

# Israeli Prime Minister calls early election

Benjamin Netanyahu will go the polls nine months early after he was unable to agree the 2013 budget with his coalition partners. Iran is likely to dominate the campaign ahead of the election, to be held in early 2013



## LIKUD

*Benjamin Netanyahu*

Has won support due to steady handling of economic crisis. Backs settlers, sceptical on peace talks



## LABOUR

*Shelly Yachimovich*

Aims to narrow Israel's widening economic divide, and resume peace negotiations with Palestinians



## YISRAEL BEITEINU

*Avigdor Lieberman*

Hawkish, secular ultra-nationalist, but supports two-state solution, alienating religious right



## SHAS

*Rabbi Ovadia Yosef*

Ultra-orthodox party supported by poorer oriental Jews, centrist on territory, left-wing on social welfare



## KADIMA

*Shaul Mofaz*

Biggest single party in 2009 but has lost ground since. Backs land exchanges with Palestinians



## HAATZMA'UT

*Ehud Barak*

Split from Labour in 2011, expected to suffer from Labour revival and recent friction with Likud

## CURRENT KNESSET

