In today's Middle East, Israeli strategists face a world like none they have seen before: Russia struts the stage as a rising actor in the Levant, Iran flexes its muscles just kilometers from Israel's border, and the United States debates whether to even push back against Tehran's insidious opportunism. Still, along with these new problems arises a wave of new possibilities, foremost of which is the potential for strategic alignment with key Sunni Arab states. But to navigate these seas successfully, Israel will have to jettison old ideas and old thinking. To discuss Israel's strategy for addressing these issues, The Washington Institute is pleased to host Maj. Gen. Yair Golan, IDF, for its annual Zeev Schiff Lecture on Middle East security.

Watch a live webcast of this event starting at 12:30 p.m. EDT on Thursday, September 7, 2017

Yair Golan, who is joining the Institute as a visiting military fellow, is a major general in the Israel Defense Forces who served as deputy chief of the general staff from December 2014 to November 2016. After enlisting in the Paratroopers Brigade in 1980, he rose through the ranks to serve as commander of numerous IDF battalions and units, most recently as head of Israel's Northern Command. In addition, he served for two years as head of the IDF Operations Directorate.

The Schiff Memorial Lecture Series

Each year, the Schiff Memorial Lecture Series brings to Washington a distinguished leader from Israel's national security establishment. The series was established by a group of Washington Institute trustees to honor the memory of Zeev Schiff, dean of Israeli security experts, former Haaretz defense editor, and longtime associate of the Institute; this year's event marks the tenth anniversary of his passing. Previous lecturers have included Ehud Barak, Moshe Yaalon, Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Amos Yadlin, Yoav Galant, Shimon Shamir, and most recently, Lt. Gen. (res.) "Benny" Gantz, IDF.