



All we want is a normal and reasonable conversation about Israel. Surely, that is not too much to ask.
 — José María Aznar

Israel stands on the front line of the war against Islamist extremism. Israel's fight is our fight.
 — José María Aznar

Founder Members



Former Prime Minister of Spain

José Maria Aznar

José María Aznar was born in Madrid in 1953 and served as the Prime Minister of Spain from 1996 to 2004. He is currently Executive President of FAES (The Foundation for Social Studies and Analysis), Distinguished Scholar at the University of Georgetown where he has taught various seminars on contemporary European politics at the Edmund A. Walsh School since the year 2004. He also is Member of the Board of Directors of News Corporation and the International Advisory Board of the Atlantic Council of the United States. He is on the Advisors of Doheny global Groupon the board of directors of News Corporation.

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Former US Representative to the United Nations

John R. Bolton

American conservative and nationalist political figure who has served in several Republican presidential administrations. He worked as the interim Permanent US Representative to the UN from August 2005 until December 2006 on a recess appointment. He resigned in December 2006 when his recess appointment would have ended because he was unable to gain confirmation from the Senate. Bolton is currently a Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), Fox News commentator, and of counsel to the law firm Kirkland & Ellis, in their Washington D.C. office. He is also involved with a broad assortment of other conservative think tanks and policy institutes, including the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), Project for the New American Century (PNAC), Institute of East-West Dynamics, National Rifle Association, US Commission on International Religious Freedom, and the Council for National Policy (CNP).

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Former President of Peru

Alejandro Toledo

He was President of Peru from 2001 to 2006. Peruvian politician and economist, he was elected in 2001 defeating former President Alan García. Toledo came to international prominence after leading the opposition against President Alberto Fujimori, who held the presidency from 1990 to 2000. After his presidential term, Toledo left Peru and went to the USA where he was a Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University during the 2006-2008 academic years. Dr. Toledo is currently a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C., and also a Non-Resident Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy and Global Economy and Development at the Brookings Institution.

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Former First Minister of Northern Ireland. Nobel Peace Prize in 1998

Lord William David Trimble

Politician from Northern Ireland who served as leader of the Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) and was the first First Minister of Northern Ireland. He is currently a life peer for the Conservative Party. He shared the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize with John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party. He served as Member of Parliament for Upper Bann from 1990 until 2005, when he was defeated in the British general election and resigned the leadership of the UUP soon afterwards. In June 2006 he became a member of the House of Lords as The Right Honourable William David Trimble by the name, style and title of

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Baron Trimble, of Lisnagarvey in the County of Antrim. In April 2007 he announced that he was to leave the UUP and join the Conservative Party.



Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center

George Weigel

He is a Catholic theologian and one of America's leading public intellectuals. A native of Baltimore, he was educated at St. Mary's Seminary College in his native city, and at the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto. Weigel is the author or editor of nineteen other books, he has written essays, op-ed columns, and reviews for the major opinion journals and newspapers in the United States, and is a contributor to Newsweek. A frequent guest on television and radio, he is also Vatican analyst for NBC News. His weekly column, "The Catholic Difference," is syndicated to sixty newspapers around the United States. His scholarly work and his journalism are regularly translated into the major European languages. From June 1996, as a Senior Fellow of the Center, Weigel prepared a major study of the life, thought, and action of Pope John Paul II. *Witness to Hope: The Biography of Pope John Paul II* was published to international acclaim in the Fall of 1999, in English, French, Italian, and Spanish editions. Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, Czech, and Slovenian editions were published in 2000. A Russian edition was published in 2001, a German edition in 2002, and a Romanian edition in 2007; Chinese and Ukrainian editions are in preparation. A documentary film based on the book was released in the fall of 2001 and has won numerous prizes.



Italian philosopher and politician

Marcello Pera

He was the President of the Italian Senate from 2001 to 2006. Pera, who was born in Lucca, graduated in accounting, and he worked for the Banca Toscana and for the Camera di Commercio in Lucca. He went on to study philosophy at the University of Pisa, concentrating on the works of Karl Popper and his open society theory, and advocating these principles during the difficult 1970s, the anni di piombo. His academic career began 1976 at the University of Pisa. He then went on to pursue research activities internationally: Visiting Fellow, University of Pittsburgh, 1984; Linguistics and Philosophy, MIT, Cambridge, Mass., 1990; Visiting Fellow, Centre for the Philosophy of Natural Sciences, London School of Economics, 1995-96. He taught Theoretical Philosophy from 1989 to 1992 at the University of Catania. In 1992 he became full professor of Philosophy at the University of Pisa. Marcello Pera has written for the newspapers *Corriere della Sera*, *Il Messaggero*, and *La Stampa*, and to the news magazines *L'Espresso* and *Panorama*.



Italian politician, journalist and author

Fiamma Nirenstein

She is a member of Silvio Berlusconi's conservative coalition government (first elected in April 2008) and is Vice-president of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Italian Chamber of Deputies. As a journalist and author the underlying idea that runs through all Fiamma Nirenstein's work is the connection between totalitarianism, terrorism, anti-Semitism and hatred of Israel.[citation needed] Nirenstein was born in Florence, Italy and lives part of the year in Gilo, a neighbourhood in East Jerusalem. Nirenstein teaches Middle East History at Luiss University in Rome. She is a member of the Global Forum against Antisemitism instituted by Nathan Sharansky. She is a member of the board of the Italian Foundation Magna Carta and a fellow of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and of the Hudson Institute, Washington. She was director of the Italian Institute of Culture (Istituto Italiano di Cultura) in Tel Aviv in '93 and '94. She has introduced and written prefaces for translations of the works of Bernard Lewis, Nathan Sharansky, and Ruthie Bloom in Italy.



British historian and writer

Andrew Roberts

Roberts was born in London, England, and was raised in the Church of England (Anglican) and attended Cranleigh School. At Cranleigh's, he was expelled for drinking, climbing on a roof and cling-filming the lavatories. He went on to a Cambridge crammer to prepare for his Oxbridge exam and was admitted to Cambridge. His 'teenage rebellion' phase now ended, he buckled down to studying. He took a first class honours BA degree in Modern History at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he is an honorary senior scholar. Roberts began his post-graduate career in corporate finance as an investment banker and private company director with the

London merchant bank Robert Fleming & Co., where he worked from 1985 to 1988.



Spanish Industry Minister from 1977 to 1980

Carlos Bustelo

He finished his economic degree at Madrid University in 1958, worked as an economist at OCDE in Paris from 1963 to 1965. From 1968 to 1973 was the Executive Director of the FMI (International Monetary Fund). He was a President of the Madrid Court of Jurisdiction until December, 2009.



Managing Director at Rhône Group, Rhone Capital, L.L.C.

Roberto F. Agostinelli

Previously, he was Member of the Executive Management Committee at Union Bancaire Privee. Mr. Agostinelli was a Senior Managing Director at Lazard Freres & Co. LLC. An Italian-American businessman, Agostinelli made his name in the 1980s with Goldman Sachs in Mergers and Acquisitions before moving to Lazards as a partner where he worked with Langman. The pair then co-founded the Rhone Group in 1997 and made their money in their area of expertise (Mergers and Acquisitions). They have offices in London, New York and Paris and they have notable clients such as Nestle. Keen to not be seen as another American investor in Liverpool, Agostinelli has profiled Rhone as an international firm, although it is clear the base of the firm is in the Big Apple.