



The 11th World Summit on Counter-Terrorism **September 13-14, 2011** **Herzliya, Israel**

The "Arab Spring" and its regional and international effects

The phenomenon of the uprisings in Muslim and Arab states which began in 2011 has been termed the "Arab Spring". This term reflects the positive attitude and expectations of the Western world that this process will lead to the democratization of the Arab world and to pragmatism. The series of workshops which will be held within the framework of "The Arab Spring" cluster, will examine the phenomenon and its possible ramifications within the short, middle and long terms.

- **The Muslim Brotherhood's role in the revolutions in the Arab countries**

Against the backdrop of the "Arab Spring" revolutions which began in 2011, the importance of the Muslim Brotherhood movement as an alternative political party has increased. Within the community of experts there is a dispute with regards to the desire and chances of the movement to reach governmental positions in the various countries, as well as the significance and ramifications of this possibility. The workshop will examine these questions, focusing on those states where revolutions have recently occurred, or where there is a real possibility of them occurring in the near future.



- **The revolutions in the Arab world from the perspectives of Iran and Al Qaeda**

This workshop will examine the "Arab Spring" revolutions from the viewpoint of Iran and Al Qaeda. The workshop will focus on the question of what this process symbolizes for the various entities, whether it serves their local and global interests, and if so what can be done to alter these processes and track them in a way that won't serve these fundamentalist entities.

- **The Middle East: Between Democracy and State Failure?**

This workshop examines the unfolding revolts and processes of state formation in the contemporary Arab Middle East from the perspective of democratization theory, and the literatures on institutional and political development. Analyzing State-specific cases, Non-State Actors, and cross-cutting regional dynamics, the workshop will question to what extent we are witnessing early democratization, the emergence of new modes of authoritarianism, or state-failure in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). In addition, the workshop will examine the role, actual and potential, of external actors (notably the United States, European Union, Israel, and multilateral development institutions) in seeking to strengthen positive democratic development and weaken the influence of anti-democratic agents and movements.

- **The role and the involvement of international actors in regions of civil unrest. (UN, NATO, Red Cross, etc.)**

Against the backdrop of the involvement of NATO, various United Nations frameworks, the Red Cross and other international organizations, in revolutionary processes occurring in the Middle East and the Arab states, this workshop will examine the roles, challenges and dilemmas involved in these international organizations' activities in areas of tension, a lack of civilian stability, and war.

- **The role of Hezbollah as an Iranian proxy and as a model of an incremental Islamic radical revolution**

This workshop will analyze the test-case of the Hezbollah movement in Lebanon, both as a model of incremental takeover of the government by an Islamic fundamentalist movement, as well as being an Iranian proxy intended to aid other fundamentalist movements in the Middle East arena in attaining control in their respective countries. The workshop will examine the conclusions arising from Hezbollah's activities and successes in Lebanon and will propose recommendations which should be put into practice in order to prevent similar processes in other countries.

- **The impact of the "Arab Spring" on migration processes**

This workshop will examine the issue of Muslim migration from Muslim states to Western countries and the effect and result of the revolutions in the Middle East and Arab states on these waves of immigration. The workshop will examine the challenges which such immigration poses to Western countries, the dangers, and the possible ways of relating to it.