

From “Good Fence” to Buffer Zone: Israel’s Shift in Southern Lebanon

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 09.04.2026

Prof. Kobi Michael: Israel has changed its security doctrine after the events of October 7, 2023, shifting from a strategy of “containment” to one of direct responsibility.

Israel has no territorial demands or ambitions when it comes to Lebanon. Israel has only security demands. The problem is that the Lebanese state, or the Lebanese government, and the Lebanese army are unable to do what they are supposed to do according to the commitments they have undertaken. The Lebanese army is incapable, and I believe even unwilling, to confront Hezbollah and dismantle it. There is a very large Shiite segment within the Lebanese army that identifies with Hezbollah or even supports it. Therefore, there is not enough cohesion within the army to carry out such a mission.

The full interview was published in AlHura on April 9, 2026.

