The Program in Decision Making and Political Psychology
Professor Alex Mintz, Director

The Harvard-IDC Symposium in Political Psychology and Decision Making

IDC campus
8-9 November, 2011

Tuesday, 8.11.11

14:00-14:30 Reception

14:30-16:45
Greetings: Prof. Alex Mintz (IDC)

Keynote Addresses

Prof. Ryan Enos (Harvard University)
Reconsidering Racial Threat: Experimenting on the Contextual Causes of Intergroup Attitudes

Prof. Helen Haste (Harvard University & University of Bath)
What Do We Need to Know in order to Educate Effective Citizens?

16:45-17:00 Coffee Break

17:00-19:30
Prof. Alex Mintz (IDC)
How Leaders Make Decisions? Evidence from Computerized Experiments

Prof. James Sidanius (Harvard University)
The Theory of Gendered Prejudice: A Social Dominance Perspective
Wednesday, 9.11.11

09:00-09:20  Gathering (Coffee)

Panel I: Political Psychology of the Arab-Israeli Conflict
09:20-10:45

Chair: Prof. Gadi Wolfsfeld (Hebrew University)  
Prof. Yechi Klar (Tel Aviv University) and Ms. Hadas Baram (Tel Aviv University)

The Taxing Exposure to the Other Side's Historical Narrative and the Attempts to "Fence" One's Own Narrative

Dr. Daphna Canetti (Haifa University)

Traumatic Experience's Influence on Middle East Peace Process Attitudes

Prof. Ifat Maoz (Hebrew University)

The Women and Peace Hypothesis? The Effect of Opponent-Negotiators' Gender on Evaluation of Compromise Solutions in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

10:45-11:00  Coffee Break

Panel II: The Psychology of National Security Decision Making
11:00-13:30

Chair: Prof. Shaul Mishal (Tel Aviv University)  
Prof. Yehezkel Dror (Hebrew University)

Psycho-Cultural Prerequisites of Adequate National Security Decision-Making

Prof. Dan Zakay (IDC)

Deterrence: A Psychological Perspective and Analysis

Prof. Uzi Arad (IDC)

National Security Decision Making in Israel

Discussion

13:30-14:30  Lunch and poster presentations by:

Dr. Amir Rosenmann (IDC & Haifa University)  
Ms. Laura Wharton (Hebrew University)  
Ms. Shira Dvir (Hebrew University)  
Ms. Serene mjally-knani (Ben-Gurion University)  
Mr. Gideon Lev (Bar-Ilan University)
Panel III: Perceptions and Narratives of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

14:30-16:30

Chair: Prof. James Sidanius (Harvard University)
Dr. Adi Mana (Ben-Gurion University) and Prof. Shifra Sagy (Ben-Gurion University)
Perceptions of Collective Narratives and Identity Strategies: The Case of Palestinian Muslims and Christians in Israel
Dr. Gilad Hirschberger (IDC)
A Psychological Casus Belli: Fear of Death Fuels the Desire for Justice and Encourages Political Violence
Ms. Ilanit Siman-Tov Nachlieli (Tel Aviv University), Dr. Nurit Shnabel (Tel Aviv University) and Prof. Arie Nadler (Tel Aviv University)
Needs-Based Model to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
Dr. Ronit Kampf (Tel Aviv University) and Prof. Esra Çuhadar Gürkaynak (Bilkent University)
Learning on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict through a Simulation: The Case of PeaceMaker

16:30-16:45 Coffee Break

Panel IV: New Directions in the Study of Political Psychology and Decision Making

16:45-18:30

Chair: Prof. Helen Haste
Dr. Raanan Sulitzeanu-Kenan (Hebrew University) and Mr. Lior Sheffer (Hebrew University)
A Formal Model of Social Blame in Political Context
Dr. Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom (Hebrew University)
Morality and Political Persuasion
Ms. Julia Elad-Strenger (Ben-Gurion University & IDC)
Mahatma Gandhi Meets Mohammad Atta: An Existential Perspective on Political Activism

THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH
FOR RSVP: mbalali@idc.ac.il
Presenters' biographical statements (in alphabetical order)

