

Curriculum Vitae

Elai Rettig

Department of Political Studies
Faculty of Social Sciences
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CURRENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021-current **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Studies, Bar-Ilan University

2021-current **Senior Researcher, Head of Energy Division**, Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021 **Post-Doctoral Fellow**, Dep. of International Relations, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

2018-2021 **Researcher**, Maritime Policy and Strategy Research Center, University of Haifa

2020 **Adjunct Lecturer**, National Security College, University of Haifa

2019-2020 **Adjunct Lecturer**, Jones Graduate School of Business, Rice University

2018-2020 **Israel Institute Teaching Fellow**, Department of Jewish, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, Washington University in St. Louis

2017-2018 **Neubauer Research Fellow**, Institute for National Security Studies, Tel-Aviv University

2017-2018 **Adjunct Lecturer**, New York University – Tel Aviv Academic Center

2015-2016 **Visiting Scholar**, Institute for Security & Conflict Studies, George Washington University

EDUCATION

2011-2019 **Ph.D.**, School of Political Science, University of Haifa (direct track from BA)
Dissertation: *Crude Cooperation: Energy Security and International Cooperation through Energy Trade*. Supervised by Prof. Ben Mor and Dr. Carmela Lutmar

2009- 2011 **B.A.** (highest honors), Honors Program in Humanities (“Ofakim”), University of Haifa

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journals

Rettig, Elai and Ziv Rubinovitz. [How Small States Break Oil Sanctions: Israel's Oil Import Strategy in the 1970s](#). *Journal of Strategic Studies* (forthcoming).

Rettig, Elai, Fischhendler, Itay, and Fiona Schlecht. [The Meaning of Energy Islands: Towards a Theoretical Framework](#). *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*. Volume 187 (2023), 113732.

Rettig, Elai. [Securitizing Energy Cooperation: Israel's Regional Shift in the East-Mediterranean](#), *Foreign Policy Analysis*. Vol. 17, no. 3 (2021). pp. 1-18

Rubinovitz, Ziv and Elai Rettig. [Crude Peace: The Role of Oil Trade in the Israeli-Egyptian Peace Negotiations](#), *International Studies Quarterly*. Vol. 62, No. 2 (2018). pp. 371-382

Rettig, Elai and Eli Avraham. [The Role of Intergovernmental Organizations in the Battle over Framing: The Case of the Israeli-West Bank Separation Barrier](#), *International Journal of Press/Politics*. Vol. 21, No. 1. (2016). pp. 111-133

Rettig, Elai. [Limits to Cooperation: Why Israel Does Not Want to Become a Member of the International Energy Agency](#), *Israel Affairs*. Volume 22, No. 2. (2016). pp. 512-527

Rettig, Elai. [Protecting Foreign Manpower in the Israeli Natural-Gas Industry: Lessons from Nigeria](#), *Military and Strategic Affairs*, Vol. 6, No. 2. (2014). pp. 49-64

Edited Books

Spanier, Benny, Sheffler Orin, and Elai Rettig (eds.). [“UNCLOS and the Protection of Innocent and Transit Passage in Maritime Chokepoints”](#). University of Haifa, Konrad Adenauer Foundation (2021).

Book Chapters

Rettig, Elai [The Impact of Natural-Gas Discoveries on Israeli Politics, Geopolitics & Socioeconomic Discourse](#), in David Jalilvand and Kirsten Westphal (eds.) *The Political and Economic Challenges of Energy in the Middle East and North Africa*, Routledge (2018). pp. 169-181.

Rettig, Elai. [Obstacles to Israeli Natural Gas Developments](#), in Ayla Gürel, Harry Tzimitras and Hubert Faustmann (eds.) *Global Energy Debates and the Eastern Mediterranean*, PRIO Cyprus Centre Report, 1. Cyprus: PRIO (2016). pp. 59-66

Selected Professional Publications / Policy Reports

Rettig, Elai (October 2023). “[Cutting the Electricity Supply to Gaza – Consequences and Implications](#)”. *BESA Center Perspectives Paper No. 2219, October 16, 2023*

Rettig, Elai and Benny Spanier (July 2023). “[Why Israel Approved Development of the Gaza Marine Gas Field](#)”. *BESA Center Perspectives Paper No. 2207*.

