

## **Sinai: A New Front**

[\*Ehud Yaari\*](#)

January 2012

---

Since Israel's 2005 withdrawal from Gaza and the 2011 Egyptian revolution, the Sinai Peninsula has emerged as a new hotspot in the complex Arab-Israeli conflict, with an expanding terrorist infrastructure that makes it another front of potential confrontation. The Bedouin are now in a position to initiate crises that neither Israel nor Egypt wants, while also influencing the struggle against Hamas. In this Policy Note, leading Israeli commentator Ehud Yaari outlines the steps needed to prevent the total collapse of security in and around the peninsula, avoid the rise of an armed, runaway Bedouin statelet, and minimize the risk of Israeli-Egyptian peace imploding under the pressures of the wild Sinai frontier.

### **THE AUTHOR**

**Ehud Yaari** is an Israel-based Lafer international fellow of The Washington Institute and a Middle East commentator for Israel's Channel Two television. A former associate editor of Jerusalem Report, he has received numerous awards for journalism, including the Israeli Press Editors-in-Chief Prize for coverage of the peace process with Egypt. In addition, he has authored eight books on the Arab-Israeli conflict and published articles in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Atlantic Monthly, and other outlets.

- **20 Pages**