

From President to President:

U.S. Middle East Policy at a Moment of Transition

Oct 31, 2008



In-Depth Reports

Featuring

Isaac Herzog, Riad Malki, Dennis Ross, Max Boot, Richard Danzig, Richard Williamson, Richard Clarke, Colin Mellis, Maajid Nawaz, Farah Pandith, J. Scott Carpenter, Mohamed Abdelbaky, Oussama Safa, Engi El-Haddad, Nader Said, David Makovsy, Ghassan Atiyah, Reul Marc Gerecht, Michael Knights, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Giora Eiland, Marwan Muasher, Soner Cagaptay, Philip Gordon, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Isaac Ben-Israel, Kassem Jaafar, Anthony Cordesman, Jackson Diehl, and Jeffrey Goldberg

The Proceedings

The 2008 presidential election is a watershed event, both historically and politically. It may also represent a landmark in America's engagement with the Middle East over the next decade. On so many critical issues -- Iranian nuclear capability, Iraq's stability, Israeli-Palestinian relations, radicalization in the region -- the next U.S. president will have to determine the direction of U.S. policy. For its twenty-third annual Weinberg Founders Conference, which took place September 19-21, 2008, The Washington Institute convened an exceptional group of scholars, diplomats, experts, officials, and policy practitioners for an in-depth look at the implications of foreign policy to the presidential candidates at this critical juncture in American history.

This year's conference featured twelve keynote presentations and panel discussions:

- [Is Peace Still Possible? The Future of Israeli-Palestinian Relations \(templateC07.php?CID=413\)](#)
- [America's Grand Strategy in the Middle East: Views from the Campaigns \(templateC07.php?CID=415\)](#)
- [McCain-Palin on the Middle East \(templateC07.php?CID=416\)](#)
- [Obama-Biden on the Middle East \(templateC07.php?CID=417\)](#)
- [Reversing the Tide of Radicalization \(templateC07.php?CID=418\)](#)
- [What Arab Democrats Want from Our Next President \(templateC07.php?CID=419\)](#)
- [Israeli Politics: A Guide for the Perplexed \(templateC07.php?CID=420\)](#)
- [Will Iraq Be an Ally of the United States or of Iran? \(templateC07.php?CID=421\)](#)
- [Is the Two-State Solution Still Relevant? \(templateC07.php?CID=423\)](#)
- [What Should the Next Administration Expect from Turkey? \(templateC07.php?CID=424\)](#)
- [Bombing Iran or Living with Iran's Bomb? \(templateC07.php?CID=425\)](#)
- [From Campaigning to Governing: What Really Matters on the Stump \(templateC07.php?CID=426\)](#)

In addition, this year's conference featured a very special event: [the announcement of the first annual Washington Institute Book Prize \(templateC07.php?CID=422\)](#). This lucrative prize is awarded by an independent jury to

recognize three outstanding books that advance America's understanding of Middle Eastern politics and U.S. policy. ❖

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Distributor: WINEP

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