Rettig, Elai (March 2023). “[Israel’s Energy Market and the War in Ukraine](#)”. *BESA Center Perspectives Paper No. 2186*.

Rettig, Elai. “Solar Hopes and Grounded Reality: Should and Could Israel Meet its 2030 Renewable Energy Transition Targets”, in Shaul Chorev and Ziv Rubinovitz (eds.), *Maritime Strategic Evaluation for Israel 2021-22*. Maritime Policy & Strategy Research Center (2022).

Rettig, Elai. “Israel’s Energy Sector Between Peace and Plague”, in Shaul Chorev and Ehud Gonen (eds.), *Maritime Strategic Evaluation for Israel 2020-21*. Maritime Policy & Strategy Research Center (2021).

Zimmerman, Nadia, Benny Spanier, and Elai Rettig. [Consequences of Development and Production of Cross-Border Oil and Gas Deposits](#) [in Hebrew], Maritime Policy & Strategy Research Center (2020).

Rettig, Elai. “[The Black Gold isn’t Shining Anymore](#)” [in Hebrew], *Hashiloach* (September 2020)

Rettig, Elai and Oded Eran. [Economic Relations between Israel and Europe: Selected Issues](#), in: Rosner, Yotam and Adi Kantor (eds.), *The European Union in Turbulent Times: Challenges, Trends, and Significance for Israel*. INSS Memorandum 175, Tel Aviv University (2018). pp. 157-163.

Rettig, Elai and Oded Eran. [The EU's Energy Challenges](#), in: Rosner, Yotam and Adi Kantor (eds.), *The European Union in Turbulent Times: Challenges, Trends, and Significance for Israel*. INSS Memorandum 175, Tel Aviv University (2018). pp. 103-112.

Rettig, Elai. [Claim what's yours: Natural Gas, Regional Perception and Socioeconomic Discourse in Israel](#), Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (December 2016)

Rettig, Elai. [Can Saudi Arabia Cook a Homemade Defense Industry? Not with Oil in the Recipe](#), *War on the Rocks* (July 13, 2016)

Rettig, Elai. [Removing the Iranian Threat from the Gas Framework's Agenda](#) [in Hebrew], Public Hearing on the Proposed Framework to Regulate Israel's Natural Gas Sector, Ministry of National Infrastructure, Energy and Water, State of Israel (July 3, 2015)

Books Under Contract

Rettig, Elai and Eitan Shamir. “Israel’s Grand Strategy: Controlling, Shaping, and Adapting to New Realities”. Under contract with Oxford University Press. Expected publication: 2025

Articles Under Review

Rettig, Elai and Lior Herman. “Powering Urban Energy Divisions as a Peacebuilding Strategy: Foreign Involvement in the Solar Electricity Projects of East-Jerusalem”

Rettig, Elai and Benny Spanier, “Striking Energy Deals in Disputed Seas: The Case of the Gaza Marine Gas Field”

Rettig, Elai. “Why Regional Energy Cooperation Fails: Perception of Supply Vulnerability in Northeast Asia and the EU Energy Union”

SELECTED GRANTS, AWARDS AND HONORS

2023 **Israel Science Foundation (ISF)**, personal research grant (1508/23), *How Small States Reformulate their Grand Strategy: The Case of Israel’s Attempt to Become a Regional Power*, 45,000USD

2023 **Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa**, research grant, *How Small States Break Oil Embargoes: Israel’s Oil Import Strategy in the 1970s*, 2,500USD

2018-21 **The Israel Institute Teaching Fellowship Grant**, post-doc grant, 210,000 USD

2019 **Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa**, travel grant, 500USD

2016-17 **Reuven Chaikin Chair in Geo Strategy**, research grant: *Avoiding the Curse: Dangers and opportunities in the utilization of Israel’s energy export revenues*, 75,000 NIS

2016 **Ministry of Science, Technology and Space, State of Israel**, travel grant, 1,500 Euro

2013-16 **The University of Haifa’s President’s Scholarship**, full tuition for PhD, 200,000 NIS

2012-13 **Ministry of Energy and Water, State of Israel**, full tuition for M.A., 100,000 NIS

