

# The Impact of the Israel-Hamas War on Shaping Global Policies

**POLITICS** 

**DENIZ TAMER** 



### **Abstract**

The following report examines and evaluates the change in global policies forthcoming after the initiation of the war between Israel and Hamas while also covering historical aspects before the October 7th attacks covering involved countries, affected minority groups, declining and rising economies and more. Tracing the roots of this incident, the report will give a resolution of the global policies affected both regionally and globally.

# Introduction to the Israel-Palestine Conflict After October 7th & Historical Context

Diplomatic relationships between the Western world and the East have always been volatile. Throughout history, countless people have witnessed struggle within the Middle East. Whether that ranges from territorial misconceptions, border clashes or supposed liberation attempts by countries of the West. The political tension between Israel and the State of Palestine now under the rule of Hamas has been ongoing for more than a decade.

Ever since 2006, amidst conflicts in the Middle East one stood out the most, lasted the longest and led to one of the most brutal wars seen in the 20th century. The Israeli government and the Palestine Liberation Organization have been neck to neck ever since, one side trying to liberate their own soil whilst the other tries to protect it from foreign powers.

To understand this conflict it is best to go almost a century prior to the WW2 era. In 1933, Hitler and the Jewish League signed the Haavara Agreement, which declared that German Jews could and would eventually relocate to Mandatory Palestine with financial assistance. Furthermore, the Havaara Mark was preferred over the Deutschmark due to lower interest rates and overall perceived favorability. By the end of 1933, 100,000 of the 600,000 German Jews had already fled to Palestine. Following this the Jewish population in Palestine, they founded and declared their independence of the State of Israel in 1948.

The declaration of independence by the now Israeli people struck outrage and fury for the displaced Palestinian population in Southern Levant. This uprising led to a Palestinian statehood struggle eventually emerging as Hamas, a Palestinian militant organisation in the

late 1980s. The Hamas militant group gained their ideal of annihilating Israel and establishing an Islamic state ruled by Sharia law in the historic state of Palestine while at the same time



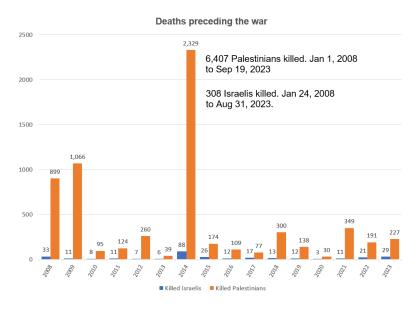
being oppressed by the Israeli government due to their outcastment and displacement from their historical territory.

In 2006, Hamas won the Palestinian legislative elections and assumed administrative control of the Gaza Strip and West Bank leading to a political victory for the party as they rose in authority within the State of Palestine.

A year later in 2007, Hamas led a military operation over Fatah, a then secular Palestinian nationalist party that had dominated Palestinian National Authority and had won victory. The military side of the organisation has engaged in armed resistance against Israel, with Israel's counter terrorism operations ongoing. Both sides' political efforts have exacerbated an already vulnerable international situation.

More than a decade later, we are here discussing the same topic of oppressional terrorism in the Middle East. Earlier this year, on October the 7th, Hamas launched its first military attack on Israel since their assumed administrative control over Palestine.

The unprecedented surprise attack launched by Hamas terrorists on Israel infiltrated the country by air, sea and land. At 7:00AM Israeli citizens were woken from their sleep by a loud ear bursting alarm signalling the 5,000 rockets sent by Hamas and Iran, over Israeli territory that started an all out war.



Frankly, the rockets were intercepted leaving most in the air but some reaching its destination leading to civilian casualties and destruction of homes around border towns of Israel where the Iron Dome Missile System's interception span did not reach. The attack, followed by devestating assault and counts of genocide which involved Hamas terrorists killing over 1,200 people, mostly being innocent civilians as well as the

abduction of 240 people from their homes and festivals around.



One of the most infamous attacks was the Nova Music Festival massacre, a attack that was planned on peaceful party goers that led to an act of genocide killing over 300 civilians and kidnapping 40 hostages. Alongside this, we see Hamas troops pushing through with the invasion gaining territorial control over the West Bank almost in its entirety. These areas with an Israeli population are under threat of Hamas invasions, kidnappings and murders.

Hamas has stated that the attack was motivated primarily by the resentment of Israeli policy, their means of annihilation, and the notable recent outbreaks of violence at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, but also more broadly by the oppression of Palestinians and the construction of Israeli settlements.

# Recent Conflicts & Developments In The Area

Following the UN alleged war crimes and publicly seen attacks, the war quickly expanded its conflicts after the missile strikes aimed at Israel itself, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula as well as involving other unrecognised organisations deemed as terrorist groups such as Hezbollah.



As a result of this, the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu declared an all out invasion of the Gaza Strip and Palestine dropping an equivalent of more than 25,000 tonnes of explosives on the Gaza Strip since the October 7th attacks.

