

## INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST | INTELLIGENCE PERSPECTIVES

**Geopolitical Briefings / Courses / Lectures / Personal EncounTours**

**Seminars / Tours / Workshops**

**IN ISRAEL | ON-LINE | OVERSEAS**

(1 hour to multiple days)

### **GEOPOLITICAL BRIEFINGS**

**INDOOR** Lecture / Workshop / Discussion over **breakfast, coffee, lunch, dinner, a drink, or as a formal lecture anywhere in the world** (typically) **1 to 1 ½ hours** (including Briefing and Q & A). Appropriate for **Individuals and Groups** of all ages and backgrounds.



#### **Inside The Middle East | Entering A New Era BRIEFING BASED ON MY [NEW BOOK](#)**

The Middle East is entering a new era, both defined by and as a result of a combination of ancient & modern domestic, regional, and international processes. [Inside The Middle East | Entering A New Era](#) takes you on an eye-opening journey through the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East today, challenges common Western concepts, narratives, and theories, and highlights perspectives from the region not heard in the Western media and discourse. This session helps you build a multidimensional picture of the complex geopolitical developments and dynamic reality of the Middle East today and provides an unparalleled foundation for navigating the events of tomorrow.

#### **خط التماس | קו התפר | [The Seam Line] Film & Discussion BASED ON MY [NEW DOCUMENTARY](#)**

Avi Melamed was Advisor on Arab Affairs to two Jerusalem Mayors during one of the most violent and chaotic chapters in the history of Jerusalem – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Intifada. In this [five-part documentary series](#), about Jerusalem Avi returns to many of the locations that were in the eye of the storm – the Old City of Jerusalem and Palestinian and Jewish neighborhoods in the New City. The people Avi meets – the Arabs and Jews he has conversations with and the experiences, stories, and lessons Avi shares from his unique first-hand perspectives, can provide the basis for a new discussion regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and can be relevant to conflicts around the world.

#### **The Middle East and the Crisis in Israel | A View From the Region**

The severe political crisis in Israel unfolds as historical developments reshape the Middle East's geopolitical map. How do Israel's regional allies and enemies view what is happening in Jerusalem's legislative halls and the boulevards and streets across the country? How does this crisis impact the geopolitical equilibrium, regional axes, and alliances? What are the current ramifications and possible consequences on Israel's place in the region's geopolitical landscape? This meeting will provide a unique opportunity to understand the evolving relationship between Israel and the Arab world - from inside the Arab world.

## **Normalization, Peace & Israel's Geostrategic Environment | The Road to the Abraham Accords & the Path Ahead**

The Abraham Accords – the peace treaty between Israel and the UAE; the Declaration of Intent signed by Bahrain and Israel; and the Normalization agreements between Israel and Sudan and Morocco change the Middle East's geopolitical map. What we see unfolding is the result of significant changes that have - and continue to take place - in the region. What are the reasons behind the evolving rapprochement? In [The Road to the Abraham Accords & the Path Ahead](#), we explore the reasons behind the evolving rapprochement and what the future holds for relations between Israel and the Arab world. How do the agreements and the responses from key players represent the area's new geopolitical construct? And what lies ahead for Israel, the Arab world, and the region?

## **The Iranian Corridor & Crescent | Structure, Impact & Ramifications**

Iran is making significant strides toward fulfilling its goal of being the dominant regional superpower. The cornerstone of its strategy is a crescent-shaped network of armed agents & proxies from Lebanon to Yemen intersecting with a corridor Iran is trying to secure and control from Iran to the Mediterranean Sea. This is the most significant military threat Israel is facing. And Israel has vowed it will do whatever it takes to prevent Iran from securing this corridor. What is the crescent? What is the corridor? What threat does it hold for Israel and the region? What must be done to ensure the Crescent and Corridor do not materialize? What are the risks if it does? [The Iranian Corridor & Crescent | Structure, Impact & Ramifications](#) explores all of this and more!

