

Main candidates in Israel's election

LIKUD PARTY (right-wing)

■ **Benjamin Netanyahu**
Seeking fourth term as prime minister. Stresses hardline security stance in order to gain votes of far-right



Breakdown of peace talks with Palestinians in April 2014 has put him at loggerheads with many of Israel's traditional allies

YESH ATID (centre)



■ **Yair Lapid**
Former heart-throb TV news anchor. Came to prominence in 2013 polls when **Yesh Atid** became second-largest party in Knesset

Sacked as finance minister amid government squabbling in December. Focuses on social issues

JEWISH HOME (far-right)

■ **Naftali Bennett**
Advocates annexation of more than half of occupied West Bank and calls Palestinian state "suicide" for Israel



KULANU (centre)



■ **Moshe Kahlon**
Broke ranks with Likud after social protests in 2011 to form new centrist party. He could be kingmaker in coalition-building

ZIONIST UNION (centre-left)



■ **Isaac Herzog**
Lawyer and leader of Labour Party since 2013. Son of former president **Chaim Herzog**, and grandson of Israel's first chief rabbi

Herzog has held series of cabinet posts in various coalitions and has called for efforts to revive peace talks with Palestinians

■ **Tzipi Livni**
Head of **Hatnuah Party**. Fired as justice minister by Netanyahu in December after cabinet infighting over government policies



Livni has partnered with Herzog, with both agreeing to two-year rotation as prime minister should ZU form next government

JOINT ARAB LIST



■ **Ayman Odeh**
Haifa-based lawyer heads coalition of four Arab parties united under one banner for first time

YISRAEL BEITEINU (ultranationalist)

■ **A. Lieberman**
Foreign minister may see influence recede as support base – immigrants from former Soviet Union – integrate more into society

