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**Israel National Defense College**

**Class 47**

**Background Information**

**April 2020**

**The INDC**

The Israel National Defense College is designed to be a national institutue for comprehensive and in-depth study of all national security elements, and the interrelationships between them. The INDC's curriculum is integrated with an academic curriculum, which is conducted both at the University of Haifa and at the Military Colleges base at Camp Dayan.

**Purpose**

The INDC is Israel's highest institution for training senior staff in the IDF, the security establishment, as well as senior officials in government ministries and agencies, for senior positions. This is based on a government decision of 23 May, 1976.

**Goals of the College Year**

1. Study and research of Israel's national security concepts and elements.

2. Analysis of the interrelationships between the various elements of national security.

3. Development of strategic thinking tools, which are appropriate for senior executives facing national security challenges.

**About the Curriculum**

The academic year opened on 2 September, 2019, and is scheduled to end on 15 July, 2020. It includes a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Haifa. During the school year, the participants take part in many courses, exercises and learning tours (in Israel and abroad) that deal with all national security aspects of the State of Israel and beyond, and encompass the following four main areas: national defense, statesmanship, economy and society. Beyond these four main learning areas, the INDC provides participants with tools for thinking and planning at the strategic level.

The INDC's academic year is conducted in four study seasons: The first season is the Global Season, in which the participants are exposed to fundamental concepts of national security from a global perspective.

The second season is the Israeli Season, in which the participants delve deep into the national security elements of the State of Israel. This season includes the conduct of strategic investigations, and ends with a political-security simulation dealing with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The third season is the Specialization Season, in which they participate in a course titled: The Digital World for Decision Makers. Additionally, in this season every participant chooses two seminars. The Specialization Season ends in a learning tour to the East.

The fourth season is the Integrative Season, in which every participant is required to work on a final project related to national security (in interdisciplinary groups of up to 3 participants). To conclude the season and the school year, there is a two-week learning tour to the US, which provides the participants with a better understanding of the American System, the characteristics of a global power, and the special connections between the US and the State of Israel.

**The INDC Staff**

Commandant of the military colleges and the INDC: Major General Itai Veruv

Chief Instructor: Ambassador Merav Zafary-Odiz from the Israel Atomic Energy Commission

Head of the Academic Program on behalf of the University of Haifa: Prof. Yossi Ben-Artzi

Instructor: Assistant Commissioner Eran Kamin from the Israeli Police

Instructor: Ambassador Amir Maimon from the Foreign Ministry

Instructor: COL Ret. Yehudah Yohananoff from the IDF

Instructor: Mr. Avi Almog from the Prime Minister's Office

Instructor: COL Amiram Jakira from the IDF

Academic Instructor: Dr. Anat Stern

**Lectures at the INDC**

1. Chatham House Rules apply to all participants and lecturers.

2. We request that you leave at least one third of the lecture time for questions and answers.

3. The INDC advances a culture of honest and open discussions, even when it comes to difficult topics. We thank our guests for their patience to hear other opinions and ideas.

4. There are six international students (foreign army officers) in the INDC. All lectures are translated simultaneously to English.

5. In light of the class heterogeneity and diverse backgrounds of the participants, we appreciate the minimal use acronyms during the lecture.