



Mideast Freedom Forum Berlin

**International Iran-Conference**

# **Business as usual?**

***The Iranian regime, the holy war against Israel  
and the West and the German reaction***

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> 2008**

**Berlin**

With

**Prof. Benny Morris**

**Menashe Amir**

**MdEP Paulo Casaca**

**Dr. Mathias Küntzel**

**Nasrin Amirsedghi**

**Prof. Jeffrey Herf**

**Yossi Melman**

**Bruno Schirra**

**...and many more**

[www.mideastfreedomforum.org](http://www.mideastfreedomforum.org)

**Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008**

**11 a.m.  
Bundespresseamt**

**Press conference**

**7 p.m.  
Auditorium Friedrichstraße**

**Introduction and greetings**

**Prof. Elie Wiesel**

Nobel Laureate, Publicist and Survivor of the Shoah (USA)  
(Video-Message)

**Charles A. Small**

Yale University (USA), President and Founder of the *Institute for the Global Study of Antisemitism and Policy*

**Prof. Diethard Pallaschke**

Head of German chapter of *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)*

**7.30 p.m.**

**Opening panel:**

**Islamism, Antisemitism, Nuclear Programme: The Iranian threat**

**Religious and ideological motivation in Iranian domestic and international policies**

**Menashe Amir**

Former Director of the Persian program of Radio *Kol Israel* (Voice of Israel), Israel

**A second Holocaust? The threat to Israel**

**Prof. Benny Morris**

Professor of History, *Ben-Gurion University*, Middle East Studies Dept., Israel

**"Strategic partner"? The special German-Iranian relationship**

**Dr. Matthias Küntzel**

Political Scientist, Board Member *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East*, Germany

**The EU, Iran and the effectiveness of sanctions**

**MEP Paulo Casaca**

*Partido Socialista Portugal*, Socialist Group in the European Parliament, Portugal

**Chair: Alan Posener**

Head Commentator *Welt am Sonntag*, Germany

**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008**

**10.15 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.**

**Theocracy and Human Rights.  
The character of the Iranian Regime**

**Anatomy of Terror in the Iranian theocracy**

**Javad Asadian**

Writer and Poet, member and former president of the exil-Iranian *PEN*, Germany

**Women under theocracy**

**Nasrin Amirsedghi**

Publicist and Cultural Scientist, Germany

**The situation of the Kurds in Iran**

**Dr. Miro Aliyar**

Representative of the *Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan*, Austria

**Chair: Caroline Fetscher**

Journalist, *Tagesspiegel*, Germany

**12.45 p.m. - 14.30 p.m.**

**The Holy war against Israel and the West**

**The roadmap to the bomb**

**Yossi Melman**

Publicist and Journalist, *Haaretz*, Israel

**Terror and ideology-export: The Islamic Republic's war against the West**

**Dr. Patrick Clawson**

Deputy Director for Research at the *Washington Institute for Near East Policy*, USA

**Iran and the Islamist network in Germany**

**Alexander Ritzmann**

Political Scientist, *European Foundation for Democracy*, Germany

**Chair: Dr. Sylke Tempel**

Historian and Publicist, Germany

16.00 p.m. - 17.45 p.m.

## Iran and Europe: Dialogue or confrontation?

**Is Europe pressing Israel towards war? EU, UN and the possible effectiveness of draconian sanctions**

**Saul Singer**

Journalist and Publicist, Editorial Page Editor *Jerusalem Post*, Israel

**Business as usual? German-Iranian trade relations**

**Dr. Matthias Küntzel**

Political Scientist, Board Member *Scholars for Peace in the Middle East*, Germany

**Know nothing, hear nothing, see nothing - Germany's policy towards Islamism: Calculation or anticipatory obedience?**

**Bruno Schirra**

Journalist and Publicist, Germany

**Chair: Majid Sattar**

Political Editor *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Germany

18.15 p.m. - 20.15 p.m.

## Final panel: The need for a new antifascism

**Capitulate to the Iranian Regime?**

**Henryk M. Broder**

Journalist, Germany

**International cooperation against the Mullah-Regime**

**Kayvan Kaboli**

Spokesperson of the *Green Party of Iran*, USA

**Where are the anti-fascists? Iran and the meaning of "Coming to terms with the Nazi past" in 2008**

**Prof. Jeffrey Herf**

Historian, *University of Maryland*, College Park, USA

**Freedom, secularization, democracy – for a new Middle East**

**Thomas von der Osten-Sacken**

Publicist and Director of relief and human rights organization *Wadi e.V.*, Germany

**Chair: Doris Akrap**

Editor *Jungle World*, Germany

Venue: Auditorium Friedrichstraße,  
Friedrichstraße 180, Berlin Mitte (U2/U6 Stadtmitte)

Registration, latest schedule (German/English) and more Information:

[www.mideastfreedomforum.org](http://www.mideastfreedomforum.org)