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Jan. 11, 2015

Expert to discuss emerging conflict over Israel among American Jewry

GAINESVILLE, Fla. --- Dov Waxman a professor of political science, international affairs and Israel studies at Northeastern University, will discuss his new book “Trouble in The Tribe: The American Jewish Conflict over Israel” on Monday, Feb. 15 at 6 p.m., in the Pugh Hall Ocora as part of the annual Shorstein Lecture Series. The event is free and open to the public and will be streamed live on the Bob Graham Center website at www.bobgrahamcenter.ufl.edu.

During his public address, Waxman will present the central thesis of his book: a new era of divergence has emerged among American Jewry and has replaced the age of solidarity that once existed with regard to Israel.

Kenneth D. Wald, Shorstein Professor of American Jewish Culture and Society at the University of Florida, asserts that Waxman's book is a compelling account of the growing conflict over Israel within the American Jewish community.

“When puzzled friends ask me why the American Jewish community is now so divided over Israel, this is the book I will recommend,” he said.

Waxman will also explore how the increasingly contentious place of Israel in the American Jewish dialogue is impacting Jewish communities, national Jewish organizations and the pro-Israel lobby. He will set the conflict in the context of broader cultural, political and demographic changes happening in the American Jewish community. Offering a balanced account of how this tension has developed, Waxman will explain what this discord means for the future of American Jewish politics.
As the Stotsky Professor of Jewish Historical and Cultural Studies and co-director of the Middle East Center at Northeastern University, Waxman's research focuses on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israeli foreign policy, U.S.-Israel relations and American Jewry's relationship with Israel. He received his Ph.D. and M.A. degrees from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, and his B.A. from Oxford University.


The program is sponsored by the Samuel R. "Bud" Shorstein Professorship in American Jewish Culture and Society, the UF Center for Jewish Studies and the Bob Graham Center for Public Service.