



UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

United Nations Forum on the Question of Palestine

“The Question of Palestine: Threats of Annexation and the Prospects for Peace”

Thursday, 4 June 2020, 10.00-11.30 a.m. (NY Time)

Bio Notes of Panellists

Hanan Ashrawi is a Palestinian legislator, activist, and scholar. She is a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee and has served as a member of the Leadership Committee and as an official spokesperson of the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace process, beginning with the Madrid Peace Conference of 1991. She was elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council representing Jerusalem in 1996. She then headed the Legislative Reform Committee between 2000 and 2005. In 2006, she was again elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council representing “The Third Way”. In 2009, she was elected as member of the Executive Committee of the PLO, making history as the first woman to hold a seat in the highest executive body in Palestine. As a civil society activist, Ms. Ashrawi has founded and headed many organizations and institutions such as the Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR), the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH) and the Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN).

Yossi Beilin is the President of Beilink, a global consulting firm, which he established in 2008. He is a former Member of the Israeli Parliament (Knesset), Deputy Foreign Minister, Deputy Finance Minister, Minister of Economy and Planning, Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister, Minister for Religious Affairs, and Minister of Justice. He initiated the secret channel of talks that resulted in the 1993 Oslo Accords. He headed the Israeli delegation to the multilateral peace process working groups from 1992-95 and was a negotiator at the Taba talks in 2001. He created and led the public movement in Israel for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon. He is one of the initiators of the 2003 Geneva Accords.

James Zogby co-founded the Arab American Institute in 1985 and continues to serve as its president. He is Director of Zogby Research Services, a firm that has conducted ground-breaking surveys across the Middle East. For the past three decades, he has served in leadership roles in the Democratic National Committee and served two terms as a President Obama appointee to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. He writes a weekly column published in 12 countries and is featured frequently on national and international media as an expert on Middle East affairs. In 2010, Zogby published the book “Arab Voices”. His 2013 e-books “Looking at Iran: The Rise and Fall of Iran in Arab Public Opinion” and “20 Years After Oslo” are drawn from his extensive polling across the Middle East with Zogby Research Services.

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