

Alan Johnson

Professor Alan Johnson is Senior Research Fellow at the Britain Israel Communications and Research Centre (BICOM), and the founder and editor of the quarterly BICOM journal and app, *Fathom: for a deeper understanding of Israel and the region*.

He is a Senior Research Associate at the Foreign Policy Centre and blogs and writes at World Affairs, the Daily Telegraph and Left Foot Forward, on two big topics - Israeli politics, the peace process, and wider regional trends, including the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamist movements, and European anti-democratic ideas and movements of left and right, past and present, and their challenge to the 'vital centre.' He is leading critic of the so-called 'New Communism' and its leading theorist, Slavoj Zizek. He also writes essays for the Jewish Chronicle.

Formerly a Professor of Democratic Theory and Practice at Edge Hill University, he has published widely in academic journals (including Sociology Review, Historical Materialism, Radical Philosophy) and non-academic journals (including IPPR Journal, Renewal, New Politics, and Jacobin).

Alan has also long been active in the fields of policy and politics.

He was a consultant to the Research, Information and Communication Unit (RICU) in the Office of Security and Counter-Terrorism, (Home Office) from 2008-2010. He wrote a 150,000 word internal report, 'The Islamist Detour: Journeys in and out of Extremism' based on life history interviews with 25 ex-extremists.

He was the co-author, with Abdullah Muhsin of *Hadi Never Died: Hadi Saleh and the Iraqi Trade Unions* (2006) and *The New Histadrut: Peace, Social Justice and the Israeli Trade Unions* (2012). This involved him in partnership working with the TUC and the Histadrut.

A partisan of the democratic left, Alan is an editorial board member at the US *Dissent* magazine, and was the founder and Editor, *Democratiya*, an online journal of politics and culture (which merged with *Dissent* in 2009). He co-authored the Euston Manifesto, a modern statement of social democratic and antitotalitarian principles. He served as an Advisory Board Member at Just Journalism and an Advisory Editor of *Engage Journal*.

Some recent publications:

- ‘Bibi’s Bomb: The Iranian Threat is no Joke’, *World Affairs: A Journal of Ideas and Debate*, January / February, 2013.
- ‘Slavoj Zizek’s theory of revolution: a critique’ in *The Legacy of Marxism* (Continuum, 2012)
- ‘The New Communism: Resurrecting the Utopian Delusion’, *World Affairs*, May-June 2112 <http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/article/new-communism-resurrecting-utopian-delusion>
- *How do we create a future for the two-state solution?* Foreign Policy Centre, 2012. (co-authored with Toby Greene).
- ‘What the One-State Solution really means’ *Jewish Chronicle* <http://www.thejc.com/comment-and-debate/comment/86919/what-a-one-state-solution-really-means>
- ‘Israel’s goals, Hamas’s Choices and Egypt in the Middle’, *World Affairs*, <http://50.56.48.50/blog/alan-johnson/israels-goals-hamas-choices-and-egypt-middle>
- ‘Aurum de Stercore: Antitotalitarianism in the thought of Primo Levi’ in *Writing Towards Humanity: Essays for Norman Geras*, Manchester University Press (2011)
- *Global Politics After 9/11: The Democratiya Interviews* (Ed.) London, The Foreign Policy Centre (2007).