthening constructive and fertile relations between Israel and the EU. A circle of academic researchers in Israel (Circle Europe) and in Europe (Circle Israel) respectively have tackled a variety of thematic areas in the field and drawn up recommendations. The results of the discussion process, in which experts and decision-makers from both societies were involved, are to be found in the latest book publication "The Middle East under Fire?".

The contributions cover various aspects of European-Israeli relations and the Middle East conflict. European views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and European engagement in Observer and Peacekeeping Operations in the Middle East are being analyzed as well as Israeli-European cooperation on the non-proliferation of weapons. The role of civil society in EU-Israeli-Palestinian cooperation and the transatlantic relations and the strategic implications of Europe's engagement with Iran, Lebanon and Israel-Palestine are being examined. The recommendations set forth point out that the European Union can make its very own contribution to solving the conflictual situation in the Middle East.

-
- 10:00 **Welcome Address**
Hans-Ulrich Klose, MdB, Member of the Board of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
and
Hermann Bünz, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Israel
- 10:30 **Introduction**
Dr. Roby Nathanson, The MACRO Center for Political Economics,
Tel Aviv
- 10:40 Session I:
**Current Developments in Relation to the EU-Israel Action Plan – An Israeli and an
European Perspective**
Dr. Tal Sadeh, Tel Aviv University
Dr. Raffaella A. Del Sarto, European University Institute, Florence
Chair: Dr. Shlomo Shpiro, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan
- Discussion
- 11:15 Coffee Break

- 11:30 Session II:
EU-Israel Relations and Conflict Resolution: Policy Options in the Wider Societal and Economic Spheres
Dr. Roby Nathanson, The MACRO Center for Political Economics, Tel Aviv
Dr. Marcella Simoni, University of Venice
Dr. Tal Sadeh, Tel Aviv University
Chair: Dr. Raffaella A. Del Sarto, European University Institute, Florence
- Discussion
- 12:30 Lunch Buffet
- 13:30 **Lecture**
Europe as a Political Actor in the Middle East – An Israeli Perspective
Prof. Shlomo Ben Ami, Former Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 14:00 Session III:
EU-Israel Relations and Conflict Resolution: Policy Options in the Political Sphere
Dr. Shlomo Shpiro, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan
Dr. Sven Biscop, Royal Institute for International Relations, EGMONT, Brussels
Dr. Mark Heller, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv
Dr. Dorothee Schmid, Institute Francais des Relations Internationales, Paris
Chair: Hermann Bünz, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Israel
- Discussion
- 15:15 **Summary of Policy Options**
Dr. Stephan Stetter, University of Bielefeld
- 15:45 End of Workshop