

Themes of the 4th Herzliya Conference

Tuesday, 16th December 2003

The National Scoreboard	Comparing Israel's economic, social and political state on the eve of 2004 in relation to the past and other reference countries, using "The Herzliya Indices", "The Haifa Indices" and "The National Security Council Indices",
The Palestinian-Israeli Impasse: Alternative Options and Approaching Decision	A review of the war against Palestinian terrorism and the balance of the results, trends in the region and their effects on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, scenarios for the future of Palestinian leadership in the post-Arafat era.
The Iranian Challenge	The state of Iran's Nuclear Weapons program, the International Effort to stop it, the domestic situation inside Iran.
Force Structure and the Evolving Defense Posture	Possibilities for IDF force structure based on technological advances, lessons of the Gulf War, budgetary constraints, IDF tasks and the changing strategic situation.
A Reserve System for the Future IDF	Alternatives for building a reserves system for the IDF and their military, economic and social ramifications.
The Prospects for Israel's Defense Industries	The Defense Industries' role in force building and a response to threats, national infrastructure and engine for economic, educational and technological growth, investment: export ratio of the industry, effects of defense budget cuts.

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Israel's International Alignments: Dilemmas and Opportunities	Dilemmas for Israel's foreign policy in the face of special relationships, diversification of international relations, Israel's struggle in the United Nations, Russian trends, a view of Taiwan-Israel Relations.
Assessing Israel-US Relations	The U.S. on the eve of the 2004 elections, political moods, the evangelical Christian Community as political allies, the Israeli-American agenda.
Israel and the New Europe: Options and Outlook	Alternatives, formulas and frameworks for strengthening Israeli-EU relations, the EU and Israel in the face of the wider Europe, political processes and defense missions of Europe in the region, Israeli involvement in European security forums and NATO.

New Trends in National Energy Policy	Changing realities in global energy markets, the oil market after Iraq – directions, trends and ramifications for Israel's energy policy.
Regulating the Banking System	Is there too much or too little regulation and supervision in Israel?
Economic levers for economic and social strength	Corporate initiatives for economic growth and social development, the Hi-Tech Industry as an engine for economic growth, social development and closing social gaps, foreign investment in Israel and reducing regulation in order to encourage growth, dilemmas of the healthcare system and ways to improve it.

Thursday, December 18, 2003

Social Disparities and National Strength	Effects of the economic situation, social gaps and terror on the cohesiveness and strength of Israeli society, community strength in the framework of national strength, re-employment, ways to deal with children affected by the economic situation.
Demography and Economics	Demographic trends and their economic implications and ways to influence them.
Minorities Policy: The Israeli Arabs	A review of the problems of the Arab–Israeli sector and its relationship with the government and society, practical proposals for promoting the Israeli Arabs
The Legal System and the Rule of Law	Rule of Law and its application to public figures: effects of the implementation of the law and public debate on the public's attitude towards the rule of law, is there discrimination between different sectors of society.
Transforming the Educational System	The "Herzliya Plan": how to upgrade the educational system, to improve its achievements and its competitiveness, to enhance its contribution to the economy and security of the country and to enhance equality without increasing the budget.
Building Future Jewish Leadership	An agenda for the Jewish People in the Diaspora and the challenge of developing a Jewish leadership.
The Imperatives of National Leadership	In the light of painful and crucial decisions, what sort of leadership does Israel need? Leadership as Management and long range planning, lessons of national leaders in the Western world, the Prime Minister's staff and its functioning.
Conclusions: National Priorities, Strategic Decisions and Leadership	Principle policy directions, priorities and emphases among the defense and security, political, economic, social and governmental areas