2009 Israeli Elections Glossary

**Coalition** – In a coalition government, several parties cooperate and share power because no single party has a ruling majority.

**De facto acceptance** – Likud has in the past opposed a two-state solution, however, they currently accept the reality that it is the probable end result of a peace solution.

**Free market economy** – Prices are set by supply and demand without government regulation

**Knesset** – the Israeli parliament

**Oslo Accords** – a declaration made by Palestinian and Israeli leaders in Oslo, Norway, in 1993, as part of peace process negotiations, which called for a redistribution of land under Israeli and Palestinian control

**Party** – a group of people who have come together to pursue political or social goals who seek to gain representation in the Knesset.

**Party Lists** – a list of candidates from each political party for seats in the Knesset

**Privatization** – when control of a business or industry is transferred from the government to the private sector.

**Proportional Representation** – number of seats in the Knesset that each party gets based on the percentage of votes that the party receives.

**Roadmap for Peace** – President Bush’s plan to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which calls for an end to terrorism and the peaceful coexistence of Jewish and Palestinian states

**Socialism** – a movement based on the theory that the making, owning, and distributing of goods should be controlled collectively (or by a centralized government) to create an equal distribution of wealth

**Two-state solution** – a proposed resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that calls for two separate states (Palestine and Israel).

**Zionism** – a movement dedicated to establishing and supporting a Jewish State in the Land of Israel