

Policy Forum

Between Syria and Gaza: Urgent Challenges for Israel's Security A Discussion with Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman

[Avigdor Liberman](#)

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In a rare public address in Washington, D.C., Israel's defense minister explained his government's strategy for dealing with challenges including the emergence of a direct Iranian front to the north and recurrent mass protests along the Gaza border to the south.

From the emergence of a direct Iranian front across the frontier with Syria to recurrent mass protests along the Gaza border, recent events underscore the complexity of Israel's security situation. To discuss Israel's strategy for dealing with these challenges—as well as the state of bilateral strategic cooperation with the Trump administration—The Washington Institute hosted a special morning Policy Forum with Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman.

Liberman is the founder and leader of the Yisrael Beiteinu Party and has headed the Ministry of Defense since 2016. A member of Knesset since 1999, he has also served as deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and minister of infrastructure, transportation, and strategic affairs.