

Israel 2010: Strategic Threats, Strategic Opportunities

by [Ehud Barak \(/experts/ehud-barak\)](/experts/ehud-barak)

Feb 26, 2010

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Ehud Barak \(/experts/ehud-barak\)](/experts/ehud-barak)

Ehud Barak is the former chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces and Israel's most decorated soldier. He has served as that country's prime minister, foreign minister, defense minister, and interior minister.



Brief Analysis

Part of a series: [Zeev Schiff Memorial Lectures \(https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/zeev-schiff-memorial-lectures\)](https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/series/zeev-schiff-memorial-lectures)

or see Part 1: [The Unlikely Peace: Prospects for an Israeli-Palestinian Agreement in 2008 \(/policy-analysis/unlikely-peace-prospects-israeli-palestinian-agreement-2008\)](/policy-analysis/unlikely-peace-prospects-israeli-palestinian-agreement-2008)

Ehud Barak, former prime minister and Israel's most decorated soldier, delivered the 2010 Zeev Schiff Memorial Lecture on Middle East Security.

On February 26, Israeli minister of defense Ehud Barak delivered The Washington Institute's Zeev Schiff Memorial Lecture on Middle East Security, covering a wide range of topics, including the global threat posed by Iran's quest for a nuclear weapon, Hizballah saber rattling on Israel's northern front, and Israeli willingness to meet with Palestinian leaders at the negotiating table.

Mr. Barak is the former chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces and Israel's most decorated soldier. In addition to current and former terms as defense minister, he has served as that country's prime minister, foreign minister, and interior minister.

[Read an edited transcript of Mr. Barak's remarks \(PDF\). \(/media/5809\)](/media/5809)

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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. Previous lecturers have included Moshe Yaalon and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak. ❖

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