



Washington D.C.  
October 24, 2007

Contact: Andrew Apostolou, Saban Center for Middle East Policy, (202) 797 2971 or [aapostolou@brookings.edu](mailto:aapostolou@brookings.edu)  
Chana Solomon-Schwartz, Saban Center for Middle East Policy, (202) 797 6176 or  
[csolomonschwartz@brookings.edu](mailto:csolomonschwartz@brookings.edu)

**Brookings' Saban Center Announces 2007 Saban Forum in Israel and Jordan  
November 3-5, 2007**

***U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, King Abdullah II of Jordan, Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, Israeli Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, Israeli Defense Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Quartet Envoy Tony Blair, and Israeli President Shimon Peres to Participate***

Weeks before a U.S.-sponsored peace meeting on the Middle East in Annapolis, Maryland, the Saban Forum will hold its fourth annual U.S.-Israel dialogue from November 3-5, 2007 with the participation of many of the leaders who will attend the Annapolis meeting.

Organized by the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, the Saban Forum will bring a high-level, bipartisan U.S. delegation to Jerusalem for discussions with their Israeli counterparts on the theme of "War and Peace in the Middle East." The Saban Forum will provide an opportunity to analyze issues such as the Arab League Peace Initiative, the Iranian nuclear threat, the role of the intelligence community, and the Bush Administration's policy of democratization.

The program begins on Saturday, November 3, 2007 when participants will meet with Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Salam Fayyad to discuss the prospects for peace. On Sunday, November 4, 2007 the U.S. delegation will depart for Amman, Jordan to meet with H.M. King Abdullah II to discuss the Arab League Peace Initiative. United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Quartet Envoy and former British prime minister Tony Blair will address the participants at a Gala Dinner on November 4 in Jerusalem. The U.S.-Israel dialogue will commence on Monday, November 5, featuring remarks from Israeli Defense Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ehud Barak, Leader of the Opposition Benjamin Netanyahu, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency George Tenet, Israel's Director of Military Intelligence Major General Amos Yadlin, Israeli Minister of Public Security Avi Dichter, and Natan Sharansky. President Shimon Peres will host the closing session at his official residence.



THE SABAN CENTER  
for MIDDLE EAST POLICY  
at THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION



The Forum will include over ninety U.S., Israeli and international leaders in the political, military, media, and business arenas, including leading Members of the U.S. Congress and Israeli Knesset, foreign policy advisers to the U.S. presidential campaigns, and prominent American and Israeli columnists and think tank experts.

Secretary Rice, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Quartet Envoy Tony Blair's speeches will be open to the media. Other Saban Forum discussions will be closed to allow for a free exchange of ideas. Key Forum participants will be available for interviews over the course of the Forum.

### **About the Saban Forum and the Saban Center for Middle East Policy at Brookings**

The Saban Forum is a unique annual high-level dialogue between the United States and Israel, alternating between Jerusalem and Washington, D.C. It was established by Haim Saban, media entrepreneur and Los Angeles philanthropist, in the belief that a free-flowing, candid discussion in a private setting between Israelis and Americans with different perspectives can benefit both sides and strengthen the understanding between them.

The Saban Center for Middle East Policy was established in 2002 at the Brookings Institution and is directed by Martin Indyk, former U.S. Ambassador to Israel. The center has quickly become one of the most dynamic places for independent research and analysis of Middle East issues. Founded with the generous support of Haim Saban, the center draws on a diverse staff with expertise on such issues as Iraq, Iran, the Arab-Israeli conflict, terrorism, political and economic development in the Middle East, and U.S. policy toward the Islamic world to generate workable ideas for U.S. policy. In addition to the Saban Forum, the center organizes two other high-level annual dialogues: the Doha Forum on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, and the Daniel Abraham Israeli-Palestinian Workshop.

