

## SHLOMO BEN AMI

Prof. Shlomo Ben Ami was educated at Tel Aviv University where he did his B.A and M.A in History and Hebrew Literature, and Oxford University[ St.Antony's College] where he received his D.Phil.

He taught at the History Department of Tel Aviv University, and in 1982-1986 he headed the Graduate School of History at Tel Aviv University.

In 1986 he became a full Professor and assumed The Elias Sourasky Chair for Spanish and Latin American Studies.

Professor Ben Ami is the author of , among others,

**The Origins of the Second Republic in Spain** [Oxford University Press,1978], and **Fascism from Above** [Oxford University Press,1983]

In 1980-1982 , Professor Ben Ami was a Visiting Fellow ay St.Antony's College in Oxford, and in 1992 he had a similar fellowship at The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, in Washington.

In 1987, he was appointed to be Israel's first Ambassador in Spain, where he served until December 1991. He was a member of Israel's delegation to the Madrid Peace Conference. In1993, he headed the Israeli delegation at the Multilateral Talks on Refugees in the Middle East held in Ottawa, Canada.

In 1993, Professor Ben Ami created The Curiel Center for International Studies at Tel Aviv University, which he headed until 1996. In the same year he was elected to the Knesset, where he served as a member of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

In1999, after Labor's landslide victory, Professor Ben Ami was appointed as Minister of Public Security. In 2000, he became Foreign Minister. As such he led the peace talks with the Palestinians throughout the last two years of the Clinton administration. He conducted the secret negotiations with Abu Ala in Stockholm [The Swedish Channel], and participated with Prime Minister Barak in the Camp David Summit, after which he led the Israeli team in all the different phases of the negotiations with the Palestinians, including Taba. He was a central actor in the shaping of the so-called Clinton Peace Parameters.

Professor Ben Ami published in France a book[ **Quel avenir pour Israel?**—Presses Universitaires de France, 2001] analyzing the Israeli-Palestinian situation and Israel's regional and international dilemmas. His thorough account of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations during the last two years of President Clinton in office (the inside story of

Camp David and Taba) was published in Hebrew: **A Front Without a Homefront: A Voyage to the Boundaries of the Peace Process** ( Yedioth Ahatonoth, Tel-Aviv, 2004). His comprehensive overview of the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the quest for peace- **Scars of War, Wounds of Peace. The Arab-Israeli Tragedy-** was published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson (London, 2005) and Oxford University Press, New York, 2006).

*Foreign Affairs*, the prestigious American magazine of international relations defined the book as “a brilliant interpretation of the Israeli-Arab conflict.” *The Economist* wrote that it is “a beautifully written account”, and **President Clinton** wrote “Shlomo Ben Ami worked tirelessly and courageously for peace. His account...should be read by everyone who wants a just and lasting resolution”.

Prof. Ben-Ami serves now as the vice-president of the Toledo International Center for Peace ( Citpax ) of which he is a co-founder. Citpax forms part of a cluster of Think Tanks that include FRIDE ( the Foundation for External Dialogue whose president is **Pedro Solbes**, the former European Union Commissioner for Economic Affairs and former minister of finance of Spain. **Benita Ferrero-Waldner**, the former European Union Commissioner of External Affairs is a key member in the board ), and the Club of Madrid ( a forum of former heads of state currently presided by Ricardo Lagos, a former president of Chile. President Clinton is a central actor in the works of the Club).

Citpax held in 2010 the presidency of The European Peace building Liaison Office (EPLO ), a platform of European NGOs, networks of NGOs and think tanks active in the field of peace building that share an interest in promoting sustainable peace building policies among decision makers in the European Union. EPLO has its offices in Brussels and is in regular touch with the EU institutions. In July 2014, Citpax was chosen to form part of a consortium of European think tanks that advise the European Foreign Affairs Service on matters of conflict prevention and mediation.

Prof. Ben Ami was during the last four years a board member of the International Crisis Group. With its head office in Brussels and dozens of offices across the world, ICG is the most influential think tank worldwide. Prof. Ben Ami was now appointed to be a senior adviser of ICG, a position he shares with figures such as Nobel Peace laureate **Martti Ahtisaari**, President Obama’s envoy to the Middle East Senator **George Mitchell** and former French prime minister **Michel Rocard** among others.

Throughout 2009, Prof. Ben Ami served in the Advisory Board of The International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. Other members included **Lakhdar Brahimi, Hans Blix, Henry Kissinger, Sam Nunn and George Shultz.**

Since 2012, Prof. Ben Ami has been serving as a special advisor to Colombia’s President Juan Manuel Santos on the peace negotiations with the FARC guerrilla. This process has now solved three out of the five major items on the agenda (agrarian reform, political participation of the militias and an agreement on the end of drug culture and trafficking) . It is highly probable that the process leading to a historic peace deal with consequences