



VIEWS FROM ISRAELI DEMOCRACY

Too often outside observers see Israel's politics as monolithic. The reality is that Israel is home to diverse opinions, robust debate and a lively democratic politics. Via videoconference from Israel, the Lowy Institute will host three leading Israelis drawn from politics, academia and the media outside of the current government to give their views on some of the challenges Israel faces domestically and regionally.

Naomi Chazan is President of the New Israel Fund and a former Deputy Speaker of the Knesset (Israeli parliament). She is Professor Emerita of Political Science and African Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and has been a Visiting Professor of Government at Harvard University. Chazan currently serves as Head of the School of Government and Society at the Academic College of Tel-Aviv-Yaffo.

Dr Nachman Shai is a member of the Knesset from the Kadima party. He is a member of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee; the Economic Affairs Committee and the Committee on the Status of Women. Immediately prior to his entry into the world of politics, Nachman held the position of Senior Vice President and Director General, External Affairs of the United Jewish Communities (UJC), Israel and is a former Israeli Defense Force Spokesperson.

Akiva Eldar is currently a chief political columnist and editorial writer for the prestigious Israeli national daily *Ha'aretz*. His columns also appear regularly in the *Ha'aretz-Herald Tribune* edition. In May 2006 the *Financial Times* selected him among the most prominent and influential commentators in the world, 'whose comments inspire callers from across the political spectrum'.

Date: Thursday, 22 September 2011
Time: 5.45pm for 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Place: The Lowy Institute for International Policy
Ground floor, 31 Bligh Street, Sydney
RSVP: Before 5.00pm on Monday, 19 September 2011 to Kate Weston at
kweston@lowyinstitute.org

We acknowledge the support of the New Israel Fund in organizing this videoconference.

Please note public events may be photographed and/or recorded. You will be able to access an audio file recording of the presentation via our website www.lowyinstitute.org



The Lowy Institute is an independent, non-partisan think tank which researches international political, strategic and economic issues from an Australian perspective.

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