Only IDF is capable of disarming Hamas

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael: If international actors do not ‘buy’ Hamas’ games and realize that they have no real intention to disarm, they may come to the conclusion that only the IDF can do this – and thus build international support for such an action. In my opinion, this will be easier and simpler: Hamas is currently weaker, the IDF is more prepared, and most importantly, there is no constraint of hostages in the field.

I would like to remind you that on October 7, the IDF did not have a plan to occupy the Strip. During two years of fighting, we have gained more experience, and even today, fighting continues along the Yellow Line. There are daily clashes there with Hamas, which is trying to cross the line, harm IDF soldiers, and continue to strengthen militarily.

Published in The Jerusalem Post, April 07, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors’ alone.



Iran at the Breaking Point: Strategic Goals and Regional Impact

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael discusses the strategic importance of the joint military efforts against Iran, highlighting how successful operations encourage the U.S. and Israel to persist until the Iranian regime reaches its breaking point.

He explains that while the Iranian leadership displays resilience and targets American assets and tries to exhaust the Israeli society and the Gulf countries, in order to increase pressures on the US to cease the war, the US considers a game changer by isolating Tehran from energy and transportation and actually paralyzing the regime and facilitates the conditions for its collapse by the Iranian

people.

Finally, he emphasizes that a significant weakening or change of the regime would dismantle the support system for regional proxies like Hezbollah and Hamas, fundamentally transforming the Middle East’s security architecture

The full interview took place on ILTV on April 5, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors’ alone.

https://youtu.be/q4_Tnl62vWA

A way for oil to bypass the Strait of Hormuz isn’t just a pipe dream

written by Joseph Rozen | 07.04.2026
Joseph Rozen: Israel and Jordan should join and I believe it’s only a matter of time. Israel is already backing and connecting such connectivity initiatives in the Middle East.

The IMEC was very much based on regional plans for transportation first presented by Israel Katz, the state’s then transport minister and now defence minister.

I think that normalisation should be built up gradually and that means facilitating regional connectivity in energy, tech and trade.

Dialogue could be conducted through a working group, That alone will generate de facto normalisation without having the political burden of cutting ribbons in fancy ceremonies.

The Iran war had brought many countries in the region much closer. There were reports of Saudi privately encouraging the US in the conflict.

Published in The Telegraph, April 04, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors' alone.



One War: Iran's Command of Hezbollah

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael argues that the conflicts involving Hezbollah and Iran should be viewed as a single, deeply coordinated war front where Iran utilizes its proxies to pressure Israeli social resilience.

He explains that because Hezbollah's current leadership under Naim Qassem is weak, senior Iranian Revolutionary Guard officers have taken direct control, commanding and training units in Lebanon . Furthermore, he suggests that the United States may aim to isolate Tehran by destroying its infrastructure and communications to paralyze the regime and potentially facilitate its collapse from

within.

The full interview took place on I24 Channel on April 2, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors' alone.

'Gate of Tears' could be a strait too far for Trump's military

written by Ruth Pines-Feldman | 07.04.2026

Ruth Pines Feldman:The United States has currently assembled a significant military presence in the Middle East, creating a massive regional 'armada' that provides the flexibility to address multiple threats at once.

Such a move would inevitably divert critical military and diplomatic attention away from primary goals, contradicting the clear American preference to stabilise the region and drive toward a decisive conclusion of the military campaign.

Even so, the US would still want to build a "broad coalition, including Nato forces to join the effort: This is not because the US lacks the military capacity to handle it alone, but rather to send a powerful message of a united front against enemy forces.

Published in The Telegraph, March 30, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors' alone.



Trump’s Iran Endgame: Deal, Delay, or a Different Phase of War?

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael: I think that at the end of the day, if there are differences between Israel and President Trump, the differences are with regard to tactics, not even strategy. Both sides remain focused on outcomes. President Trump is fully devoted, he is fully invested in this war, and he will not finish the war without achieving significant achievements. He understands that beyond press conferences and tweets, there are facts on the ground, and people will judge

whether this was a success or a fiasco.

