



Thursday, February 23, 2017

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Alex Mintz

*Director of the Institute for Policy and Strategy at IDC Herzliya and
Chairman of the Israeli Political Science Association*

Robert Danin

Senior Fellow for Middle East Studies, Council on Foreign Relations

Critical Issues in the Middle East Roundtable Series

What Israeli and Palestinian Group-Think and Group-Dynamics Mean for the Trump Administration

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Alex Mintz

Professor Alex Mintz, chairman of the Israeli Political Science Association, is director of the Institute for Policy and Strategy at IDC Herzliya and Chair of the Herzliya Conference series. He served as dean of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy at IDC from 2008 to 2014. Professor Mintz served as editor-in-chief of the journal, *Political Psychology*. He has served on the boards of ten other international journals including, *The American Political Science Review*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *International Studies Perspective*, *Open Political Science Journal*, *Advances in Political Psychology*, and *Research and Politics*. He also served as associate editor of the Yale-based *Journal of Conflict Resolution* from 2004 to 2009 and as editor of the University of Chicago Press book series in Leadership and Decision Making in the International Arena.

Professor Mintz is the 2005 recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award of the Foreign Policy Analysis section of the International Studies Association (ISA) for distinguished contributions to the field, and the 1993 recipient of the Karl Deutsch Award of the ISA for the most important contribution of any scholar in the world under age of forty to the scientific study of International Relations. He is the author of the book, *The Polythink Syndrome: US Foreign Policy Decisions on 9-11, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Iran and ISIS* (Stanford University Press, 2016, with C. Wayne), and of *Understanding Foreign Policy Decision Making* (with K. DeRouen), Cambridge University Press, 2010 as well as nine other books and edited volumes. He has published in such top journals as the *American Political Science Review* (1988, 1989, 1990, 1997), *American Journal of Political Science* (1988 and 1991), *International Studies Quarterly* (2011), *American Journal of Sociology* (1986), *Political Psychology* (2009) and the *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (1985, 1987, 1993a, 1993b, 1997, 2004a, 2004b, 2006). Mintz served as president of the Foreign Policy Analysis section of the ISA and together with five Nobel Laureates, is on the board of the Center for Conflict Management and Prevention in Sydney, Australia.

Robert Danin

Robert Danin is senior fellow for Middle East studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He is also a senior fellow at the Belfer Center's Middle East Initiative at Harvard University's Kennedy School. Prior to joining CFR, he headed the Jerusalem mission of the Quartet representative, Tony Blair, from April 2008 until August 2010. A former career State Department official with over twenty years of Middle East experience, Dr. Danin previously served as deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs with responsibilities for Israeli-Palestinian issues and Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt. He also served at the National Security Council for over three years, first as director for Israeli-Palestinian affairs and the Levant and then as acting senior director for Near East and North African affairs. A recipient of the State Department's Superior Honor Award, Dr. Danin served as a Middle East and Gulf specialist on the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, and as a State Department Middle East political and military analyst. Prior to joining the State Department, he worked as a Jerusalem-based journalist covering Israeli and Palestinian politics.

Dr. Danin holds a BA in history from the University of California, Berkeley, an MSFS degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, and a doctorate in the international relations of the Middle East from St. Antony's College, Oxford University.

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