## **Jerusalem | Build Your Geopolitical Database**

Gain a better understanding of the city in the spotlight of media headlines! Jerusalem is complicated. [Jerusalem | Build Your Geopolitical Database](#) focuses on building the lexicon to understand the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including terms like Anti-Terror Fence, Arab-Israeli/ Israeli-Arab, Citizen, Defensible Borders, East Jerusalem, Green Line, Jerusalemite Palestinian, Oslo Accords & Areas A, B & C, Palestinian, the Palestinian Authority, Permanent Resident, Settlements, the West Bank, West Jerusalem, etc. Through an apolitical understanding of borders, concepts, core terms, demographics, geography, political structure, etc., you will have the lexicon to understand the most complex city on the planet that is perpetually under the international microscope.

## **The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | Build Your Database**

Building and/or strengthening your Israeli-Palestinian conflict lexicon is critical to understand Israel, Palestine, and the Middle East. True understanding of this complex, dynamic, evolving, and multilayered conflict is not only crucial for understanding Israel and Palestine today. Equally, or perhaps even more critical, the [Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | Build Your Database](#) offers a framework for constructive, productive, and unifying conversations that can bridge differing and opposing views.

## **The Gaza Strip & Israel | What Fuels The Conflict?**

The Middle East is a link of chains. What happens in one area impacts what happens in another. [The Gaza Strip & Israel | What Fuels The Conflict](#) takes you beyond the headlines and behind the scenes for a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the layers of the conflict. How do domestic and regional events throughout history – until today - impact Palestinians and Israelis? What can be done to create a better reality for Israelis and Palestinians? This session (which can also be a tour) is critical for anyone who wants a constructive, productive, and sustainable framework.

## **The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | A View From The Region - How the Middle East Shapes the Conflict**

A conventional narrative in the West is the "*Israeli-Palestinian Conflict shapes the geopolitics of the Middle East*" & "*solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will bring peace to the Middle East.*" Both theories are inaccurate - and to a large extent, counterproductive. The reality is actually the other way around. It is the Middle East that impacts the trajectory of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. [The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict | A View From The Region – How the Middle East Shapes the Conflict](#) explores how events & developments in the Middle East shape the course of the conflict and offers a platform for productive, out-of-the-box thinking that could provide Israelis and Palestinians with a constructive breakthrough from the depressing and vicious cycle in which they are caught.

## **Israeli Society 2023 | Pragmatism and Paradoxes**

Israeli society is diverse, and there are built-in paradoxes - conflicting agendas, ideologies, and interests of different groups – that are reflected in the culture, identity, and politics of the State of Israel. Hand-in-hand with this complex paradox, there is a pragmatism that characterizes Israeli society and Israeli politics. This apolitical, non-partisan [Briefing](#) empowers people to be knowledgeable media-literate critical thinkers equipped to assess the impact of these paradoxes and pragmatism on Israel today and in the future.

## **The Briefing Room (\*\* On-Line only)**

The [Briefing Room](#) offers insider access to the most current geopolitical analysis from across the Arab world. The briefing room provides insights, perspectives, and resources not covered in the Western Media. In the Briefing Room, Avi focuses on one topic and includes a regional guest from the Arab / Muslim world.

## **INSIDE THE MIDDLE EAST | INTELLIGENCE PERSPECTIVES [ITME] COURSE**

Avi Melamed is the Founder and CEO of [Inside the Middle East: Intelligence Perspectives \[ITME\]](#). A program he designed during his tenure as the Fellow of Intelligence and Middle East Affairs at the Eisenhower Institute in Washington, DC. ITME is an empowering practical educational curriculum teaching critical analysis in an innovative and engaging fashion. The distinct ITME praxis provides an apolitical, non-partisan education about the contemporary Middle East and uses Intelligence Methodology to teach Critical Thinking and Media Literacy. ITME transforms students and practitioners into knowledgeable, media-literate, critical thinkers.

ITME began as an undergraduate initiative and now includes workshops, seminars, and courses from High Schools to Capitol Hill to Community and Leadership Organizations across the globe. Our goal is to ensure that the next generation of leaders is equipped with the knowledge to decipher the Middle East and empowered with the skills to accurately predict the direction of future events and the tools to navigate complex reality independently and accurately. Through ITME, Avi has directly impacted the perspectives, educational path, and career trajectory of more than 200 current and future leaders.

