

Truman Institute, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem

Central Asian Research Unit

# Russia and the Muslim World

## 13-14 May 2018

### 13 May | Sunday

**16:00-16:30 Gathering + Greetings:**

Menachem Blondheim, Director Truman Institute  
Zeev Levin, Central-Asia Unit

**16:30 – 18:00: Russia in the Caucasus**

Chair: Reuven Enoch, Ariel University

Walt Richmond, Occidental College, Los Angeles  
**The Circassian Factor in Russian-Muslim Relations**

Lars Funch Hansen, Malmö University

**Ethnicity and Education: Towards a Renewed Arena of Conflict in the North Caucasus?**

Chen Bram, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**The Colonization of the Caucasus between Past and Present: Russia and the struggle over the Circassian Genocide**

18:00-18:30 Coffee break

**18:30 Keynote:**

Paul Stronski - Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Russia and the Muslim World in a Changing Geopolitical Environment**

### 14 May | Monday

**09:00-09:30 Gathering**

**09:30-10:30: Russia and the Middle East**

Chair: Moshe Maoz, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Denis Parkhomchuk, Third secretary of the Russian Embassy in Israel and director of Russian cultural center in Tel-Aviv

**Russian Centers of Science and Culture in the Muslim World: Public Diplomacy, Dialogue of Cultures and Civilizations**

Vladimir Mesamed, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Russia and Iran in Syria: Partnership or Rivalry**

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

**11:00-12:30 Russia in the Gulf**

Chair: David Yerushalmi, Tel-Aviv University

Igor Delanoë, French-Russian Analytical Center Observo

**The Trade between Russia and Petro-Monarchies: new Perspectives, new Challenges**

Clément Therme, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), Manama (Kingdom of Bahrain)

**Iran and Russia: towards an alliance?**

Bat Chen Druyan-Feldman, Ben-Gurion University  
**Russian Orientalism and Contemporary Image of Iran**

12:30-13:30 Lunch break

**13:30-15:00 Russia in Central Asia**

Chair: Yaacov Ro'i, Tel-Aviv University

Mirzohid Rahimov, The Institute of History of The Academy of Sciences of The Republic of Uzbekistan  
**New dynamics of Russian and Central Asian relations**

Dawood Azami, BBC London

**The Return of the Bear: Russia's Assertiveness in Afghanistan and Pakistan**

Zeev Levin, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
**Russian heritage in Central Asia**

15:00-15:30 Coffee break

**15:30-17:00 Russia and the Muslim World in History and Memory**

Chair: Yaacov Ro'i, Tel-Aviv University

Alikber Alikberov, Institute of Oriental Studies (RAS) St. Petersburg

**Russia's interaction with Muslim lands: the main stages of history**

Zhar Zardykhan, KIMEP University Almaty

**Russian attempts to win over Muslim hearts in times of trouble: Reflections from the World War I and the current Syrian conflict.**

Tim Kucharzewski, The University of Potsdam  
**Russian wars in Afghanistan and Chechnya deconstruction of a memory**

17:00-17:30 Coffee break

**17:30 Special Session:**

Minister Ze'ev Elkin, Minister of Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage

MK Ksenia Svetlova, the Zionist Union

**Russia in the Muslim World: A View from Israel**

18:00-19:00 Round table Discussion:

Chair: Zvi Magen INSS

**Future of Russian presence in the Muslim World**  
Concluding remarks: Ze'ev Levin

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