



Robert Schwartz

**Robert Schwartz, Senior Policy Advisor, (Ret.)
Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest**

August 1, 1997- July 31, 2020

(Updated October 2024)

Bob Schwartz began working at the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest in August 1997, and held several positions, including Press Officer, Public Affairs and Political Advisor until his promotion to Senior Policy Advisor in August 2006.

From 2017-2020, Bob's portfolios included advising the diplomatic staff on a wide range of economic, homeland security and interfaith issues.

Bob focused on state initiatives (including MOUs with the Israel Innovation Authority) by Governors, public and private economic agencies and universities in the Consulate's nine state region. He also analyzed the impact of Midwest economic trends on Israel.

After the closure of the Israel Midwest Economic Mission in 6/18, Bob helped create the **Consulate Economic Team**, which works with organizations, such as the America Israel Chamber Chicago, *Current*, The Water Council (Milwaukee), and the Michigan-Israel Business Accelerator, to assess and pursue opportunities for Israeli economic and commercial R&D partnerships with Israel's hi-tech sectors. These include projects in water-tech, agriculture / food tech, biotech/ health, mobility/ AI, energy and Industry 4.0.

In the **Homeland Security** sector, Bob worked with the Israel National Police, Israel Home Front Command, NATAL and other HLS agencies and organizations to sponsor conferences and training workshops for Midwest-based federal, state, and local HLS, Law Enforcement and Emergency Management agencies. Bob was involved in bringing Cybertech to Indianapolis (Cybertech Midwest) beginning in October 2018.

As the Consulate's point person on **Interreligious Affairs**, Bob reported on the perceptions and reactions of non-Jewish communities toward Israel and its policies. His duties also included encouraging support for Israel from non-Jewish communities and combating anti-Israel campaigns such as BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions).

Bob was the Senior Consulting Editor for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' official publication: which was published in August, 2008. *Some hard copies available*).

Before coming to the Consulate, Bob was President of **Robert Schwartz & Associates**, a company that specialized in producing seminars on international business topics and published a two volume **Guide to International Business Resources** in 1994.

Bob received a B.A. in International Relations from Lake Forest College (1971), and subsequently earned two master's degrees from the University of Chicago: International Relations (1985), and Public Policy Studies (1987) -- the latter from the Irving R. Harris School of Public Policy.

Post- Consulate Consulting and Community Activities

- **January 2021- June, 2024:** Engaged as **Ambassador of [NATAL Global to the Midwest](#)**. NATAL is an Israeli NGO that has been addressing trauma stemming from combat, terrorism, natural disasters and with this program focuses on engaging law enforcement and other emergency first responder agencies to participate in NATAL's Operational Stress Management training programs for law enforcement and first responders. Despite some successful programs, NATAL decided to re-focus on Israel's needs for ongoing trauma programs after 10/7 and curtail U.S. initiatives.
- **January 2022 and continuing-** Appointed Co-Chair of Community Engagement Committee of the [Simon Wiesenthal Center's Midwest Regional Office](#). Became sole Chairman of CEC effective January 2023. Bob arranged Aug. 10th, 2023 participation by SWC experts in "[Digital Terrorism and Hate](#)" sessions at Midwest Security and Police Annual Conference and FBI National Academy Associates lunch. Most recently, Bob arranged appearance by Oct. 7th survivor at Quentin Road Baptist Church. [Stand With Israel Day, Oct. 6th, 2024](#).
- **April 29 thru May 2, 2023:** Assisted [SHARAKA](#). Organization, (whose mission is: *to build bonds between Israel and its neighbors in the Middle East and North Africa, based on the positive and paradigm-changing outcome of the Abraham Accords*), *By arranging 4 days of meetings and events for a Sharaka delegation from Israel, Bahrain and Morocco visiting Chicago*

Available for Public Speaking engagements focusing on topics such as:

- **Ensuring Israel's Security Against Iran's Axis of Evil**
- ***Israel's Strategic Challenges on all fronts***
- ***Are the Abraham Accords still the path to Forge a New Middle East?***
- ***Israel-US Relations after the 2024 elections (pending results).***

Recent Podcasts featuring Bob's analysis of Middle East Issus:

1) <https://www.americaoutloud.news/the-next-stage-of-the-israel-hamas-and-pij-war/> -Radio podcast, 4-1-24

2) <https://rumble.com/v4o5aco-robert-schwartz-the-near-east-after-hamas-and-hezbollah-new-paradigms-wsarg.html>- The Near East After Hamas and Hezbollah- New Paradigms. Video podcast, 4-8-24.