



The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

*Research in Progress* describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact [pascc@nps.edu](mailto:pascc@nps.edu).

Published May 2015

## Scoping Study of U.S.-Israel Dialogue

Performer: Middlebury Institute of  
International Studies

Project Lead: Chen Kane

Project Cost: \$70,000  
FY15-16

### Objective:

Over the last twenty years, there has been an increase in security-related Track 2 dialogues in the Middle East. Yet, with Israel, one of the region's most important states and a nuclear power, few Track 2 dialogues addressing mutual security concerns have been held. They are needed to foster a more open exchange and discussion of emerging mutual security issues. This study will evaluate the feasibility and scope of a future Track 2 dialogue between the United States and Israel within the 2016 timeframe.

### Approach:

This project involves background research and analysis, including of past attempts to establish Track 1.5 strategic dialogues and the reasons they have failed. Additionally, researchers will conduct in-depth consultations with current and former U.S. government and non-government personnel. They will also travel to Israel to discuss the project's objectives with a select group of Israeli government and non-government interlocutors. Subjects for discussion will include Iran's nuclear program, Syria's civil war, a Middle East WMD-free zone, extended deterrence, missile defense, and other emerging security issues.