Israel knew Trump’s intentions to opt for negotiations with Iran but for sure Israel won’t be able to face the Iranian threat and Hezbollah simultaneously. Trump is planning to do something else. This is the reason for the arrival in the region of the 82nd division and the Marines … in order to launch a very comprehensive ground military operation that will change the entire face of the war.

Published in The Media Line, March 27, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors’ alone.



What do Iran peace negotiations

mean for Israel’s operation in Lebanon?

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael: All the land between the international border and the Litani River will be cleaned. There will be no Hezbollah there, and no Shiites will be there. There will be no Shia villages there anymore. And Hezbollah will weaken, it will be weakened to the degree that maybe the Lebanese Army will be able to take responsibility and control, and then this will be maybe the ripest moment to accelerate the negotiation between Israel and Lebanon for reaching peace between both countries.

Published in Washington Examiner, March 26, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors’ alone.



The Historic Mission: Dismantling the Iranian Threat

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael argues that the current conflict is entering a new phase focused on dismantling Iran's nuclear and proxy capabilities to prevent the regime from remaining a "spoiler" for regional peace.

He frames this struggle as a historic moral mission for the United States, essential for establishing a new regional architecture and defeating the radicalism supported by China and Russia

The full interview took place on ILTV on March 26, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors' alone.

Ep. 33: Will the Iranian People Rise Up?

written by Misgav Institute | 07.04.2026

In this powerful and inspiring episode of *Mideast Horizons*, hosts Asher Fredman and Lahav Harkov are joined by Sana Ebrahimi, a prominent Iranian activist and AI researcher, to discuss the current state of the Islamic Republic, the Iranian opposition, and the growing momentum for regime change.

Sana shares her remarkable personal journey, from growing up in a religiously conservative family in Tehran and wearing the chador from age seven, to becoming an outspoken voice against the ayatollah regime. She explains why so many Iranians reject the regime, why she does not believe the war has produced a true "rally around the flag" phenomenon, and why public anger inside Iran

remains intense.

Sana also provides a masterclass on the landscape of the Iranian opposition, from the “reformists” and the MEK to the evolving movement around Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi. She argues that if the American and Israeli operations in Iran succeed in truly weakening the regime’s “killing machine,” a large-scale internal uprising could be on the horizon.

Sana also reveals how AI-generated propaganda, fake videos, and coordinated online campaigns are distorting global perceptions of Iran, and what social media platforms should do about it.

In the opening segment, Asher and Lahav analyze the current state of Operations Epic Fury and Roaring Lion, and the critical questions on the table regarding any potential deal to end the war. They also discuss the return of Hamas displays of power in Gaza and the new roadmap for disarming the terrorist group presented by U.S. and regional mediators.

Key Topics Discussed:

- **Life Inside the Regime:** Sana’s journey from a restricted life under the ayatollah regime to a leading voice in the global opposition.
- **The Uprising Timeline:** Why the Iranian people are outraged and waiting for the right moment to reclaim their country.
- **Decoding the Opposition:** A breakdown of the different groups vying for Iran’s future and why the Pahlavi camp is gaining traction.
- **The First AI War:** How generative AI is being used as a weapon of war, and the need for “Responsible AI” in online discourse.
- **Gaza & Lebanon:** Insights into the ongoing efforts to disarm Hamas and drive Hezbollah back from Israel’s border.

For critical insights on Iran and the changing Middle East, follow the Misgav Institute on X: @MisgavINSen.



Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/episode/0gNfCcZvCLp43dXMSrqfp5?si=A9nQTVn3ScCGxEhaWMmKeA&nd=1&dlsi=cb3d6e6bc17c4565

👉

Apple:

https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/countdown-to-snapback-sanctions-on-iran/id1822734204?i=1000727151332

Trump says Iran deal is close – but war is escalating on another front

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 07.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael: The campaigns against Iran and Lebanon were complementary and Israel was determined to see both of them through, even without US support. Even so, a major Israeli war with Hezbollah would be likely to rely on some degree of US support, as with the country's other conflicts in recent years that have drawn heavily on American weaponry.

Published in Inews, March 25, 2026.

*The opinions expressed in Misgav publications are the authors' alone.

