



Washington Forum 2010

The Challenge of Middle East Peace and Regional Security: Should we change the strategy?

Venue: The Aspen Institute
One Dupont Circle, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC

Thursday, 16 September 2010

08h45 - 09h00	<i>Registration and welcoming coffee</i>
09h00 - 10h30	<p><u>Opening remarks by:</u></p> <p>João VALE de ALMEIDA, EU Delegation to the US, Washington, DC Amjad ATALLAH, New America Foundation, Washington, DC Alvaro de VASCONCELOS, EUISS, Paris</p> <p><u>Session 1: Understanding the deadlock</u></p> <p>Chair: Daniel LEVY, New America Foundation</p> <p>Comments by: Daniel LEVY, New America Foundation, Washington, DC Esra BULUT AYMAT, EUISS, Paris</p> <p><i>What is happening on the ground: why are Palestinian factions not able to reconcile despite news of an imminent agreement for more than a year? Why is Israel not responding to international messages and allowing the powerful influence of the far-right wing parties on the Netanyahu government to damage its external relations? How do EU and U.S. foreign policy tactics and goals affect this?</i></p>
10h30 - 11h00	Coffee break
11h00 - 12h30	<p><u>Session 2: Understanding the connections</u></p> <p>Chair: Bassma KODMANI, Arab Reform Initiative, Paris</p> <p>Comments by: Rosemary HOLLIS, City University, London Marc LYNCH, George Washington University</p>

	<p><i>The strategic threat (real or perceived) from Iran as far as its nuclear program is concerned remains a critical challenge for the international community. Has engagement with Iran failed or has it even been tried? What are the implications for the overall security of the region and for advancing a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace agreement? Where do Iran's, Israel's, the United States' and the E.U.'s legitimate concerns intersect?</i></p>
12h30 - 13h30	Lunch
13h30 - 14h30	<p><u>Session 3:</u> Considering alternative options for conflict resolution in the U.S. and the E.U. for the Israeli-Arab conflict</p> <p>Chair: Amjad ATALLAH, New America Foundation</p> <p>Comments by: Shibley TELHAMI, Brookings Institution Andreas MICHAELIS, German Federal Foreign Office; Patrice PAOLI, Director, French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs</p> <p><i>The current thinking within the US administration and the different options considered: should Obama move towards a more forceful, interventionist role? What would facilitate this move? What might work?</i></p>
14h30 - 15h00	Coffee break
15h00-16h30	<p><u>Session 4:</u> Considering alternative options for conflict resolution in the U.S. and the E.U to resolve the stand-off with Iran</p> <p>Chair: Amjad ATALLAH, New America Foundation</p> <p>Comments by: Karim SADIPOUR, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Rouzbeh PARSI, EUISS, Paris</p> <p><i>The current thinking within the US administration and the different options considered: should Obama move towards a more forceful, interventionist role? What would facilitate this move? What might work?</i></p>
16h30 -17h30	<p><u>Session 5:</u> Conclusion</p> <p>Chair: Alvaro de VASCONCELOS, EUISS, Paris</p> <p>Comments by: Amjad ATALLAH, New America Foundation, Washington, DC Bassma KODMANI, Arab Reform Initiative, Paris Robert MALLEY, International Crisis Group</p> <p>In light of the day's conversations, where do participants feel the E.U., Turkey, and the United States can specifically interject new ideas and policies that would further their common objectives of peace, stability, and non-proliferation in the region.</p>
19h00	<p><i>Dinner at the Residence of the Belgian Ambassador</i> <i>(2300 Foxhall Road, NW in Washington, DC 20007)</i></p>