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The Middle East Neighborhood: Friends, Foes and Fragile Alliances

وَمَنْ يُؤْتَ الْحِكْمَةَ فَقَدْ أُوتِيَ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا

"and he to whom wisdom is granted receiveth indeed a benefit overflowing" (Al Baqara 2:269)

Nearly a decade has elapsed since the collapse of the Oslo Process. Israel and the Palestinian Authority have so far failed to reach an agreement, despite repeated attempts to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute. Jordan and Egypt have remained committed to their respective peace agreements with Israel, despite the ebb and flow of violence in the region, but their leadership is embattled and in Egypt it faces a difficult succession struggle. While Israel's relations with the Arab world have considerably deteriorated, its traditional friendships with Turkey and the European Union have also been under pressure. In this environment, what foreign policy is Israel pursuing? What goals does it seek to achieve? What challenges can it hope to meet? The lecture will aim to answer these questions.

Dr Emanuele Ottolenghi is Senior Fellow of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies in Brussels. A political scientist by training, he came to Brussels as the executive director of the Transatlantic Institute in 2006 after having previously taught Israel Studies at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies and at the Middle East Centre of St. Antony's College, Oxford University. He obtained his Ph.D. at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and did his undergraduate studies at the University of Bologna.

Thursday
16 Sept 2010
7.00 - 9.00 pm

Social Sciences
Lecture Theatre
UWA
Room G130
Crawley Campus

