

# Africa and Israel: Building Strategic and Economic Bridges

**July 2, 2024**

**Tel-Aviv University**

**[The Buchmann Faculty of Law - The Malka Brender Hall of Justice]**

**09:30 – 17:00**

**09:30 Registration**

**10:00 Opening Remarks**

**Ms. Shiri Fein-Grossman**, Head of Strategy & Operations, Israel-Africa Relations Institute

**Dr. Irit Back**, Head of the Inter-University Program of African Studies at Tel Aviv University

**Dr. Vera Kaplan**, Head of S. Daniel Abraham Center for International and Regional Studies

**10:30-12:15 Economic Development initiatives in Africa**

**Chair: Ms. Shiri Fein-Grossman**, Head of Strategy & Operations, Israel - Africa Relations Institute

**Israel & Africa: Benefits from Stronger Economic Relations**

**Dr. Merav Galili**, CEO, Menomadin Foundation

**Israel's Relations with Africa - A Mine Field or a Gold Mine?**

**Mr. Zafrir Asaf**, Partner in Blue Laurel, Former Director of Emerging Markets and Development Finance Department at the Israel Ministry of Economy and Industry

**Mashav's Activity in Africa: Challenges & Implications**

**Amb. Eynat Shlein**, Deputy Director General, Head of MASHAV, Israel's International Development Cooperation Agency, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**The Dos and Don'ts of Promoting Economic Development in Africa**

**Ms. Vimbai Hungwe**, COO, ADG Legal

**Advancing Israel's Trade Relations with Selected African Markets through Initiatives, Projects and Activities to Promote Exports**

**Mr. Shai Zarivatch**, Department Head, Africa and Middle East. FTA, Ministry of Economy and Industry

**12:15-12:30 Coffee Break**

**12:30-13:30 Middle East Regional Powers Struggle in Africa**

**Chair: Dr. Irit Back**, Head of the Inter-University program of African Studies at Tel Aviv University

**Strategy of Iran and GCC Countries in Africa: Risks and Opportunities**

**Mr. Joshua Meservey**, Senior Fellow at Hudson Institute



המכון ליחסי ישראל - אפריקה  
Israel - Africa Relations Institute



TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  
Pursuing the Unknown  
The S. Daniel Abraham Center for  
International and Regional Studies



מכון ירושלים לאסטרטגיה ולביטחון  
The Jerusalem Institute  
for Strategy and Security

## The Israel-US-Morocco Triangle and the Potential for Cooperation in Africa

**Dr. Eran Lerman**, Vice President of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security

## Turkey's Policy in Africa and its Implications for Israel

**Dr. Hay Eytan Cohen Yanarocak**, Turkey Expert, the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security

13:30 Lunch Break

14:15-16:00 The Great Powers Competition in Africa

**Chair Dr. Asher (Asi) Lubotsky**, Research Fellow, Israel - Africa Relations Institute, Fellow in the Department of Political Science at the University of Houston, Texas

## U.S. Policy in Africa: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Way Forward

**Amb. Dr. J. Peter Pham**, Former U.S. Special Envoy for the Sahel & Great Lakes Regions of Africa, Distinguished Fellow, Atlantic Council, & Former Vice President for Research and Regional Initiatives and Director, Africa Center

## Russia's 'Return' to Africa as a Post-Cold War Reckoning

**Prof. Maxim Matusevich**, Professor of History and Department Chair at Seton Hall University

## France and Europe's Failed Strategy in Africa

**Mr. Cyril Bensimon**, Journalist, Le Monde

## China's Involvement in Africa: Contemporary Trends Overview

**Ms. Sharon Bar David**, Ben Gurion University, Expert on China's Presence in Africa

16:00-16:45 Israel and Africa: Challenges & Opportunities Post October 7

**Chair: Mr. Simon Seroussi**, Former Deputy Ambassador of Israel in Cameroon

## Challenges and Opportunities in Israel's Approach to Africa

**Amb. Sharon Bar-li**, Deputy Director General, Head of Africa Division, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## The UN and the Patterns of Israel's Relations with Africa

**Dr. Irit Back**, Head of the Inter-University program of African Studies at Tel Aviv University

16:45-17:00 Closing Remarks

**Prof. Efraim Inbar**, President of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security

The conference will be conducted in English.  
Participation is free, but registration is required.  
To register click [HERE](#)

General Note: All sessions will be recorded and made available for viewing after the conference. There will be no live-streaming of any sessions.

\*The agenda is not final