Speakers

Uzi Arad was the National Security Advisor to Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Head of Israel’s National Security Council (2009 – 2011). From 2000 to 2009 he had been at IDC, where he founded and directed the Institute for Policy and Strategy and established and presided over the annual ”Herzliya Conference” series. He also founded the Atlantic Forum of Israel (2005) and the EU-Israel Forum (1999). During Netanyahu’s first term as Prime Minister Dr. Arad was his Foreign Policy Advisor (1997 – 1999). From 1975 to 1997 he served with Mossad, holding positions in Israel and abroad, the last of which as Director of Intelligence. Prior to that Dr. Arad had been staff member of the Hudson Institute and later - Tel Aviv University’s Center for Strategic Studies. He served in Israel’s Air Force and holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton University.

Hadas Baram is a doctoral student in the Department of Psychology at Tel Aviv University. She has received the Sergio Grywac and the Walter-Lebach doctoral prizes from Tel Aviv University for her research on the processing of historical group narratives in intergroup conflicts.

Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom (PhD, Stony Brook University, 2010) is an assistant professor in the department of political science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She studies political psychology (morality, religiousness, values), comparative political behavior (democratic values, comparative religion, corruption) and quantitative methods (experiments, covariance structure models). Her dissertation, “The Moral Public”, won the Best Dissertation Award by The International Society of Political Psychology. She is a recipient of several grants and fellowships including the Marie Curie Grant from the European Union and the National Science Foundation (NSF) Dissertation Grant. Her work appeared in such venues as Political Psychology, International Political Science Review, Political Behavior, and Democratization.

Daphna Canetti is a tenured assistant professor at the School of Political Science. Her research focuses on political-psychological mechanisms underlying political violence and extremism. She conducts field experiments, in-depth interviews and large N surveys in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. She has received over $2.5 million in research grants on conflict, violence and terrorism. She was also a Fulbright scholar at Notre Dame University and a Visiting Professor at the Council on Middle East Studies, the MacMillan Center and the Department of Political Science, Yale University.

Esra Çuhadar Gürkaynak is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Political Science in Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. Dr. Çuhadar received her M.A and Ph.D. in International Relations and an advanced graduate certificate in Applied Conflict Resolution from Syracuse University. Her research interests include international mediation and negotiation processes with a special focus on interactive conflict resolution methodology, evaluation of peacebuilding and conflict resolution programs, and foreign policy decision-making with a focus on decision-making groups and leaders. Her research has been published in academic journals such as International Studies Perspectives, International Negotiation, Journal of Peace Research, Mediterranean Politics, Turkish Studies and Perceptions and also in various book chapters. She is elected as a member of the International Society for Political Psychology Governing Council and as a board member of the European Mediation Network Initiative.

Yehezkel Dror is professor emeritus of Political Science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is an honorary member in the Club of Rome and a former member in the International Institute of Strategic Studies. Prof. Dror is a scholar and international advisor on statecraft, global issues, security affairs, policy planning and leadership. He serves as founding president of the Jewish People Policy Institute; senior staff member of the RAND corporation; advisor to Israeli Prime Ministers; Consultant of the UN, UNDP, EU and OECD; and a member of the Governmental Committee of Investigation of the second Lebanon war. Prof. Dror has published articles and fifteen books in eight languages, including Israeli Statecraft: National Security Challenges and Responses (Routledge, 2011). Among other distinctions, he received in 2005 the Israel Prize and in 2011 the Nadav Jewish Peoplehood Award.
**Julia Elad-Strenger** is a doctoral candidate of psychology at Ben-Gurion University, under the supervision of Prof. Golan Shahar. Julia's research focuses on the long-term effects of real-life worldview threats, personal attributes and group-level variables on ideological radicalization and political violence in various political groups in Israel. Her research interests also include the political psychology of activism and support for human rights, which she studies using both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Julia is also a lecturer and teaching assistant in the IDC and Sapir College, and an ad-hoc reviewer for *Political Psychology*.

