

The Middle East Peace Process: Analysis from a Former Negotiator

by [Michael Singh \(/experts/michael-singh\)](#)

Feb 12, 2020

Also available in

[العربية \(/ar/policy-analysis/mlyt-alslam-fy-alshrq-alawst-thlyl-lmfawd-sabq\)](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Michael Singh \(/experts/michael-singh\)](#)

Michael Singh is the Managing Director and Lane-Swig Senior Fellow at The Washington Institute.



Articles & Testimony

An in-depth assessment of how Washington should approach Israeli-Palestinian diplomacy at a time when the strategic foundation for American involvement has deteriorated.

The following is an excerpt from prepared remarks submitted to the Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and International Terrorism. To read the full testimony, download the PDF above.

The U.S. role in the peace process can take a number of forms—convening talks between the parties; offering incentives and disincentives to open a wider zone of possible agreement between them; and helping them devise bridging proposals when we deem their interests compatible even though their stated positions may not be. What we cannot do, however, is take the place of the parties themselves or simply promulgate a deal—no peace agreement can succeed unless it has minimally sufficient political and popular support on both sides. This is not to say that the United States cannot stake out positions in a manner that moves the talks forward... ❖

House Committee on Foreign Affairs

RECOMMENDED

BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Getting to an Israeli-Saudi Deal on Tiran and Sanafir](#)

Jul 7, 2022



David Schenker

(/policy-analysis/getting-israeli-saudi-deal-tiran-and-sanafir)

BRIEF ANALYSIS

Don't Look Down: The Struggle Over Lebanon's Airspace

Jul 7, 2022



Assaf Orion

(/policy-analysis/dont-look-down-struggle-over-lebanons-airspace)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Biden in the Middle East: Opportunities and Challenges

July 11, 2022, starting at 12:00 p.m. EDT (1600 GMT)



Ebtesam al-Ketbi,

Tamar Hermann,

Dennis Ross,

Robert Satloff

(/policy-analysis/biden-middle-east-opportunities-and-challenges)

TOPICS

Arab-Israeli Relations (/policy-analysis/arab-israeli-relations)

Peace Process (/policy-analysis/peace-process)

U.S. Policy (/policy-analysis/us-policy)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

Israel (/policy-analysis/israel)

Palestinians (/policy-analysis/palestinians)