Seminar: Israel/Palestine What Next? (October 2011)

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On September 23, Palestinian representatives formally submitted an application for membership at the United Nations. Most observers expect the Palestinians will make symbolic gains. The United States, Canada and Israel have expressed opposition to the move, suggesting that it will aggravate the situation on the ground and make conditions for bilateral negotiations more difficult. Others have suggested the opposite. With dramatic changes taking place in the Middle East and North Africa, what is next for Israel and Palestine?

Gabriel Fahel is a Canadian lawyer who clerked for the Ontario Court of Appeal and practised on Bay Street before finding himself in Jerusalem and Ramallah negotiating the two-state solution as part of the Negotiations Support Unit, the legal team that advised the Palestinian leadership in its negotiations with Israel. He left that post after nearly five years in March 2011 and returned to Ottawa to practise law.

Mr. Fahel will give a short talk on his experience at the negotiation table as a Canadian-trained international lawyer, and on the future prospects for Palestine and Israel. Professor Dan Priel and PhD student Mazen Masri, both Israeli-trained lawyers, will offer brief comments, followed by questions and discussion.

This event is open to all members of the Osgoode community.