This lecture will follow the uneven path of Israel’s democratic development, asking questions such as:

- While the rules of the game have been observed—fair elections, orderly change of regime, independent judiciary, pluralistic party system, free speech—why have the democratic values underlying them not become axiomatic?

- What explains the decline in public trust?

- Do the changes in political practices, such as the emergence of an autonomous civil society, indicate where Israeli democracy is heading?

- What are the implications for Israel’s democracy of the inability to cope with major problems—security; the status of the Arab citizens in Israel; socio-economic gaps and inequality; and state and religion?

- Is there a danger to democracy in Israel? How to build an enduring trust in democracy among young people?

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