To quote Avi's students and alumni - *ITME doesn't tell you what to think ITME teaches you HOW to think.* The program in its entirety is a full year (with or without a trip to the Middle East), but it can be adapted to a semester, a week, a few days, or a few hours.

## OUTDOOR FIELD BRIEFINGS, TOURS & PERSONAL-ENCOUNTERS



- An **OUTDOOR FIELD BRIEFING [INTEL-EDVENTURE™]** is in **one location** = (typically) **1 to 1 ½ hours** (including Briefing and Q & A).
- An **INTELLI-TOUR™** is a **combination** of more than one **Briefing**. You can combine **Indoor and/or Outdoor Field Briefings [INTEL-EDVENTURE™]** to create an Intelli-Tour™.
- **PERSONAL-ENCOUNTERS™** are **live and interactive conversations with people** that live: In Jerusalem; on the Gaza Border, on the Lebanese border, on the Syrian border (the Golan Heights); Israelis and Palestinians living in Judea & Samaria, West Bank, etc.
- Appropriate for Individuals and Groups of all ages and backgrounds.

### SAMPLE OUTDOOR BRIEFINGS, INTELLI-TOURS™ & PERSONAL-ENCOUNTERS™ (IN ISRAEL)

#### The ABCs of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict [In Jerusalem or along Road 6 in the Sharon Region or the Gaza Envelope]

This [tour](#) focuses on building or strengthening the building blocks of knowledge critical for understanding contemporary Israel and the Middle East. Terms like "West Bank," "Settlements," "The Anti-Terror Fence," "The Green Line," "Defensible Borders," and "Israel's Narrow Waist" are more tangible because you see them on the ground. (Excellent Briefing for any point in an individual or group trip, especially effective at the beginning of a course, trip, mission, etc., because it focuses on **understanding the Israeli and Middle East map and building a solid regional database** on which to study and learn about Israel and the Middle East).

#### The Anti-Terror Fence [In Jerusalem or along Road 6 in the Sharon Region]

Like many other countries like Sudan, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia, Israel has built a protective fence. Whether in Jerusalem or along Road 6, [visiting the Anti-Terror Fence](#) provides a framework to explore the myriad of on-the-ground-security issues Israel grapples with, including the challenge of suicide bombers. We will discuss why the Fence was built and its impact, and I will share behind-the-scenes stories regarding the way Israel confronts the challenge of terrorism and suicide bombers.

#### The Geopolitics of Jerusalem | Seeing is the Key to Understanding & Nothing Stands Alone

When it seems like the Old City, East and West Jerusalem are in the palm of your hand. When in one glance, you can see the Anti-Terror Fence, Bethlehem, Ramallah, Tel Aviv, and the Dead Sea, you begin to build a holistic and comprehensive picture of the region and can better grapple with the real issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. On this [tour](#), we will strengthen the building blocks of our on-the-ground lexicon. Terms and places like Areas A, B, & C, East Jerusalem, West Jerusalem, E-1, the Green Line, the Jordan Valley, the Palestinian Authority, the Palestinian Metropolitan Region, Ramallah, Settlements, West Bank, etc. will be so much clearer because we will see them on the ground. We will also spend time delving into definitions and terms like Israeli-Arab, Palestinian, Jerusalemite Palestinian, Citizen, Permanent Resident, etc. After this tour, we will also understand how everything in the Middle East is connected, and nothing stands alone... especially when it comes to Jerusalem!

## Jerusalem & the Israeli-Arab Conflict | Behind the Scenes of the Conflict in the Old City of Jerusalem

Avi Melamed was Advisor on Arab Affairs to two Jerusalem Mayors during one of the most violent and chaotic chapters in the history of Jerusalem – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Intifada. On this [tour](#), we will explore the micro and the macro of the conflict inside the Old City of Jerusalem. This unique walking tour is based on personal anecdotes from Avi's unparalleled field positions. Through sharing his own experiences – overseeing the Old City at the height of violence – you will gain a first-hand insider's understanding of the complexities of Jerusalem.