**Ryan D. Enos** is Assistant Professor of Government, Faculty Associate at the Institute of Quantitative Social Science, and a member of the Executive Committee for the Center for American Political Studies, at Harvard University. He specializes in American politics with an emphasis on the politics of race & identity and voting behavior. His research focuses on how voting and other political behavior is affected by the context in which a person lives interacting with their identity. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in American politics, elections, political psychology, and experimental methods. He earned his AB in political science and history from the University of California, Berkeley and his MA and PhD in political science from University of California, Los Angeles. Before entering academia, he was a teacher at Paul Robeson High School in Chicago, IL.

**Helen Haste** is a Visiting Professor at Harvard Graduate School of Education and an Emeritus Professor of Psychology at the University of Bath, England. She has a long record of research and publication in moral, social and political values, and on the interface of science and culture, including issues in gender and science. Her work includes research on culture and metaphor, on the public image of science particularly in the media, and on ethics and citizenship education. She is currently working on citizenship and education, on new technologies, and on the concept of ‘competence’. She has published widely in the academic literature as well as in popular science and news media. Helen Haste is a Fellow of the British Psychological Society, and of the Royal Society of Arts, and an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences (UK). She was President of the International Society for Political Psychology in 2002.

**Gilad Hirschberger** (Ph.D Bar-Ilan University, 2002) is an experimental social psychologist who studies how existential concerns influence our relations with the social world. His research focuses on issues ranging from close relationships to political psychology using a wide variety of methods to examine these questions, such as behavioral and physiological measurements. In recent years his research has focused on the conflict between Israel and its neighbors looking at explicit and implicit factors that contribute to political violence. Dr. Hirschberger's research has been funded by an Alon Fellowship and by grants from the Israel Foundation Trustees, the Israel Science Foundation, and the Binational Science Foundation.

**Ronit Kampf** received her Ph.D. in political communication from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She conducted her post-doctoral studies at the Center for the Study of Language and information at Stanford University. Currently she is a teaching associate at the Department of Communication and at the Program in Child and Youth Culture at Tel Aviv University. She studies the potential of computerized simulations of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to serve as a tool for knowledge acquisition, attitude change and developing empathy between young people of both sides.

**Yechiel Klar** is a social psychologist in the Department of Psychology at Tel Aviv University. Some of his research concerns *non-selective superiority and inferiority biases* in comparative judgment, choice, and decision. Other research focuses on factors that influence intractable ethno-political conflict, such as: Perceptions of in-group victimhood; fears of becoming a victimizer; closeness and openness to the other side’s narrative; and the conception of the ethno-political group as an eternal entity.

**Adi Mana**, PhD, is a psychologist and a post-doc student in Ben-Gurion University and Georg-August-University of Goettingen, Germany. Mana's major research interests are inter-group relations, social identity and acculturation. Her researches focus on the relations between group members in Israel (immigrants and native adolescents, Arabs in the Negev, Muslims and Christians).
Ifat Maoz is a social psychologist, associate professor in the Department of Communication, and director of the Smart Institute of Communication, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She received her Ph.D. (on cognitive biases in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations) from the Psychology Department, Haifa University. She was a visiting scholar at the Psychology Department, Stanford University and at the Solomon Asch Center for Study of Ethnopoliitical Conflict, University of Pennsylvania and Bryn Mawr College. Her studies on cognitive-perceptual mechanisms in conflict and negotiation, media effects and media perception in conflict, psychological bases of political preferences, and communication processes in conflict resolution were published in academic journals including: *International Journal of Press/Politics, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Political Communication, and Journal of Social Issues*.

Alex Mintz is Dean of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at IDC-Herzliya. Professor Mintz is also editor of the University of Chicago Press Book Series on Leadership and Decision Making in the International Arena (with Rose Mcdermott), editor-in-chief of the journal Political Psychology, and editorial board member of the journals International Studies Quarterly, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Studies Perspective, Open Political Science Journal, and the newly established, European Journal of Political Science. He also served as Associate Editor of the Yale-based Journal of Conflict Resolution (2004-2009). Prof. Mintz is the 2005 recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award of the International Studies Association in foreign policy analysis, and the 1993 recipient of the Karl Deutsch Award of the ISA for the most important contribution of any scholar in the world under age of forty to the scientific study of International Relations. Mintz has published 10 books or edited books, including new books with Cambridge University Press (2010) and the University of Chicago Press (in preparation), and has 15 publications in the top five high-impact journals. He served as President of the Foreign Policy Analysis section of the ISA and together with five Nobel Laureates, on the board of the Center for Conflict Management and Prevention in Sydney, Australia.

