

Facilitators



Yoni Gordis

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Rabbi Yoni Gordis is the founding Executive Director of the Center for Leadership Initiatives, an operating foundation that provides support to current and emerging leaders in the international Jewish community. Yoni collaborates with the Center for Leadership Initiative's large network of social entrepreneurs and other Jewish professionals to inspire cooperation, innovation and passionate Jewish leadership.



Nizar Farsakh

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Nizar Farsakh is a leadership consultant focusing on public narrative, community organizing and adaptive leadership. He is a Teaching Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School of Government and is also involved in developing leadership programs with the Middle East Community Organizing Initiative in Jordan. Before Harvard, Nizar was a Policy Advisor with the Negotiations Support Unit for five years and had also been seconded to the office of the Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad.



Melissa Weintraub

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Rabbi Melissa Weintraub was ordained as a Conservative Jewish Rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary and has served as a Rabbinic Fellow in Conservative communities throughout North America. In 2005, she co-founded Encounter, an educational organization that trains Jewish leaders to resolve Israeli-Palestinian conflict by providing them with raw exposure to Palestinian narratives and realities on the ground. She has taught internationally at the Parliament of World Religions, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Jewish Council of Public Affairs Plenum. She graduated summa cum laude from Harvard University with a degree in political theory and women's studies.

Speakers

Herbert C. Kelman



Herbert C. Kelman is the Richard Clarke Cabot Professor of Social Ethics, Emeritus, at Harvard University and was the Director of the Program on International Conflict Analysis and Resolution at Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs from 1993 to 2003. He is past president of the International Studies Association, the International Society of Political Psychology, the Interamerican Society of Psychology, and several other professional associations. His major publications include *International Behavior: A Social-Psychological Analysis* (editor; 1965), *A Time to Speak: On Human Values and Social Research* (1968), and *Crimes of Obedience: Toward a Social Psychology of Authority and Responsibility* (with V. Lee Hamilton; 1989). He has been involved in the creation of interactive problem solving, with special emphasis on its Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Gregory Khalil



Gregory Khalil is an attorney (graduate of Yale Law School) and the President and co-founder of The Kairos Project—a non-profit that works to educate mainstream faith-based America the conflict in the Middle East. He is a recognized expert on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with experience in supporting peace negotiations between Israel and Palestine. He was a legal advisor from 2004 to 2008 with the Negotiations Support Unit, an international organization that provides advice to the Palestinian leadership on peace negotiations with Israel. He has lectured widely on the conflict and is published in *The New York Times* and *The Review of Faith & International Affairs*.

David Makovsky



David Makovsky is the Ziegler distinguished fellow and director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy Project on the Middle East Peace Process. He lectures at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of John Hopkins University in the Middle Eastern studies program. He coauthored, "Myths, Illusions, & Peace" with Dennis Ross, senior White House advisor. He has been published in the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs*, and *The Washington Post*.

Speakers



Ghaith Al-Omari

Ghaith Al-Omari is Executive Director at the American Task Force on Palestine. He has had many positions within the Palestinian Authority, including Director of the International Relations Department in the Office of the Palestinian President, and advisor to former Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas. He has been an advisor to the Palestinian negotiating team from 1999–2001. He has participated in the Camp David summit and the Taba talks. He was the lead Palestinian drafter of the Geneva Initiative, an unofficial model peace agreement negotiated between leading Palestinian and Israeli public figures. He is a lawyer and a graduate of Georgetown and Oxford universities.



Robert Wexler

Robert Wexler is the president of the S. Daniel Abraham Center for Middle East Peace. He was a Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Florida's 19th congressional district, from 1997 to 2010. He was named one of the "50 Most Effective Legislators in Congress" by Congressional Quarterly and in 2008 was named to the Forward 50 list as one of the most influential leaders in the American Jewish community. In 2008, Congressman Wexler served as an advisor on Middle East and Israel issues to President Obama during his presidential campaign.



Suhad Babaa

Suhad graduated with Honors from the University of Pennsylvania where she received a B.A. in Politics, Philosophy & Economics. After graduation, Suhad spent several months as an intern with local organizations in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories through the Faculty for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. Suhad is currently a New Leaders Fellow at the Center for Progressive Leadership. Prior to joining Just Vision, Suhad interned with the Middle East and North Africa team at Vital Voices Global Partnership and was a paralegal at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP.