



Global Conflict and Conflict Management: Israel/Palestine and Beyond

St. Anne's College, University of Oxford, May 18 and May 19 2014

Sponsored by the Middle East Program, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies,
University of Oxford



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Since the signing of the Oslo accords, it has generally been assumed within the international community that the Israel-Palestine conflict would be resolved through the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside of Israel. That scenario has not, however, come to pass, and it is not clear if partition might occur, and if not, what scenario might take its place. This conference will explore the history and legacy of partition on a global scale as well as other attempts to resolve or manage nationality conflict over the past century. Focusing on the mechanisms and aftermath of nationality conflict, this two-day international conference will bring together scholars from different disciplines and from around the world to discuss the Israel-Palestinian question via a comparative perspective.

Conference Programme

Sunday, May 18

9:15AM

Opening remarks

Prof Derek Penslar (University of Oxford)

9:30-11:00AM

Panel I: Partition

Prof Amikam Nahmani (Bar Ilan University), "Partition, For and Against: The Cases of Cyprus and Israel/Palestine"

Prof Lucy Chester (University of Colorado), "A 'High Iron Railing': Implementing Partition in Palestine and India"

Prof Motti Golani (Tel Aviv University), "Why 1937? Britain, the Zionist Movement and the Partition of Palestine"

Respondent: Dr Maya Tudor

11:30AM-1:00PM

Panel II: Forced Migration

Prof Max Bergholz (Concordia University, Montreal), "Global Lessons from a Local History of Forced Migration: Northwest Bosnia, 1941"

Dr Hillel Cohen (Hebrew University), "National Narratives Between Conflict and Reconciliation: the 1948 War as a Test Case"

Dr Pertti Ahonen (University of Edinburgh), "Forced Migrations in Central and Eastern Europe at the End of World War II and their Subsequent Commemoration"

Respondent: Prof Paul Betts

2:00-PM-4:00PM

Panel III: Trauma and Denial

Prof Veena Das (Johns Hopkins University), "Violence, Singularity and Proper Names: The Continuous Work of the Everyday"

Prof Alon Confino (University of Virginia), "The Warm Sand of the Coast of Tantara: History and Memory in Israel after 1948"

Dr Hratch Tchilingirian (University of Oxford), "Living with Injustice and Denial: Turkish-Armenian relations on the threshold of the centenary of the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire"

Prof Neil MacFarlane (University of Oxford), "Forced Partition, De Facto Statehood, Mutual Victimhood, and Paths to Resolution: The Case of Nagorno Karabakh"

Respondent: Dr Faisal Devji

4:30-6:00PM

Panel IV: Boycotts and Sanctions

Prof Saul Dubow (Queen Mary, University of London), "Apartheid South Africa: the Making of a Pariah State"

Dr Vincent Chapaux (Université Libre de Bruxelles), "The role of the International Community in Western Sahara"

Dr Lee Jones (Queen Mary, University of London), "International Sanctions for Peace-making? Reflections on South Africa and Palestine"

Respondent: Prof Yuen Foong-Khong

Monday, May 19

9:30-11:00

Panel V: State Expansion, Contraction, and Creation

Prof Yahia Zoubir (KEDGE Business School), "Geopolitical Designs in Western Sahara: Denying Statehood to the Rightful People"

Prof Amal Jamal (Tel Aviv University), TBA

Prof Reece Jones (University of Hawai'i-Manoa), "Borders, Security, and Territorial Expansion: The West Bank Wall in Global Context"

Respondent: Johannes Becke

11:30-1:00

Panel VI: Bilateralism and Multilateralism

Prof Paul Bew (Queen's University, Belfast), "No selfish strategic interest? The Northern Irish Model and the Middle East peace process"

Dr Amnon Aran (City University of London), "The US and Israeli-Palestinian negotiations 1993-2000: Mediation or Crisis Management?"

Dr Husam Zomlot (Oxford Research Group), "Learning from Fresh Lessons: The Kerry Peace Initiative for Israel/Palestine"

Respondent: Dr Noa Schonmann

2:30-4:00

Panel VII: Reconciliation

Dr Andrea Purdeková (University of Oxford), "Building Unity in Rwanda? Identity Politics and Genocide Ideology post-1994"

Dr Bashir Bashir (Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem), "Four Forms of Arab-Jewish Engagements and the Politics of Reconciliation in Israel/Palestine"

Lord John Alderdice (University of Oxford), "Devoted Actors and Sacred Values; Understanding the Thinking of Groups in Violent Political Conflict"

Respondent: Prof Richard Caplan