Shaul Mishal is Brian Mulroney Professor of Political Science at Tel Aviv University and visiting Professor at The MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale. He serves as senior advisor to the Department of Political Planning at the Foreign Ministry and to the Ministry of Defense. He founded and directed the Center for Israeli Arab Studies, and authored and co-authored 5 books and numerous articles in subjects related to Arab and Islamic political cultures and Palestinian politics. Prof. Mishal is also a visiting Professor at Yale University, visiting Scholar at the Center for International Affairs at Harvard and a Senior Fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health. He received a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and completed post-Doctoral studies at Yale University.

Arie Nadler is a Professor of Psychology at Tel Aviv University and holds the chair for research in social psychology at that institution (Argentina Chair for Research on Social Psychology of Conflict and Cooperation). He is a faculty member of the department of Psychology at TAU since receiving his Ph.D. from Purdue University. He has served as the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at TAU and as a Professor of Psychology in North American and European institutions. His major research interests focus on social psychological processes in interpersonal and intergroup reconciliation, and helping relations.

Shifra Sagy is Professor of Psychology in the Department of Education at Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. She is currently the chair of the Educational Psychology Program and also heading a new multidisciplinary graduate program of conflict management and resolution. Sagy's major research interests are stress, coping and adjustment to stressors, both normative and non-normative. She is also involved in studies in political psychology concerning the historical and political consciousness among adolescents. She has published many empirical and theoretical articles in a variety of professional journals in USA, Europe and Israel. In the past two decades Sagy has been involved in peace education in the Palestinian – Israeli context at all levels – teaching, lecturing, writing, researching, participating and initiating dialogue workshops.

Lior Sheffer holds an M.A. in Public Policy and Government from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he also obtained a B.Sc. in Mathematics and Cognitive Sciences. He is currently the Senior Parliamentary Advisor for MK
Zehava Galon. His Master’s Thesis was presented in the 2011 Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, and also won the 2011 Best Thesis Award, presented by the Israeli Political Science Association.

Nurit Shnabel is a Lecturer at Tel-Aviv University, Israel, where she has also earned her doctorate degree in 2007. Her dissertation, which received the International Association of Conflict Management award, developed the Needs-Based Model, a theoretical framework that explores the emotional needs of adversaries involved in a conflict. Since then she has held a post-doctoral position at Yale University as a Fulbright visiting scholar. Her research interests include interpersonal and intergroup reconciliation processes, and intergroup relations with a particular focus on sexism. She is also trained in group facilitation and has facilitated encounters (dialogue groups) between adversarial groups in Israel.

James Sidanius is a Professor of Psychology and African and African American Studies at Harvard University. His primary research interests include the political psychology of gender, group conflict, institutional discrimination and the evolutionary psychology of intergroup conflict. He has authored more than 150 scientific papers and monographs, is the recipient of the 2006 Harold Lasswell Award for “Distinguished Scientific Contribution in the Field of Political Psychology” awarded by the International Society of Political Psychology, and has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2007.

Ilanit Siman Tov-Nachlieli is a PhD student in Social Psychology at Tel-Aviv University of Israel. She received her M.Sc. in Social Psychology with honors from the Free University of Amsterdam. She holds a bachelor’s degree with honors in Computer Science and Management from Tel-Aviv University and was a chief software engineer for over 15 years. Her research interests include promoting positive interpersonal and intergroup relations with a particular focus on reconciliation processes between adversarial groups in the Israeli society (e.g., Jews and Arabs, Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews).

