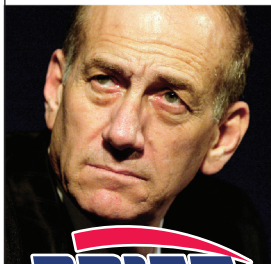


Floating voters key to Israel's election

Security is the top issue in Israel's parliamentary election, with acting Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert the front-runner to form a coalition government in the 120-seat Knesset. But latest polls show one in five of Israel's five million voters is still undecided over who to vote for



קדימה

Kadima: Centrist party founded by **Ariel Sharon** late last year, led by 60-year-old **Ehud Olmert**, (above) acting Israeli Prime Minister

Security: Has replaced **disengagement** with **hitkansut** (consolidation). In absence of peace with Palestinians, Olmert proposes to evacuate isolated settlements in West Bank and turn **separation barrier** into permanent eastern border by 2010



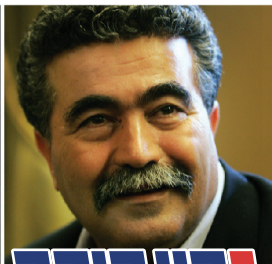
הליכוד

Likud: Right wing party led by former Prime Minister **Binyamin Netanyahu**, 57

Security: Is exploiting Hamas's recent election victory, claiming Olmert's plan **"will bring Hamas to the borders"** and place Tel Aviv within Palestinian rocket range

Golan Heights: No withdrawal

Economy: Continue free market reforms – cut VAT from 16.5% to 14%



העבודה

Labour: Centre left party – the "party of the poor" – led by former trade union leader **Amir Peretz**, 54

Security: Little practical experience

Economy: Participation in Kadima government dependent on increase in monthly minimum wage from \$750 to \$1,000 and mandatory pensions for all citizens

Cut unemployment by half – create 400,000 jobs over 4 years