

## **Jerusalem: The Rising Cost of Peace**

The high visibility and sensational news events of summer 2014 returned world attention to Jerusalem. According to Israeli NGO Ir Amim, these events were not isolated phenomena but rather an extreme manifestation of deep social, economic and political fissures that belie the prevailing myth of Jerusalem as an undivided city. Actions deeply embedded in Israeli policy, including unabated building and construction over the Green Line, exclusion of Palestinians from the planning process—a de facto exclusion from participation in the development of the city—and consistent revocations of Palestinians' permanent residency status have driven East Jerusalem to the tipping point. Ir Amim's Director of International Relations, Betty Herschman, will analyze the complex relationship of these factors, including the flashpoint struggle over the Temple Mount/ Haram al-Sharif.