

## David Makovsky

### Ziegler Distinguished Fellow and Director, Project on the Middle East Peace Process at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy



David Makovsky is the Ziegler distinguished fellow at The Washington Institute and director of the [Project on the Middle East Peace Process](#). He is also an adjunct professor in Middle East studies at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and recently concluded an almost ten-month stint as a senior advisor on Secretary of State John Kerry's peace team.

Author of numerous Washington Institute monographs and essays on issues related to the Middle East Peace Process and the Arab-Israeli conflict, he is also coauthor, with Dennis Ross, of the 2009 Washington Post bestseller *Myths, Illusions, and Peace: Finding a New Direction for America in the Middle East* (Viking/Penguin). His 2011 [maps on alternative territorial solutions to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict](#) were reprinted by the *New York Times* in the paper's first interactive treatment of an op-ed. His widely acclaimed September 2012 *New Yorker* essay, "[The Silent Strike](#)," focused on the U.S.-Israel dynamics leading up to the 2007 Israeli attack on Syrian nuclear facilities.

Mr. Makovsky is a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies. His commentary on the peace process and the Arab-Israeli conflict has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, and *National Interest*. He appears frequently in the media to comment on Arab-Israeli affairs, including PBS NewsHour.

He has testified before the full U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the full U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, and on multiple occasions before the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs Middle East Subcommittee.

Before joining The Washington Institute, Mr. Makovsky was an award-winning journalist who covered the peace process from 1989 to 2000. He is the former executive editor of the *Jerusalem Post*, was diplomatic correspondent for Israel's leading daily, *Haaretz*, and is a former contributing editor to *U.S. News and World Report*. He served for eleven years as that magazine's special Jerusalem correspondent. He was awarded the National Press Club's 1994 Edwin M. Hood Award for Diplomatic Correspondence for a cover story on PLO finances that he cowrote for the magazine.

In July 1994, as a result of personal intervention by then Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Mr. Makovsky became the first journalist writing for an Israeli publication to visit Damascus. In total, he has made five trips to Syria, the most recent in December 1999 when he accompanied then Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. In March 1995, with assistance from U.S. officials, Mr. Makovsky was given unprecedented permission to file reports from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, for an Israeli publication.

A native of St. Louis, Missouri, Mr. Makovsky received a bachelor's degree from Columbia University and a master's degree in Middle East studies from Harvard University.