

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my privilege to introduce you to a leading Middle East analyst...

He is an accomplished academic, who is the Crown Visiting Professor in Israel Studies at Northwestern University, and headed the Konrad Adenauer Program for Jewish-Arab Cooperation at Tel Aviv University, where he served on the faculty of the Department of Middle Eastern History...

He is a prolific author and speaker, who has written or edited over a dozen books on Middle Eastern affairs, including Muslim Minorities in non-Muslim Majority Countries: The Test Case of the Islamic Movement in Israel and The Arab Society in Israel: A Compendium, and is a popular public lecturer and television commentator for audiences around the world...

And he is a trusted political advisor, who has served as Senior Consultant on Arab Minority Affairs to the Prime Minister's Office under Yitzhak Rabin, a strategic advisor to Ehud Barak during his election campaign for prime minister, and as Senior Consultant on Arab Affairs to the Histadrut Labor Organization.

Ladies and gentleman, please welcome a renowned expert on Israel's Arab minority, Professor Elie Rekhess.