Raanan Sulitzeanu-Kenan holds a joint appointment as a tenure-track Lecturer (US Assistant Professor) in the Political Science department and the Federmann School of Public Policy and Government at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He completed his PhD in 2006 at Oxford University. Raanan’s academic research is on political aspects of accountability, judgment and decision making in policy making, and political psychology. He is also interested in research methods, in particular, experimental designs. Raanan has published articles in journals such as British Journal of Political Science, Governance, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, Public Administration, and the Journal of Empirical Legal Studies.

Gadi Wolfsfeld is a full professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a joint appointment in political science and communication. He also holds the Danny Arnold Chair of Communication at the University and served as head of the political communication graduate programs in both departments. He will be retiring from Hebrew University in March and will be joining the faculty in the School of Communication at IDC. His latest book is entitled: Making Sense of Media and Politics: Five Principles in Political Communication.

Dan Zakay is a professor emeritus of psychology in Tel-Aviv University and professor of psychology in the school of psychology, IDC. He was formerly the chair of the department of psychology at Tel-Aviv University, the chair of the Israeli Association for organizational psychology and the chair of the Israeli Psychological Association. He is currently the head of a graduate program for organizational development and behavior in the IDC. He has published about 120 scientific publications which were cited about 2200 times. His research domains are judgment and decision making and cognitive psychology. He was awarded several prestigious research grants and was awarded the 2011 EMET prize by the Israeli prime minister for his achievements.
Poster Presenters

Shira Dvir Gvirsman is a research doctorate student in the department of communication and journalism, the Hebrew university, Jerusalem. Her fields of interest are: The psychological influences of communication, political communication and child development. Her thesis analyzed how the specific elements in news discourse affect the individual’s cognitive complexity, with focus on a sample of political activists. In addition, she is currently engaged in researching the effects of political violence on children in conflict areas and in a research on the role of public opinion in political conflict. Her work has been published in variety of select journals.

Gideon Lev is a PhD student and assistant teacher at the Department of Hermeneutics and Cultural Studies at Bar-Ilan University, Israel. He completed his MA studies at the clinical psychology department at Tel Aviv University and his BA studies at the departments of philosophy and psychology at the Hebrew University. He trained as a psychotherapist at the mental health community centre near the Ezrat Nashim hospital and at Kfar Shaul hospital, Jerusalem. He has been a journalist and an editor at various Israeli newspapers and magazines for the last 16 years.

Serene Mjally-Khani is a PhD candidate at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev – the department of conflict resolution. She studies the relation between socioeconomic level and identity strategies among Muslims and Christians citizens of Israel. Her research (funded by DFG) focuses on the potential contribution of high education to the integration of minority members in society. She serves as a member of a research team which prof. Shifra Sagy leads. The team studies relations and conceptions between groups (e.g. religion and national groups). Serene is the headmaster of "Al-Qastal" elementary school in Nazareth – the ministry of education.

Amir Rosenmann was awarded his doctorate in social psychology, summa cum laude, from the University of Haifa, 2008. For his work, he received the Knesset and Wolf Foundation Awards. He has served as a Research Fellow at the WHO center at the University of Texas in Houston, and currently holds research and teaching positions at the IDC, Herzliya and the University of Haifa. His research focuses on social identities, intra-personal integration of cultural and sexual identities, global-local biculturalism, and globalization’s impact on inter-group processes. In recent years he has been conducting studies explicating paradoxes of Global-Western cultural identification and rejection.

Laura Wharton, originally from the U.S., received a B.A. with honors in the Government Department of Harvard University before immigrating to Israel. She received an M.A. in Russian and Slavic Studies from the Hebrew University and recently submitted a doctoral thesis on the social ideology and policy of the Israeli Labor Party, 1965-1977, advised by Prof. Itzhak Galnoor and Prof. Shlomo Avineri. Wharton was a doctoral fellow of the Hoffman Program for Leadership and Responsibility at the Hebrew University and has received grants from Yad Tabenkin, the Levi Eshkol Institute, and the Tal Foundation for research on social policy and the interplay between ideology and implementation. This is an issue she also has the opportunity to observe as a Jerusalem City Councilor, a position she currently holds.