**Team 1 Processing – Different Approaches to International**

**Relations and Security Perceptions**

The purpose of the processing is to link the opening task of Israel's National Defense concept with the theories that were taught during the lesson.

**All participants were asked to formulate the definition of Israel's security concept, as best they understood.**

Luf - the sum of the components that enable the existence of the state as a nation-state over time - shared values, external security, internal security, economic minimum, social mobility, legal system and equality before the law.

Alon - components consisting of a common denominator. All elements at the strategic and political level, which enable dealing with short-term and long-range threats. In order to enable national and ethical existence and character, alongside the exploitation of opportunities that will lead to prosperity. (His explanation - emphasizes not only a defensive definition but a little more initiative one, taking advantage of opportunities to bring about prosperity and not just preserving the existing situation).

Klaus - defined a goal or vision, which is the existence of a Jewish and democratic state. By using the following means: a strong military, economic power, and the use of knowledge in these two areas, as means of achieving goals through national and international efforts, based on common goals, while using social strength and solidarity.

Shahar - begins from the designation of a Jewish democratic state, and from this vital national interests are derived. Maintaining this purpose from external and internal threats is done by using the power tools that are the four components (political, military, economic, and social).

**Let us move 50 years into the future, without any progression in the peace process. The Arab and ultra-Orthodox populations have grown and the reality is that half of the population is not Jewish. In other words, our situation is that of a bi-national state. Whether the definition is the same or is changing. Participants were asked to relate to their definition in the mirror of this change.**

Kobi - an appropriate response to all the vital interests of the State of Israel, in a manner that will enable it to maintain sovereignty and its residents to live safely within the borders it defines. With the prosperity and integration of the entire population at its various levels, and to provide security for the continued existence and survival of the Jewish people. (I seek a broader approach, not only a national home in the State of Israel, but also the protection of Jews abroad, as a commitment of the State of Israel as part of its national Defense. To answer Eran's question – I do not see the possibility of an Arab PM, as it would drastically change the situation in the country in a way that will change its character and therefore also its national security concept).

Ensuring the existence of the state and preserving the national vital interests, the values of the State of Israel (according to the values of the Declaration of Independence - although not stated in the definition). Eran notes that in certain perceptions, the Zionist value is fundamental to Israel's security concept. Samuel replies that according to the values he saw, even without specifying them, the existence of the Jewish national state is part of the mission.

Eyal – National security is a state in which citizens of the state feel freedom, physical and material security, and the state is capable of defending and sustaining its national interests and choosing its values and character. It is also true for 50 years ahead, in this aspect of choosing the desired character now and moving towards it. Eran wishes to mention the narrowing and expanding approach.

Pat - For Israel to be able to secure itself from external threats, it must be strong from within; a democratic state that can give its citizens existential, social security. Achieving the goals of the state through the joint work of its citizens - that is, social solidarity. Otherwise, it will be difficult for the state to defend itself.

Raju - One of the problems is maintaining a secular democratic character. There is no dispute about the Jewish value of the state, but there is a difficulty in the secular-democratic value aspect. Today there is a Jewish majority, but in the future the situation may change, and therefore these values are important. The need for social strength is fundamental to existence - and this requires aspects of equality.

Inbal - an examination of threats and the manner of action against them, with the aim of maintaining a sovereign, Jewish and democratic state, which is the state of the Jewish people, which provides all its citizens with equal rights and obligations.

Eran - **During the year we will learn National Security; this is the topic of our academic studies. There are a number of arguments - between the narrowing and expanding approach (with regard to the powers the state uses against the threats), additional definitions that are around the world of values - Zionism, Judaism, Israeliness. How are we as a country different from other countries.**

**Asks Raju and Klaus what is the definition of national security in their country?**

Raju responds - the ability to ensure a secular and democratic nation. This is the original mission and vision, which grows out of perceptions of equality, justice, freedom and rights for all citizens. The other aspects are measures to ensure these values. Speaks of security at the highest level and at the basic existential level. This is the basis upon which India was established, and we will be able to have so many nationalities and religions in the country. Any other possibility would remove the state from balance, and that is why this is the basis for existence.

