

Contributors

Editor

Mark A. Heller is Director of Research at INSS and editor of *INSS Insight*. He has taught international relations at Tel Aviv University and at leading universities in the United States, and was also a research associate at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. The editor of several previous editions of the *Middle East Strategic Balance*, Dr. Heller has written extensively on Middle Eastern political and strategic issues, and his areas of expertise include Israeli-Palestinian relations and Euro-Mediterranean affairs.

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Ephraim Asculai worked for at the Israel Atomic Energy Commission for over forty years, including a term at the International Atomic Energy Agency, working on radiation protection of the public. He participated in the deliberations toward conclusion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, and following its approval, worked on the establishment of its verification mechanism. His primary research fields are WMD proliferation and strategies for stemming them.

Roni Bart joined INSS following a long career in the IDF tank corps, where he rose to the rank of colonel. Dr. Bart specializes in US policy in the Middle East. He has lectured and published on various aspects of international relations, including political theory. His current research focuses on future American policy once Iran acquires a nuclear capability. He is acting director of the INSS Program on US Policy in the Middle East.

Yehuda Ben Meir is a psychologist and an attorney, and was a member of the Knesset and deputy minister of foreign affairs in the Begin and Shamir governments. Dr. Ben Meir is co-director of the INSS Israeli Society and Public Opinion Program and director of the Public Opinion and National Security Project at INSS. He is the author of *Civil Military Relations in Israel* (1995) and co-author of *The People Speak: Israeli Public Opinion on National Security 2005-2007* (2007).

Shlomo Brom is a former director of strategic planning in the planning division of the IDF General Staff. He participated actively in peace negotiations with the Palestinians, Jordan, and Syria, and served as deputy to the national security advisor. His primary areas of research are Israeli-Palestinian relations and national security doctrine, and he directs the INSS program on Israeli-Palestinian relations. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Brom is co-editor of *The Second Lebanon War: Strategic Dimensions* (2007).

Giora Eiland is director of the INSS Program on IDF Force Structure. His areas of expertise are the organizational challenges facing the IDF and relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Maj. Gen. (ret.) Eiland's most recent post before joining INSS was head of Israel's National Security Council. This followed a long career in the IDF, where he served as head of the planning branch and head of operations.

Meir Elran served as deputy head of IDF Military Intelligence and senior advisor in Israel's National Security Council and several government ministries. His fields of research are Israel's home front, national resilience, and domestic issues related to national security. Brig. Gen. (ret.) Elran is co-director of the INSS Israeli Society and Public Opinion Program, and co-editor of *The Second Lebanon War: Strategic Dimensions* (2007).

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Shmuel Even, an economist specializing in Middle East security issues, is a strategic and economic consultant to government offices and leading private companies in Israel. His publications deal with Middle East economies, the Israeli economy, the defense budget, the world oil market, intelligence, and terrorism. Dr. Even served a long career in IDF Military Intelligence, retiring with the rank of colonel.

Ephraim Kam, deputy director of INSS, served as assistant head of the research division of IDF Military Intelligence. His fields of expertise are the Iranian challenge, Arab states' security problems, the US entanglement in Iraq, strategic intelligence, and Israel's national security issues. His most recent studies are *From Terror to Nuclear Bombs: The Significance of the Iranian Threat* (2004) and *A Nuclear Iran: What Does it Mean, and What Can be Done* (2007).

Amir Kulick served as an intelligence officer in the Israeli Defense Forces. His fields of research include terror organization and Israel-Syria relations. In addition to being a member of the INSS research staff, he works as a security consultant and works on different projects dealing with intelligence evaluation and threat assessments around the world.

Anat Kurz has lectured and published widely on insurgency-related issues, sub-state political organizations, and terrorism as a strategy of warfare. Her research focuses on the Palestinian national movement and radical Islamic organizations. Dr. Kurz is active in Track II talks on the Middle East peace process, and offers a graduate seminar at Tel University. She is the author of *Fatah and Politics of Violence: The Institutionalization of a Popular Struggle* (2005).

Emily B. Landau is director of the INSS Arms Control and Regional Security Program. Her principal fields of research are new trends in arms control thinking, Middle East regional security, and the Iranian threat. She is a member of the EuroMeSCo steering committee, and offers courses on arms control at Tel Aviv and Haifa Universities. Dr.

Landau is the author of *Arms Control in the Middle East: Cooperative Security Dialogue and Regional Constraints* (2006).

Yiftah S. Shapir, a former officer in the Israeli Air Force, directs the Middle East Military Balance Project, which appears in full on the INSS website, and was co-editor of several editions of the *Middle East Strategic Balance*. His areas of expertise are the region's force structures, weapons procurement, trends in military development, ballistic missiles, and space assets.

Limor Simhony, a research assistant at INSS, studies US foreign policy in the Middle East. She is currently completing her M.A. in political science; her thesis is entitled "Casualty Sensitivity and its Interrelationship with the Pacification of Liberal Democracies." She is a junior fellow at the Harold Hartog School of Government and Policy at Tel Aviv University.