

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC STRENGTH AND SOCIAL CAPITAL IN THE MIDDLE EAST

August 24-26, 2021

Hybrid event [Online via zoom>>](#)

Western Galilee College,
School of Management
All lectures will be held in Auditorium 704

August 24, 2021

Gathering and refreshments: School of Management, Academic staff lounge

- 9:45 – 10:00 **Welcome Ceremony:**
Yossi Segal, Chairman of Western Galilee College
Nissim Ben-David, President of Western Galilee College
- 10:00 – 11:30 **Opening Panel: Challenges and Conflict in the Middle East**
Chair: Labib Shami
Keynote Speakers:
Eival Giladi, Brigadier General, IDF, Res.; Chairman of WGC Board of Trustees and Chairman of the Northern Goals Association
Israel in the middle east - challenges and opportunities
Uzi Dayan, Major General, IDF, Res.; Former M.K., National Security Adviser and Deputy Chief of Staff of the IDF, Israel's National Security 2021
Israel's national security 2021
William A. Cohen, Major General, USAF, Ret; President and Founder of The Institute of Leader Arts
Dare the impossible and achieve the extraordinary
- 11:40 – 13:10 **Session 1: Conflict Trends in the Middle East – The Case of Israel**
Chair: Yuval Arbel
Participants:
Eyal Lewin, Chair, Department of Middle Eastern Studies and Political Science, Ariel University.
Gadi Hitman, Department of Israel Studies and Political Science in Ariel University.
National ethos and its role in preserving trauma communities: observations from the palestinian uprising 2000 to 2005
Rachelle Alterman, Urban Planner and Lawyer, Center for Urban and Regional Studies; Senior Researcher, Neaman Institute for National Policy Research, Technion.
A dangerous yet avoidable conflict arena excessive building controls within the arab -israeli towns and villages.
Limor Yehuda, Department of Criminology, Western Galilee College
Educational and occupational racial discrimination against Israeli Arabs as a catalyst for violence against Jews in Israel
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Session 2: Terror in the middle east: a New look at the sunni-shiite Conflict**
Chair: Ronen Yitzhak
Participants:
Boaz Ganor, Founder & Executive Director, International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT), Interdisciplinary Center (IDC)
Terrorism transition – ISIS as a case study
Yoram Schweitzer, Director of The Research Program: Terrorism and Low-Intensity Conflict, Institute for National Security Studies (INSS).
The Iranian Shiite axis and Hizballah as its pivotal player
Michael Harari, Ambassador (ret.), The Max Stern Yezreel Valley College
Yemen: A crossroad of shia - sunni rift and of the influence of competing external actors.

[Zoom link>>](#)

August 25, 2021

Gathering and refreshments: School of Management, Academic staff lounge

- 10:00 – 10:30 **Keynote speaker**
Sammy Smooha, Professor of Sociology, University Haifa; recipient of the Israel Prize.
Subordination and other modes of coping with minorities in the middle east
- 10:40 – 12:10 **Session 3: Globalization Processes in Middle East Countries and their Effect**
Chair: Ron Eichel
Participants:
Asher Idan, Lecturer and Consultant for International Businesses in London, Beijing, New York, in the area of Bitcoin, Blockchain, Future Management, Innovation, Forecasting.
Basic skills and education for a global economy
Ron Eichel, School of Management, Western Galilee College
Globalization and economic openness in the middle east
- 13:00 – 14:30 **Session 4: Economic Strength of the Middle East**
Chair: Nissim Ben-David
Participants:
Nissim Ben-David, Professor of Economics; President of Western Galilee College
The economic strength of countries in the middle east
Leonardo Leiderman, Tel Aviv University and Chief Economic Advisor of Bank Hapoalim
Middle east economics in a post covid-19 era
Onn Winckler, Department of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, University of Haifa
The changing Arabian gulf oil countries
- 15:00 – 16:30 **Session 5: Demographic Causes and Consequences of Armed Conflicts in the Middle East**
Chair: Hagit Turjeman
Participants:
Haim Sperber, Chair of Multi-disciplinary Department, Western Galilee College
Conflicts in the middle east reflected in the ethnic and religious variance indexes
Moshe Elad, Lecturer and Researcher of Middle Eastern Studies, Multi-disciplinary Department, Western Galilee College
The nature and the status of conflicts in the Middle East
Hagit Turjeman, Chair of criminology and Sociology Departments, Western Galilee College
Socio-demographic welfare in the Middle East and its effect on peace processes

[Zoom link>>](#)

August 26, 2021

Gathering and refreshments: School of Management, Academic staff lounge

- 11:30 – 13:00 **Session 6: Inequalities in the Middle East - Issues of Gender and Migration**
Chair: Janan Faraj Falah
Participants:
Janan Faraj Falah, Researcher of Gender and Multiculturalism, Western Galilee College
Women social status in the Middle East
Chen Kertcher, Department of Middle Eastern Studies & Political Science, Ariel University.
UN failed translation of women stereotypes to the Middle East
Peri Othman-Gohringer, Freie University, Berlin
Migration and Refugee from the Middle East in Europe
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Session 7: Peace Processes and Opportunities in the Middle East**
Chair: Michael Laskier
Participants:
Moshe Elad, Lecturer and Researcher of Middle Eastern Studies, Multi-disciplinary Department, Western Galilee College
The chances of normalization between countries in the Middle East
Michael Laskier, Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, Western Galilee College
Morocco as a breakthrough in peace relations with Israel
Lior Ben-Dor, Director of the Maghreb and Egypt Division at the Foreign Affairs Ministry
Potential for peace with Morocco
- 16:00 – 17:30 **Closing Session: Thinking Peace**
Chair: Michael Keren
Participants:
Shlomo Ben-Ami, Toledo International Centre for Peace, Former Israel's Foreign Minister.
Uzi Arad, Yuval Ne'eman Workshop for Science, Technology and Security at Tel Aviv University; former National Security Advisor to the PM and Head of the NSC.
Tamar Herman, The Israel Democracy Institute, Academic Director of the Viterbi Family Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research.

[Zoom link>>](#)