Turkey & Qatar in Gaza – A New Foothold for Attacking Israel?

written by Noa Lazimi | 28.10.2025

Noa Lazimi provides an in depth analysis of the interests that Qatar and Turkey have in Gaza and how those interests may conflict with the goals of the US and Israel. She then talks about the emerging threat of a Turkish attack on Israel and how the geopolitical landscape needs to adapt to the new power struggles in the Middle East.

Recorded as part of an IDSF briefing on October 28, 2025.

Israel Must Retaliate Aggressively and Coordinate Deeply

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael contends that Israel must retaliate very aggressively, even disproportionally, to the ongoing violations committed by Hamas. He explains that if Israel fails to be strict and determined, it risks shaping a reality very similar to the one that existed until October 7th, which will likely result in much more severe violations in the future. Therefore, Michael stresses the critical need for very well and deep coordination with the United States, particularly with President Trump, to ensure the rules of the game are truly changed, build legitimacy for Israeli actions, and remain sensitive to American interests.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on October 28, 2025.

Why the IDF Must Finish the Job

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael expresses serious doubt that Hamas is taking President Trump's ultimatum seriously, believing they are secured by Qatar and Turkey and are using the issue of dead hostages' bodies as manipulation to waste time. Although he considers the overall US plan fantastic for Israel as it ensures ultimate victory and the achievement of all war objectives, he warns against the influence of Turkish and Qatari "political boots on the ground", and predicts Hamas will likely fail to comply, requiring Israel to resume military operations, as the IDF is the only entity capable of dismantling Hamas.

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

Saudi Frustration and the New Gaza Strategy

written by Asher Fredman | 28.10.2025

Asher Fredman discusses the complex geopolitical situation involving Saudi Arabia, Gaza, and other regional actors. He asserts that the Saudis are unhappy with the Qatari role in Gaza, understand Hamas's true nature well, and want a new U.S.-led strategy to prevent Hamas from once again destabilizing the region.

The full interview took place on Channel I24, on October 23, 2025.

Inside the Gaza stabilization force plan

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

prof. Kobi Michael: When you have a broad variety of countries participating in a peacekeeping force with different organizational cultures, different military doctrines and different interests, then it is almost impossible for the force to operate as a coherent unit.

There was little chance that ISF would be able to take on Hamas in any serious way. If the ISF operates in areas with no Hamas presence, they have a higher probability of succeeding. If they operate in areas where Hamas is present, they will fail immediately. They do not even have a slight chance to succeed.

The success of the ISF will largely be dependent on their collaboration with the IDF. Broad and consistent cooperation with the IDF will significantly ease the functioning of the ISF. If the cooperation is obstructed, then it will be very difficult for the ISF to do its mission because there will constantly be tension that will be exploited by Hamas to rebuild.

Published in JNS, October 23, 2025.



Questioning the Feasibility of a Regional Peace Architecture

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael acknowledged the American optimism and good will driving efforts to establish a “new regional architecture,” but emphasized that the idea of achieving peace with Hamas “does not necessarily correspond with reality.” He argued that Israelis “cannot” feel secure relying on the proposed International Stabilization Force (ISF), since “most peacekeeping operations have failed” worldwide and “not even a single peacekeeping operation here” has succeeded since the 1950s. Moreover, he described the ISF’s composition as “very problematic,” highlighting “an inherent tension between two axes”—the Turkish-Qatarian axis and the Egyptian-Saudi-American axis—which undermines cohesion and raises doubts about whether the force “might [not] be too effective.”

The full interview took place on Channel I24 on October 22, 2025.

The Fragile Truce: Israel’s Path to Dismantling Hamas

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael analyzes the highly fragile ceasefire situation, noting that Hamas has repeatedly violated the truce and rejected the full scope of the proposed peace plan, agreeing only to the initial stage of hostage release while refusing to disarm or leave the Gaza Strip. He argues that Israel must secure the continued commitment of President Trump and implement the plan’s stabilization measures in southern Gaza to build legitimacy for continuing the fight to dismantle Hamas in the north, while countering the adverse influence of supporters like Turkey and Qatar.

The full interview took place on Chai FM on October 21, 2025.

Aggressive Response to Hamas Versus Preservation of the Trump Plan

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael described the situation as very fragile, noting that Israel must balance its desire for aggressive, heavy retaliation against Hamas violations with the need for restraint to secure the remaining hostages and implement President

Trump’s peace plan.
He asserted that Hamas’s actions reflect its DNA, as they only agreed to the plan’s first phase and do not intend to demilitarize or dismantle, posing significant challenges for the implementation of the second and third phases. To succeed, Israel must combine military and diplomatic paths and focus on keeping President Trump supportive and focused on his plan through intimate channels, rather than taking his often incoherent public declarations too seriously.

The full interview took place on Channel I24 on October 20, 2025.

https://youtu.be/GKG1muerDH0

Israel Left With No Choice but Military Action

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025
Prof. Kobi Michael:The plan can still work if political and security tracks advance together, anchored in the agreement’s enforcement tools. He points to Article 17—authorizing an International Stabilization Force and a transitional technocratic authority to administer areas without Hamas. Israel has to push in this direction. First to assure that President Trump remains in the picture, and second to establish the required legitimacy to resume the war against Hamas in the northern part of the Gaza Strip.”

At present, the legitimacy to escalate is brittle. “Hamas intends to remain there. They say very clearly that they will not dismantle themselves until a Palestinian state is established, and they will transfer their weapons only to that state’s army. What can be clearer than that?

The full interview will be published on Media Line on October 20, 2025.



‘Severe’ ceasefire violation

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 28.10.2025

Prof. Kobi Michael: All the manipulation that they are doing plays on the nerves of Israeli society, saying the terror group is making themselves as if they are not able… to find the bodies where everybody knows that they can.

They continue reconstituting themselves and attacking the IDF by using the tunnels, using the shafts going out, because they now feel much freer, because the IDF left the populated area.

The full interview took place on Fox News on October 19, 2025.

