

Iran no longer holds any cards in this game

written by Joseph Rozen | 01.07.2025

As Israel and Iran were already exchanging missile strikes and conducting airstrikes, the situation in West Asia further deteriorated following United States's attack on three Iranian nuclear facilities — Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan — on June 22. Against this backdrop, Organiser Assistant Editor Ravi Mishra spoke exclusively with Joseph Rozen — Geopolitical Strategist, Senior Fellow at the Misgav In...

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Israel at a crossroads in Gaza: A deal or a new military phase?

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 01.07.2025

Meir Ben Shabbat: The choice is not simply hostage release versus ending the war, but rather hostage release versus preserving Hamas. This is the implication of an overall deal for the release of all hostages in line with conditions that Hamas is demanding. These conditions include a complete cessation of combat with international guarantees, withdrawal to the Oct. 6, 2023, lines, the rebuilding of Gaza and the release of Palestinian security prisoners.

The blow that Hamas took from Israel is indeed severe, but it is not mortal and not irreversible. Hamas's ability to pose an immediate significant threat to Israel in terms of rocket fire or a ground attack in the style of October 7th has probably been denied. It has lost many of its personnel, its means of combat and production, but one should not learn from this about its recovery capacity.

Hamas is still the main power in Gaza. Its fighters and leaders operate mainly in tunnels, take few risks, act in a guerrilla-like manner when opportunities arise, and wait for the moment they can safely emerge above ground.

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Trump Touts Ceasefire Success as Gaza Deal Looms

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 01.07.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael: They came out as the winners of this war. They coordinated Iran's retaliation on US soil, positioned themselves as the ultimate mediator, not just regionally, but globally. President Trump didn't negotiate with the Iranians directly. He did it through Qatar.

Qatar's role went beyond diplomacy. They even coordinated the Iranian retaliation against the US bombing of Fordo, including the attack on the American base in Qatar itself. That shows how far they went in playing both sides.

President Trump is so happy with this result that he's softening US pressure on Qatar regarding its ongoing support for Hamas. That's the problem. The

Americans were hijacked by the Qataris.

Qatar's long-standing ties to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood continue to raise concerns in Israeli and regional policy circles. Together with Turkey, they are the biggest supporters of political Islam. They want Hamas to stay in Gaza—and to dominate the entire Palestinian political arena. Their vision is to reestablish an Islamic caliphate.

Published in The Media Line, June 27, 2025.



A Strategic Blow to Iran, a Window for Change

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 01.07.2025

Ruth Wasserman Lande: “From the start, I believed the U.S. would realize that

the Fordow nuclear facility had to be taken out — for the safety of the entire international community. This isn't about the Iranian people. It's about the regime — and that regime must not have a military nuclear program. The U.S. did the right thing."

"Iran calls it aggression, but for years it has been arming, funding, and training proxies to attack Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, and of course, Israel and the Jewish people."

The interview took place on Radio Times on June 26, 2025.

Expanding the Circle of Peace

written by Asher Fredman | 01.07.2025

Asher Fredman: The new reality in the Middle East creates tremendous possibilities for expanding regional cooperation.

As former U.S. National Security Advisor Ambassador Robert O'Brien suggested on the Misgav Institute's new Mideast Horizons podcast, it may be possible to expand the circle of peace not only to Saudi Arabia, but to additional GCC countries such as Kuwait, Oman and even Qatar.

The interview took place on Channel I24 on June 25, 2025.

Busting Iran's nuclear gambit,

Trump breaks new ground for US power in region

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 01.07.2025

Meir Ben Shabbat: Anyone who expects the regime in Iran to behave according to the Western way of thinking, which examines profit and loss considerations in every move, does not understand what a religious, stubborn, and determined regime this is.

The only thing that can cause change is a threat to the regime's survival. Iran's behavior shows that it does not think it is at this point yet.

Published in The Times of Israel, June 22, 2025.



When Enemies Become Silent Allies

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 01.07.2025

Ruth Wasserman Lande: I would say the biggest conflict is not the Israeli-Arab conflict or the Islamic-Jewish conflict, but rather the one between radical Sunni Islamists and radical Shiite Islamists.

In other words, the Shiite axis led by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on the Sunni side, an axis essentially led by several actors — Erdogan of Turkey, Qatar, and others — who fund, train, and actively support the radical Sunni Islamists.

The interview took place on Channel I24 on June 19, 2025.

“Now Is the Time to Pressure Qatar”

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 01.07.2025

Ruth Wasserman Lande: “Now that Iran’s access and influence have been significantly weakened — and before they are completely eliminated — this is the time to apply pressure on Qatar and the Hamas leadership comfortably based there. Not on those on the ground, who have already lost everything and have nothing left to lose. They’ve lost. All they can do now is harass the IDF and inflict more harm on our soldiers and civilians. The only leverage they still hold is our poor hostages. What must be done now is for Israel and the United States to translate their military successes into diplomatic pressure on Qatar and the Hamas leadership there. The message should be: If you want anything out of this situation, release all our hostages. Now is the time.”

The interview took place on Channel I24, 19 June, 2025.

Behind official condemnations, there is a silent support for the offensive on Iran among Gulf States

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 01.07.2025

Meir Ben Shabbat: In the war it is waging for its survival. Israel is providing the countries of the region and the free world with hope to break free from the looming shadow of Iran. The Gulf States know very well who was behind the attacks on Aramco facilities and on Abu Dhabi, who arms, trains, and funds the Houthis, who is trying to establish a foothold in Sudan, and most dangerously — who is building nuclear capabilities, an army, and ballistic missiles that would allow it to tyrannize any country at will.

The gap between public statements and true intentions is yet another proof of the fear the Islamist regime has instilled in the region. With God's help, once the war ends and Iran is no longer able to pose a strategic threat to the countries and the region, I foresee a significant expansion in the circle of alliances with Israel. The region will change its face. A new light will shine from the darkness that Iran has brought upon it.

Published in Il Foglio daily, June 19, 2025.



Failing to dismantle Iran's nuke program would haunt world

written by Dr. David Wurmser | 01.07.2025



Dr. David Wurmser in JNS: The Middle East is at the edge between a tremendous strategic improvement or a strategic descent into an endless war, and to avoid endless war, we should go for decisive results and get rid of this regime that has haunted the region and the world for the last 46 years.

If we don't solve the problem now, America will be bogged down into endless wars in the region, because Iran will start them.

The full interview was published in JNS, in June 17, 2025.