Klaus replies: There is no German national security concept. There is a white book with the basic values ​​of Germany - protecting the citizens, the borders, the way of life (democratic, secular, equal rights), free trade, national institutions and the international community. Sovereignty for the purpose of belonging to the said international body. Part of the basis for the values ​​of modern Germany also stems from the events of the Second World War and the Holocaust, all with the aim of preventing the recurrence of such events in Germany and elsewhere. Therefore, there is a great deal of subjugating from German sovereignty to international organizations. In this respect Germany is also special in the European Union.

Eran - **Is it appropriate to expect Israel to have a mirror image that is opposite to that of Germany? Is its national security concept like all other countries? While demographic change is taking place, will the definitions given still be valid, or is there place for a different conceptual approach.**

Guy - as far as he is concerned, the State of Israel is in a Jewish and democratic definition, to a level that is not required to be written. The description given is no longer of the State of Israel, and therefore the concept will not be relevant. Therefore, we need to define how not to reach this situation. Some of the vital interests require that there be no state of non-Jewish leadership.

The question was raised, whether equality stands in contradiction to these values - do democratic and Jewish collide in a different demographic situation? The State of Israel has defined itself as a nation-state - will this situation be preserved in a situation of demographic change? The majority believes that there will be a change - not a nation-state, but a state of an accumulation of citizens who share a common interest in the life they see for themselves.

Kobi - a country with two peoples in one state, of similar size, is a state of inequality that will not last long and will require a constitutive event of a fracture after which a different situation will be created. Every place in history in which we thought that two peoples with different perceptions would succeed in living together failed.

In another discussion, the group was divided into three groups (1 Liberalism, 2 Realism, 3 Constructivism), which were asked to define Israel's National Security concept according to the appropriate paradigm. Moving on the axis between a narrowing and expanding definition, and on the axis of Israel like all other countries, or the Jewish nation-state.

Summary of the work in groups

Group 1 Liberalism: (Eyal, Guy, Pat and Alon) (It was a challenge to write the concept of liberal security and in English). Preserving Israel as a democratic state that gives equal opportunities and rights to all its citizens. The state of the Jewish people wherever it is, which promotes interests and values by means of international relations, cooperation and social and economic power.

Group 2 Realism: (Inbal, Shahar, Samuel and Luf.) Ensuring the existence of the State of Israel as the Jewish nation-state, within borders that enable long-term existence as a Jewish and democratic state. This is done by means of military force that can deter the enemy and ensure a decision when necessary; A political power that aspires to international legitimacy and alliances, economic strength of a state independent of the other, to ensure the military and political maneuvering space, and social strength to be achieved by encouraging 'Aliyah', expanding and strengthening the settlements, and educating Zionist and democratic values of equal rights and obligations.

Group 3: (Kobi, Raju, and Klaus) to protect and maintain the State of Israel as a home for the Jewish people.

Eran - **The processing points to a deep understanding of the different perceptions and approaches. Asks the group what definition the participants can accept, and which correlates to their concept as citizens of the state?**

C - A combination of approaches is required; it is difficult to rely on only one definition in the reality we live in. Reluctantly, he would choose liberalism, because it contains certain definitions that are nevertheless taken from other doctrines - for example, the choice to treat the Jewish people from other worlds.

Pat - agrees with "C", part of the security concept requires reference to internal political dynamics, which cannot be found in the various definitions.

The constructivist definition leaves room for interpretation, and therefore may be more convenient for participants.

Eran raises the question: **Can we think about the state without thinking about the Holocaust? Apparently not in light of the reference to the Jewish home in Eretz Israel, which appeared in all the definitions**.

Udi summarizes / comments –

With regard to the liberal position, liberalism emphasizes two things: the entire population participates in the decision-making process, and therefore the security concept must include a mechanism that allows it. A prominent example can be found in the US Congress. Some countries see themselves as responsible for their people wherever they are, and this is true not only for Israel but also for other countries.

With regard to the realistic position, the classical position is concerned with survival, and therefore, if the democratic and the Jewish helps to survive, great. If not, then there is room for reconsideration. A transformation that guarantees survival over the ethnic group. Realism is indifferent to the type of government - the government that will ensure survival is chosen.

With regard to the constructive stance, there are institutions that can adapt themselves to the changing reality, provided that continuity is maintained (of course, identity clearly changes if reality requires it). This is the main function- changing with the changing social construct.