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אוניברסיטת תל-אביב

# Middle East News & Views

מרכז משה דיין ללימודי המזרח התיכון ואפריקה  
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A weekly sample of news and opinions on current events from around the Middle East collected and brought to you by the Dayan Center.

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## [Ghassan Khatib / A Consensus of Opposition](#)

Although Palestinians explain in various ways their rejection of the recent demand by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to recognize Israel as a Jewish state, there appears to be a consensus of opposition. The underlying assumption among Palestinians is that this Israeli request aims at putting additional sticks in the wheels of the peace process that the United States and the rest of the international community are trying to initiate.

Source: **bitterlemons.org, October 25, 2010**

## [Daoud Kuttab / Jewish or Israeli?](#)

Right-wing Israeli leaders might think that they have found a winning strategy to obstruct Palestinian demands by ramming the Jewishness of Israel down the throat of Palestinians. But by doing so, the Israeli leadership is harming the attempts by Jews around the world to distance themselves from the political state of Israel even if they support it ethnically, culturally and emotionally.

Source: **Jordan Times (Amman), October 28, 2010**

## [Hanna Siniora / Can Religious Leaders Play a Constructive Role?](#)

Religion constitutes a part of the problem in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. And since it is part of the problem, it also has to be part of the solution. The peaceful concept of coexistence in Islam, Judaism and Christianity is key to solving the conflict. In my opinion, religious leaders are the most credible body to spread the peaceful message that diverse religious narratives can coexist because they have the authority to interpret the holy books.

Source: **Common Ground News (Washington), October 28, 2010**

## [Bahey el-din Hassan / Elections 2010: What's New?](#)

In the 2005 election, President Hosni Mubarak's status as the sole candidate was not in dispute. Since early 2010 however, there have been many indications that Mubarak might be unable to run in next year's presidential election. The problem is that this is happening at a time when the regime is incapable of putting forth a strong alternative who can garner the undivided support of the ruling elite.

Source: **Al-Masry Al-Youm (Cairo), October 31, 2010**

## [Tariq Alhomayed / This is How the Game is Being Played in Iraq](#)

The process of forming the next government of Iraq is still ongoing nearly eight months after the elections, and there has been an increase in the media leaks and speculation over possible political scenarios. However the critical question that must be asked here is: what is going on behind the scenes?

Source: **Asharq Alawsat (London), October 30, 2010**

## [Abdullah Al Shayji / Arabs Relegated to Being Mere Spectators](#)

In the new emerging Middle East, the Arabs continue to be dominated and influenced by their non-Arab neighbors, mainly Israel, Iran and, lately, Turkey—not to mention the United States, which has become a "neighboring country" with a strong influence throughout the Arab world. While non-Arabs—Iranians, Jews and Turks—have clear designs and goals, the Arabs lack even an agenda, much less a clearly defined plan.

Source: **Gulf News (Dubai), November 1, 2010**

## [Şahin Alpay / Is Europe Drifting Away from the West?](#)

The above question surely comes to mind when one observes here from Turkey that in one after another of the European countries, political parties with openly anti-immigrant, Islamophobic and thinly disguised racist agendas are gaining significance.

Source: **Today's Zaman (Istanbul), October 25, 2010**

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