SELECTED PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

- 2023
- “Why Energy Cooperation Failed in the EU and NorthEast Asia”
- International Studies Association (ISA), Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada (March)
- “How Small States Break Oil Embargoes: Israel’s Oil Import Strategy in the 1970s”
- Association for Israel Studies (AIS), New York University, NYC, USA (June)
 - American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, USA (September)
 - European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Prague, Czechia (September)
- “The Meaning of Energy Islands: Towards a Theoretical Framework”
- Association for Border Studies (ABS), Annual Conference, Eilat, Israel (February)
 - Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS), Annual Conference, Bar-Ilan University, Israel (June)
 - International Studies Association (ISA), Virtual Conference (August)
- 2022
- “Powering the Divide: European Involvement in Solar Panel Infrastructure in East Jerusalem”
- International Studies Association (ISA), Annual Convention, Nashville, USA (virtual) (March)
 - Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Annual Conference, Chicago, USA (virtual) (April)
 - European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), General Conference, University of Innsbruck, Austria (August)
- 2021
- “Powering the Divide: European Involvement in Solar Panel Infrastructure in East Jerusalem”
- European Association for Israel Studies (EAIS), 9th Annual Conference, Bucharest, Romania (virtual) (October)
- “Small-State Oil Trade as a Ticket into New Regional Networks”
- Association for Israel Studies (AIS) Annual Conference, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA (virtual) (June)
 - Meeting of the Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS). Ben Gurion University, Israel (June)
 - Annual Convention of the International Studies Association (ISA), Las Vegas, NV, USA (virtual) (April)
- “Why Energy Cooperation Fails: the cases of the EU energy union and the northeast energy framework”

- Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, IL, USA (virtual) (April)
 - 5th Energy and Society Conference, University of Trento, Italy (virtual) (February)
- 2020
- “The Impact of COVID-19 on Israel’s Energy Policy Goals”
- European Rim Policy and Investment Council (ERPIC), Cyprus, (May)
- 2019
- “Energy Securitization and Interstate Cooperation: Israel’s Regional Shift in the East-Mediterranean”,
- Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA), Washington D.C., USA (Nov. 1)
 - Association for Israel Studies (AIS), Kinneret College, Israel (June 26)
- “Israel and Turkey's Quest for Oil”
- Annual Meeting of the Israeli Association for International Studies, Tel Aviv, Israel (June)
 - Association for Israel Studies (AIS), UC Berkeley, USA. (June 26)
- “Raiding the Vault: Predicting Mismanagement of Natural Resource Funds in Oil-Exporting Developing Democracies”
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, USA (Apr. 5)
- 2018
- "Ethical Considerations in Israel's Oil Import Policy"
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, USA (Apr. 6)
 - Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS), Jerusalem, Israel (June 8)
- 2017
- “Oil Revenue Dependency and Military Effectiveness”
- Annual Meeting, Israeli Association for Political Science, Tel Aviv (May)
 - International Political Science Association (IPSA), Poznan, Poland (July 24).
- 2016
- "Oil Trade in the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian Peace Negotiations"
- International Studies Association (ISA), Atlanta, Georgia (Mar. 17)
- 2015
- “Peace Pipelines in the East Mediterranean?”
- Annual Meeting of the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Cyprus Centre, Nicosia, Cyprus (Nov.)
- 2014
- "The Foreign Dimension of the Resource Curse: Energy Exports and War Outcomes"
- American Political Science Association (APSA), Washington D.C. (Aug. 29)

INVITED LECTURES:

- 2023
- New Opportunities for Energy Cooperation in the East Mediterranean
- Israel-Hellenic Forum Meeting, University of Nicosia, Nicosia, Cyprus
- Foreign Trade Administration of Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry (July)
- Ministry of Energy's International Policy and Projects Division (March)
- Energy Politics in the Eastern Mediterranean, International Hellenic University, Greece (May)
- 2022
- East-Mediterranean Energy Market and the War in Ukraine, Israel-Hellenic Forum Meeting, Institute of International Relations (IDIS), Athens, Greece.
- Impact of Russian Oil Sanctions on the Oil Export Policy of the Arab Gulf States, 14th Annual Conference of the Ezri Center for Iran and Gulf States Research, University of Haifa (May)
- Can Europe Reduce its Dependence on Russian Oil and Gas?
- The Dado Center for Interdisciplinary Military Studies (April)
- National Security College, Dayan Base, Gllilot (March)
- Begin-Sadat Center, Bar-Ilan University (March)
- Energy security and Israel-US relations, Herzl Center of Israel Studies, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic (April)
- [Land of Milk, Honey, and Solar Power: Challenges and Opportunities in Israel's Solar Energy Sector](#), American Friends of Bar-Ilan University (virtual) (January)
- 2021
- [The Energy Crisis in the Shadow of the Net-Zero Carbon Policy](#), 1st Maritime Domain IL Conference, Peres Center for Peace and Innovation, Tel-Aviv, Israel
- Israel's National Interest in a Changing Energy Environment, George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany (virtual) (July)
- The Future of Energy and Sustainability in the Gulf States, TRENDS Research & Advisory E-Symposium, United Arab Emirates (virtual) (March)
- Natural Gas and EEZ Disputes in the East Med, IN-VR Mediterranean Gas & Energy Week. Nicosia, Cyprus (virtual) (January)
- 2020
- The Future of Energy in the Arab Gulf Region, Annual Conference of the Ezri Center for Iran & Gulf States Research. University of Haifa, Israel. (December)

Challenges of the Transition plans to Renewable Energy Systems in Israel, The Decarbonization of the Energy Sector in the Mediterranean Region and Middle East – The Role of CSP. Nicosia, Cyprus (virtual) (December)

Chevron's Environmental Record, testimony before the committee for interior and environmental protection, Parliament of Israel (Knesset), Jerusalem. (Sep. 9)

2019 "Israel's Natural Gas Finds and the Struggle over Revenue", Jones Graduate School of Business at Rice University, Houston, USA (Sep. 27)

"Natural Gas Exports in the Deep-Sea: Challenges for Israel", Presentation before the Israeli Navy, Intelligence Division. Haifa, Israel (July 1)

2018 "Oil, Politics and Human Rights in the Middle East", Environmental Studies Program Seminar, Washington University in St Louis. St Louis, USA (October)

2017 "The Resource Curse in the Countries of the Mediterranean Sea", Marine Biology Departmental Seminar, University of Haifa (May)

"The Resource Curse Phenomenon: How Wealth Damages States", Departmental seminar presentation, New York University–Tel Aviv (Apr. 20)

"The Geopolitics of Israel's Natural Gas Export Options", Presentation before the Greek Ambassador to Israel, Haifa, Israel (Apr. 5)

"Ethical Considerations in Israel's Oil Import Policies– 1948-2017"
The Jewish Statesmanship Center; Jerusalem, Israel (Mar. 9)

2016 "Trends in the Global Energy Market of the 21st Century". Keren Yeda: Seminar for Public Administration Employees, State of Israel; Eilat, Israel (Sep. 5)

"Political and Economic Challenges for Israel's Energy Finds". Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Expert Meeting, Berlin, Germany. (May)

2015 "[Iran's Natural Gas Export and its Effects on Israel's Gas Sector](#)"
Testimony before the Committee on Natural Gas, Parliament of Israel (Knesset); Jerusalem (June 23)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021 - Current **Bar-Ilan University**
“Energy and National Security”
“Strategy and National Security in the 21st Century”
“Regime Change in the Middle East”
- 2018 – 2020 **Washington University in St Louis**
U94 JME 303: “Global Energy Policy: from Israel to Iran”
L82 EnSt 402: “International Energy Politics”
L75 JINE 387: “Israel’s Foreign Policy”
L82 EnSt 340: “Energy Governance in Israel and the Middle East”
L75 JINE 373: “Democracies and Dictatorships in the Middle East”
- 2019-2020 **Rice University**
MGMT 611: “Geopolitics of Energy”
- 2017 **New York University**
POL-UA 9994: "Democracies, Dictatorships and Regime Change"
- 2016-2018 **University of Haifa**
“Energy and National Security in Israel and the International System”
“Introduction to Academic Writing and Methodology”
“Practicum: M.A. Program for Local Governance Cadets”