

Recognition of a Palestinian state: A moral low and a strategic folly of the West

written by Joseph Rozen | 29.09.2025

Why do European countries choose to give a prize to terror? There are domestic and foreign reasons behind it that are not at all related to the Palestinian issue.

What Israel Wants

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 29.09.2025

The events of October 7, 2023, shook Israel to its core. Hamas's brutal attack—which left some 1,200 dead and hundreds more held captive—made clear to Israel's leaders and citizens alike that the country must change its approach to national security to ensure its survival.

In the subsequent two years, Israeli decision-makers have discarded old security paradigms in favor of new strategies. Israel is no longer content with weakening, rather than defeating, its adversaries. Instead, Israeli leaders are much more willing to employ the country's military strength to proactively shape a new order that protects its national interests.

Some have interpreted Israel's new strategy as a quest for regional hegemony. In reality, although it is the strongest military power in the region, Israel is not a regional hegemon—nor does it seek to be one.

Israel does not want to dominate the regional order. But it does seek to shape that order to a greater degree than ever before. This includes defending its assets and allies, holding territory and adjusting borders when strategically necessary, forging diverse alliances around common interests, and preventing any potential enemy from developing capabilities that would threaten its existence or security.

By embracing a strategy that prioritizes real security concerns over wishful diplomacy and proactive intervention over reactive restraint, Israel is making itself stronger, not weaker. It can thrive only if its borders are secure, existential challenges on its periphery are removed, and its regional partnerships grow deeper. As long as Israeli leaders continue to embrace this new paradigm, it will safeguard Israel and create the necessary conditions for a more stable and prosperous Middle East in the future.

The full paper was published in Foreign Affairs, September 12, 2025.

Israel Is Not Committing Genocide: Exposing the Distortion of Law and Truth

written by Arsen Ostrovsky | 29.09.2025

Despite repeated accusations, Israel's actions in Gaza do not meet the legal definition of genocide and reflect self-defense, not intent to destroy a people.

Advancing Israeli sovereignty in response to recognition of a Palestinian state

written by Dr. Raphael BenLevi | 29.09.2025

Part of the Israeli public thinks Israel should advance full sovereignty over Judea and Samaria in response to Western recognition of a Palestinian state.

The Gaza war and the fall of Jerusalem: When Israel abandons morals for legalism

written by Col. (res.) Dr. Hanan Shai | 29.09.2025

Rigid obedience to the law without understanding its purpose may result in the failure to defeat Hamas - just as rigid legalism once led to Jerusalem's destruction.

Make sure Hamas doesn't get what it wants

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 29.09.2025

Hamas draws encouragement from the success of the "hunger in Gaza" campaign and the responses it generated worldwide and in Israel. They are also pleased with the connection made between the Palestinian statehood recognition initiative and the war in the Strip.

Humanitarian city in Gaza is a

moral, strategic imperative

written by Dr. Adi Schwartz | 29.09.2025

When Israel seeks to offer Palestinians the opportunity to access aid in a secure area, it is inexplicably met with skepticism and resistance. Why is Gaza an exception?

The solution: Trump's voluntary migration plan

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 29.09.2025

Hamas currently believes the momentum is in its favor and is hardening its positions. Advancing a voluntary migration plan would pressure the terrorist organization and also address allegations of starvation in Gaza. On the ground, it's possible to shift the situation without increasing risk to Israeli troops.

The US-Israel Gaza aid plan is working - which is why Hamas is spreading lies about it

written by Arsen Ostrovsky | 29.09.2025

This week, the world was fed another lie: that Israeli troops deliberately opened fire on Palestinians waiting for food in Gaza.

The usual chorus responded on cue — crying “massacre” and “war crime” — while much of the media once again acted as an amplifier for Hamas propaganda.

The reality couldn't be more different.

Not only was there no massacre, but the Israel Defense Forces were actively securing a humanitarian corridor to enable deliveries by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, a US-Israeli initiative designed to get aid directly to civilians.

And for the first time since Hamas started the war on Oct. 7, the terror group was losing control over the distribution of humanitarian assistance in Gaza.

The GHF was created to bypass Hamas entirely — cutting it out of the aid supply chain it has long exploited as a tool of war.

Hamas has operated like a terrorist mafia: hijacking trucks, stockpiling supplies for its fighters and then inflating prices to fund its war effort, and violently punishing any Gazan who dares to take food outside its control.

In its first full week of operation, the GHF distributed nearly 7 million meals, on average a million a day.

Tens of thousands of Gazans received food safely and without incident — no Hamas middlemen, no inflated black market and no political strings.

The GHF is now working to open more distribution sites to reach even more Gazans in need.

This is the first serious, large-scale aid operation that undermines Hamas' most powerful weapon: control over the people of Gaza.

And Hamas is panicking.

Why? Because food has long been part of its arsenal.

Hamas has used aid as leverage — diverting, distributing and denying it as a means to enforce loyalty and preserve power.

The GHF threatens to dismantle that system by delivering directly to civilians, bypassing the terror group that has used starvation as a strategy.

So Hamas has turned to a two-pronged response.

First, disruption on the ground: sending armed operatives to provoke chaos at aid

sites, firing on civilians attempting to access food and deliberately manufacturing volatility.

Second, disinformation: flooding social media and compliant news outlets with false casualty counts, doctored images and fabricated narratives — all to paint Israel as the aggressor and itself as the victim.

This isn't theory. It's strategy. It's textbook Hamas. And more than 600 days into a war they began, too much of the world's media still parrots its talking points without question. That's not journalism — it's complicity. Yes, the suffering in Gaza is real.

But its cause is not Israel's military operations or efforts to rescue the hostages Hamas still holds; it's Hamas' own strategy of exploitation and terror.

Meantime, the international community, led by UNRWA, had been the primary source of humanitarian assistance in Gaza and for years willfully turned a blind eye to Hamas' exploitation of aid — failing to enforce meaningful oversight, even employing Hamas members (many who took part in the Oct. 7 attacks) as local staff and using its facilities to hoard aid for terror operations.

Now, UNRWA would seemingly rather see the GHF fail, and the people of Gaza actually starve, so it can continue using the Jewish state as its forever-scapegoat.

Israel has taken unprecedented steps to minimize civilian harm, facing an enemy that embeds in civilian areas, hoards humanitarian aid and sacrifices its own people to gain global sympathy.

Humanitarian aid must never be a bargaining chip for terrorists.

But by insisting on a system that leaves aid in Hamas' hands, much of the international community has allowed exactly that.

Hamas would rather starve its own people than lose control over them.

Those who truly care about the welfare of Palestinian civilians must support a system that bypasses Hamas altogether.

That system is the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.

The GHF is delivering what countless international actors have failed to provide:

direct, accountable, large-scale humanitarian assistance that does not empower a terrorist group.

It breaks Hamas' monopoly over aid and strips it of one of its most dangerous tools — using food as a means of control.

That's why Hamas is trying to sabotage this initiative.

Supporting the GHF means more than feeding the hungry.

It means breaking Hamas' grip on Gaza's civilians.

It means dismantling the group's strategy of domination through deprivation.

And it means backing a bold US-Israeli initiative that delivers not only food — but hope.

The article was written together with John Spencer is chairman of urban-warfare studies at West Point's Modern War Institute, host of the "Urban Warfare Project Podcast" and co-author of "Understanding Urban Warfare."

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Israel should provide Gazans with the freedom to choose emigration

written by Moshe Fuzaylov | 29.09.2025

This sort of strategic maneuver would have far-reaching implications.