## The Gaza Border | What Fuels The Conflict?

Standing in Israel, you can see almost half of the Gaza Strip. That is when you begin to understand the security challenges of the southern region in a different way. This [tour](#) takes you beyond the headlines and behind the scenes for a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the layers of the conflict. How and why is the reality in the Gaza Strip - and Israel – impacted by remote arenas? Who are the players involved? What are their interests? What are the current ramifications and possible outcomes? Is there a potential for a positive "day after"? What can be done to create a better reality for Israelis and Palestinians? This tour (which can also be a [briefing](#)) is critical for anyone who wants a constructive, productive, and sustainable framework.

## Golan Heights [Syrian Border]

The war in Syria is one of the most significant events in the history of the Middle East. The war puts the future of the Golan Heights and the entire Middle East into question. [Standing on the Syrian border](#), a mere twenty miles from Damascus, we will explore the war in Syria, discuss the potential for the "Sinaization" of the Golan, understand the sources and impact of Assad's allegiances and alliances from Russia to Turkey to Iran, how the war impacts the region and Israel's current and future security posture, and what the future holds.

## Israel's Northern Front | The Iranian Shi'ite Crescent & Corridor [Lebanese and / or Syrian Border]

Iran wants to be the regional superpower. The backbone of Tehran's hegemonic strategy is a network of armed agents and proxies. For the last decade, Iran has been building an Iranian-controlled corridor from Iran through Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon to the Mediterranean Sea. This land bridge is the most significant military threat Israel is facing. Therefore, Israel has vowed it will do whatever it takes to prevent Iran from securing the corridor. What is the crescent? What is the corridor? How has Iran built this infrastructure? What threat does it hold for Israel and the region? What must be done to ensure the Crescent and Corridor do not materialize? What are the risks if it does?

## The Lebanese Border

The view from Israel into Lebanon is breathtaking. However, external forces and inner struggles have wrenched this county for generations. [Standing on the Lebanese border](#), we will delve into Lebanon's history, why the complex fabric of Lebanon and Lebanese society makes it fertile ground for continuing violence and chaos, explore the major forces that play a role in this struggling country, and understand the impact of the primary players - including Hezbollah, Iran, and Syria on southern Lebanon and Israel. We will discuss the current atmosphere in the country, the impact on Israel's geostrategic posture, the future of Lebanon, and the ramifications on the region.



## Two People, One Land, Many Narratives – Tour of The West Bank / Judea & Samaria

" You cannot understand the Middle East without understanding the power of symbols – culturally, emotionally, mentally, religiously, practically, and politically. Symbols are enormously significant because symbols create narratives. And the Middle East, to a large extent, is about narratives... "This [tour](#) is in the area known as the West Bank / Judea and Samaria. We will travel the region from north to south and east to West. We will explore the reality on the ground and understand what that reality means for any future arrangement. In addition to traveling and touring in the region, we will meet with the people that live in this highly contested area – Israelis, Palestinians, Samaritans, Christians, Jews, religious, secular, right-wing, left-wing, idealists, pragmatists, entrepreneurs, bureaucrats, dreamers, cynics and everything in between. Through personal meetings and encounters, as well as understanding the terrain, the communities, the roads, and the people, we will get to intimately understand the geographic and human landscape of this widely contested area.

**Tours of the Egyptian, Jordanian, and Sinai Borders are also available.** (Description & information available upon request).

**IntelEdventures™** and **InteliTours™** are available in various locations, including Jerusalem, the Gaza Envelope, the Lebanese Border, the Syrian Border, the West Bank / Judea & Samaria & Gush Etzion.

**Personal-EncounTours™** are live and interactive conversations with Residents that live: In Jerusalem; on the Gaza border; on the Syrian border; on the Lebanese border; Israelis living in the West Bank; Palestinians living in the West Bank, etc.

Adding an **IntelEdventure™**, an **InteliTour™**, and a **Personal-EncounTour™** is also a perfect way to create an engaging, meaningful Series or Course that will connect through *knowledge, unique, customized experiences, and personal connections!*

All of our activities are available in **Arabic, English, & Hebrew**

**\*\*All of our educational activities are not "static" academic lectures. Each includes the most up-to-date information and analysis\*\***

***There are also options to add LIVE and/or RECORDED Tours & Interactions!***

**Note... These Are Just a Sample of Our Activities! Contact Us So We Can Custom Design the Best Experience for You!**

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