



Israeli-European Policy Network (IEPN)

CIRCLE ISRAEL

EU-Israeli Relations: The Regional Dimension Reconsidered

MEETING OF CIRCLE ISRAEL ON 23 NOVEMBER 2006

Location: Headquarter of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation
Rue du Taciturne 38
1000 Brussels
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Date: Thursday, 23 November 2006

Participants:

- Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation: Hermann Bünz, Director, FES Office Israel, Dr. Ernst Stetter, Director, FES Office EU
- Coordinators of IEPN: Dr. Raffaella A. Del Sarto and Dr. Stephan Stetter (Europe); Dr. Roby Nathanson and Dr. Shlomo Shpiro (Israel)
- European and Israeli researchers of IEPN: Prof. Sven Biscop, Dr. Dorothee Schmid, Dr. Marcella Simoni, Dr. Emanuele Ottolenghi, Dr. Mark Heller, Dr. Tal Sadeh
- Members of Circle Israel (a list of all participants will be distributed prior to the meeting)

AGENDA

23 November

Arrival of participants

12:30-13:30 Light Lunch at the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation Office, Brussels (address see overleaf)

SESSION I: Discussion of European IEPN Working Papers

13:30-13:40 Opening statement on the current state of work of IEPN by Hermann Bünz (Director FES Israel)

Opening address by the coordinators of the IEPN, short statements by Raffaella A. Del Sarto, Roby Nathanson, Stephan Stetter, Shlomo Shpiro

13:40-14:10 Short update and roundtable discussion on recent developments relating to the EU-Israel Action Plan
10 minute introductory summary statements by
Mr Andreas Herdina (Head of Unit, Sector Coordination Unit, RELEX D.2, European Neighbourhood Policy, European Commission)
N.N. (Israeli Mission to EU)

14:10-16:45 Discussion on IEPN Working Papers

- Short presentations of the four draft papers by European IEPN researchers followed by general discussion (*Note: Initial summaries of the four Working Papers/drafts have been sent to all participants prior to the meeting, participants of the meeting are expected to have read the summary papers prior to the meeting. The papers will be published, jointly with contributions of the Israeli IEPN researchers, in the third IEPN Volume in early 2007*)

14:10-15:10 Chair: Stephan Stetter

Paper by Dorothée Schmid: **European Views of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: The Contribution of Member States to the Framing of EU Policies**

Comments: Tal Sadeh

Paper by Emanuele Ottolenghi: **The EU's Role in Israeli-Palestinian Peace-Making**

Comments: Shlomo Shpiro

- Discussion on these Working Papers with Circle Israel and Israeli colleagues

Short break

15:15-16:15 Chair: Raffaella A. Del Sarto

Paper by Sven Biscop: **A “More Active” EU in the Middle East - The Challenges of Iran and Lebanon and Relations with Israel**
Comments: Mark Heller

Paper by Marcella Simoni: **The Role of the EU in Israeli-Palestinian Civil Society Cooperation**
Comments: Roby Nathanson

- Discussion of Working Papers with Circle Israel and Israeli colleagues

16:15-16:40 Chair: Shlomo Shpiro

General Discussion on the Working Papers from sessions 1 and 2

- Summary of main results and general themes from working papers
- Identification of eventual open issues of the papers

16:40-17:10 Coffee break

SESSION II: Discussion of Israeli IEPN Papers and Agenda 2006/2007

17:10-18:00 Chair: Roby Nathanson

- Short presentation of the Israeli papers in progress (5 minutes each)
- Discussion on issues of the IEPN agenda 2006-2007

End of the meeting

1900 Dinner (location: Restaurant Pom Noisette, rue Stévin 124, 1000 Brussels, Tel : 0032 2 231 07 42))

24 November: Departure of external participants

Planning and Organisation

Hermann Bünz, Director, Israel Office, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Dr. Raffaella A. Del Sarto, European University Institute, Florence
Dr. Stephan Stetter, University of Bielefeld

Conference language is English

Contact details: see cover page

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