# Israel’s Qualitative Military Edge at Risk

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael discusses the serious concern that Israel is potentially on the path toward losing its Qualitative Military Edge in the region due to the American strategy, which considers Qatar and Turkey as crucial and influential players required for reshaping the Middle East. He suggests that President Trump’s approach is a pure business and economic strategy aimed at strengthening the American economy and increasing dependencies on the US by selling military hardware, and proposes that Israel should change the nature of US military aid from direct assistance to technological and scientific cooperation and development that will benefit both countries.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on December 16, 2025.

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# Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria Near a Breaking Point

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael: If Hamas isn’t disarmed and the Gaza Strip isn’t demilitarized, Israel will have finished the war without achieving its goals. Israel will have trouble coming to terms with that.

In Lebanon, we see the highest chances for a resumption of the war. The Americans have lost their patience, and Israel has a green light to operate.

If Israel will reach an understanding with the Americans through dialogue with the Syrians that all of the territory south of Damascus will remain demilitarized and under a strict enforcement regime, Israel will be willing to reposition itself. But that won’t happen so fast.

Published in The Media Line, December 14, 2025.



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# Next phase of Trump’s Gaza peace plan faces thorny questions

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael: The main problem, which actually overlaps all the dimensions – political, security – is the idea that Hamas must be disarmed, dismantled and the Gaza Strip must be demilitarized. If these things will not happen, then nothing will happen.

This is something that works just, against the interest of Israel, because Turkey and Qatar are the biggest providers and supporters of Hamas. They do not intend to enable the disarmament of Hamas. On the contrary, they want Hamas to remain as a relative and influential player in the Gaza Strip and beyond.

A preferred scenario for Israel, is for the area Israel controls to be a testing ground for Trump's phase two. In this area, Israel would maintain overriding security control as a technocratic Palestinian administration is set up, overseen by the Board of Peace with security carried out by an International Stabilization Force alongside newly trained Palestinian police.

Published in The Hill, December 13, 2025.



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# 'He has the courage to make decisions'

written by Yossi Amrusi | 16.12.2025

Yossi Amrusi: While the appointment of an external candidate is controversial given the Mossad's recent successes, Gofman possesses the core character trait required for the job.

In the last war, Mossad worked in a phenomenal form. Its achievements in Lebanon with the operation of the beepers and the achievements in Tehran and in Iran in general with the intimate intelligence that it succeeded [in delivering] on the most senior officials in the Revolutionary Guards, the Iranian scientists, this is phenomenal work that will be taught in schools for espionage and intelligence for tens of years more.

Published in JNS, December 11, 2025.



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# Israel is facing Turkey

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 16.12.2025

Ruth Wasserman Lande asserts that Israel is facing Turkey, not Syria, which she views as merely a façade, emphasizing Turkey's significant size, strategic geographic placement, and its military capabilities as a NATO member, while noting its long-term presence in northern Syrian soil. She cautions that President

Erdoğan is establishing the foundation of a future Ottoman Empire by supporting the Muslim Brotherhood ideology and expanding Turkish influence (including in Libya and Sudan), warning that Turkey is “the next Iran” and the strengthened Sunni axis it leads will threaten the West.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on December 8, 2025.

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# The Looming Regional Threat: Iran, Proxies, and Narrative Warfare

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 16.12.2025

Ruth Wasserman Lande detailed concerns about impending missile attacks and the enhancement of ground forces backed primarily by Iran and its proxies (Hezbollah, Hamas, PIJ) across Israel’s borders, specifically Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, and the West Bank.

She argued that Israel’s preparation for fighting must encompass the military, the social (noting civilian exhaustion after a two-year battle), and the crucial, often-neglected narrative front. Furthermore, she expressed alarm over complex regional dynamics, including Turkey’s expansionist Muslim Brotherhood ideology and the surprising international support for Syrian President Al-Assad, who leads a jihadi military threat.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on December 01, 2025.

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# PA Weakness and the Hamas-Iran Reconstitution Drive

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael addresses a major security operation in the West Bank, interpreting it as evidence of the ongoing weakness of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the continued existence of terror infrastructure and motivation in the region.

He warns that the situation is very fragile, characterizing it as a continuing terror war where Hamas's external leadership and the Iranians are actively trying to strengthen Hamas infrastructure within the West Bank, particularly as Hamas weakens in the Gaza Strip.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on November 26, 2025.

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# Failure to Disarm Hamas Will Guarantee Future Conflict

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael asserts that Hamas militants trapped in the tunnels in IDF-controlled areas have only two options—to surrender or be killed—and he believes the probability of surrender increases daily because they realize they have no one there to back them up.

He stresses that the conflict is a regional and multi-front war, requiring Israel to dismantle and disarm Hamas because failure to finalize the mission in the Gaza Strip will negatively impact all other fronts, including Hezbollah, the Houthis, and Iran.

The full interview took place on ILTV on November 26, 2025.

# Israel Braces for Renewed Hostilities After Killing Hezbollah's Top Military Commander

written by Dr. Yossi Mansharof | 16.12.2025

Dr. Yossi Mansharof: Tabatai's elimination was the Israel Defense Force's "most significant operation" since the American-brokered cease-fire ended major hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah last year. The strike is also the first at the Lebanese capital since July.

Published in The Sun, November 24, 2025.



# Israelis and Egyptians Differ on Smuggling in Gaza

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.12.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael: As long as Hamas remains in control and is committed to another Oct. 7, the American ceasefire framework will not get anywhere. You cannot build a stable peace with a partner that openly prepares for the next massacre. At some point, the United States will have to recognize that Hamas is the obstacle, not part of the solution. That will force Washington toward what he calls Plan B.

Israel has to give the Americans the time and space to try their way, so that the responsibility for the failure of the plan falls on Hamas. But in the end, I believe they will move to Plan B—securing the eastern Gaza Strip under IDF oversight, expanding it gradually to the west while crushing and dismantling Hamas if it continues to violate the agreement.

When Hamas tries, at the end of the day, it will get something through. The attempts themselves, including those the IDF has detected, show that the infrastructure is active now—not only historically. The real issue now is not weapons going out of the Strip, but those that keep coming in.

The full interview will be published in The Media Line, on November 24, 2025.

