



## Gideon (Gidi) Grinstein

Gidi Grinstein (born in 1970) is the Founder and President of The Reut Institute, a Tel-Aviv based nonprofit and nonpartisan institution, described by Tom Friedman of the *New York Times* as "Israel's premier strategy group".

Gidi holds a Master degree in Public Policy from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government as a Wexner-Israel Fellow (2002) and a Bachelor degree in Economics (1991) and Law (1999) from Tel-Aviv University. He served as an economist in the Israeli Navy (1991-1995) and holds the rank of Captain (Res). From 1999 to 2001 Gidi served as the Secretary and Coordinator of the Israeli delegation to the Peace Negotiations with the PLO in the Bureau of Prime

Minister Ehud Barak. He also participated in the 2000 Camp David Summit and in the negotiations on the Clinton Ideas. Prior hereto, Gidi worked in the Economic Cooperation Foundation.

Gidi names Reut as one of his biggest achievements in his fifteen years of public service. Which he views as a national laboratory for developing cutting edge approaches to coping with the radical dynamic changes of the 21st Century. Reut's mission is to impact the future of Israel and the Jewish World, and make a significant contribution to humanity within the spirit and value of *Tikkun Olam*. Reut's model has already inspired the overhaul of the Policy Planning Unit in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other leading Israeli government agencies are likely to follow.

Gidi's other notable accomplishments include his role in designing the Birthright Israel program, the ISRAEL 15 Vision, the development of a cadre of strategic leaders, his contribution to the reform of Israel's electoral system, and most recently the publication of his book *Flexigidity: The Secret of Jewish Adaptability & Challenge and Opportunity Facing Israel*.

Gidi is married to Betty and they are parents to five children, Elihau, Seffi, Michael, Yael, and Noa. He is a long-distance runner and has completed both half and full Marathons in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, Boston, New York and Los Angeles. He is now training to qualify as a 'Marathon Maniac'. Additionally, he holds a Second Degree Black Belt in Karate.