

JOINT DECLARATION
OF
THE FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, MR. KAREL SCHWARZENBERG, AND
THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF
THE STATE OF ISRAEL, MR. AVIGDOR LIBERMAN

PRAGUE, 17 MAY 2012

The Czech Republic and the State of Israel have excellent relations based on longstanding genuine friendship over the years, both in the political-diplomatic sphere and in the sphere of relations between both peoples. This friendship is founded on a wide spectrum of ties and broad cooperation in a variety of areas, as well as on a direct and candid dialogue between both countries.

In order to widen and deepen further the dialogue between both countries, it has been decided to establish additional frameworks which will constitute a structure for increasing the exchange of views, assessments, and information.

1. Czech-Israeli Forum. Both Ministers support the establishment of a think-tank forum in the field of foreign policy and security, in which researchers, decision-makers, and experts in the relevant areas from both sides will participate. It is intended to hold its meetings every year intermittently in Prague and Jerusalem. The first such meeting took place in Prague in November 2011, the second is planned for 2012 in Jerusalem.
2. Political-Bilateral Dialogue. The Foreign Ministries of both countries will hold annual consultations headed by the Directors - General of the Foreign Ministries. These consultations will include exchanges of views and assessments on a variety of subjects which will be mutually decided upon at each meeting. These meetings will be held annually, rotating between Prague and Jerusalem.
3. The Foreign Ministries will examine the possibilities for cooperation in the area of development assistance to third countries. The examination of the possibilities in this area will be done by the professionals in both Ministries.
4. The Ministers decided that their respective Embassies will be given the task of enhancing their current work in the fields of cultural, academic, and public diplomacy with the aim of offering the Czech and Israeli public the opportunity to strengthen the understanding of their respective cultures and history.



Karel Schwarzenberg
First Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic



Avigdor Lieberman
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the State of Israel