This invasion led to further questioning from the Internation Court of Justice and the United Nations regarding war crimes involving carpet bombing and mass genocide of the people of Palestine and Gaza. On the other hand, Israel is held accountable

of serious human rights allegations involving mass shootings with the use of rubber bullets, bullets and tear gass of those peacefully protesting or praying in the streets of Gaza. Israeli officials state that the bombings are only done to areas where there are Hamas weapon storages however it seems as though areas beside it are also being affected such as the Al-Shifa Hospital that was bombed during an Israeli air strike leaving 43 patients dead.

,



Alongside bombings, the situation in Gaza is deteriorating rapidly as the Israeli government has cut off all humanitarian ways of living such as food, water and electricity as well as other vital sources of life.

Due to the interference of the Israeli government, the people in Gaza are unable to contact the outside world, or even have the ability to seek shelter in their own homes. Gaza is a wreck, it's a warzone, continuously under bombings and attacks from both sides. As a result of this, bordering countries have closed off their borders for refugees fleeing the country therefore leading to Palestinian civilians an only route to freedom from the West Bank which is only accessible via Jordan or Israel causing a hard and deadly route for refugees to reach their freedom.

Following the Israeli initiatives to combat Hamas, the ICJ (International Court of Justice) has issued an official declaration stating that Israel should put an end to its illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories, desist from creating new settlements, and evacuate those already established. As current events show, Israel has done nothing in reaction to this court order. Israel seems to have completely disregarded the ICJ regarding the lack of humanitarian evaluation throughout the duration of the conflict.

On the 24th of July 2024, President Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the United States Congress in an effort to refurbish American-Israeli diplomatic ties and to defend the war on Hamas. Netanyahu radically stated "We win, they lose" and "Our enemies are your enemies" in congress while he instinctively explained the situation in Gaza to gain American favorability. Through the duration of his speech thousands of protesters marched in Washington DC, outside the congress setting light to American and Israeli flags, holding "This is a genocide" posters and carrying Netanyahu's face stating their hate and fury towards the war and expressing their frustration to the US government for supporting the conflict.

Following this speech, attacks on Israel got more hostile as the Iranian militant group, Hizbullah initiated an attack on the 29th of July in Israeli controlled Golan Heights killing 12 children and teengagers. The deadliest attack since October 7th towards the Israelis led to lots of tension and diplomatic uprising leading to uncertainty for what is to come.

# Affected Diplomatic Policy Improvements

Middle East ties as well as international alliances are significantly impacted by the Israel-Hamas war. International diplomacy and regional alliances can be diverged by regional powers like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan navigating their relationships with Israel and the Palestinian groups, including Hamas. Globally speaking, the war is viewed differently by major powers such as the US, the EU, China, and Russia. International negotiations and peace processes are shaped by their diplomatic support or criticism; nations such as the



United States have historically aligned strongly with Israel, while others may criticise Israeli actions or support Palestinian rights.

The question all struggle to answer is: Is there going to be peace? The main issue splitting the world diplomatically is the decision of which to support the power house or the underperformer. Bordering countries have called for ceasefires of yet to no avail. In response, regional nationals have shut their borders to avoid refugee crises and what's to come of it. Following these responses, refugees have gotten into an even more deteriorating situation with the question of what yet to do.

Various nations serve as mediators in peace negotiations as part of diplomatic efforts to address the Israel-Hamas conflict. This covers institutions that support ceasefire agreements and protracted peace talks, including the United Nations, the United States, and regional actors. As a reflection of the intricate nature of the peace process, the terms and progress of these negotiations are frequently impacted by the degree of pressure and support from abroad. Resolutions and pronouncements that demand ceasefires, denounce certain acts, or lay out plans for peace are common ways in which the UN addresses the conflict. Depending on global agreement and member state enforcement actions, these resolutions may or may not be effective.



Additionally, reports from international human rights organisations, such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, often highlight abuses and shape diplomatic discourse by influencing global opinion.

Regional organisations like the Arab League and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have significant roles in shaping diplomatic stances on the conflict.

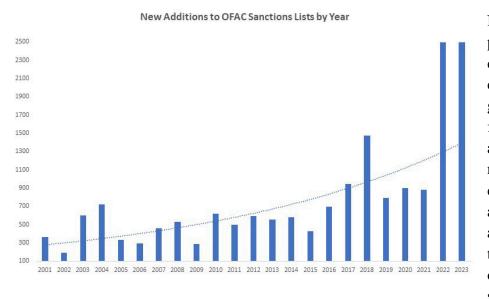
As a result of the lack of diplomatic cooperation drived by the political uncertainty and turmoil, comes economic sanctions and the blockage to humanitarian aid worsening the situation for both nations and avoiding multilateral solutions.



# Economic Sanctions and Financial Divergences

With the full effect of the war, both nations have accounted for existential damage financially, infrastructurally and militarily. On the ground, the fighting severely damages the local economy by severely deteriorating utilities, roads, hospitals, and other critical infrastructure. Significant drops in funding and investors result from this destruction's undermining of economic stability and productivity. Economic downturns are made worse by the closure of factories, stores, and other businesses, which raises the unemployment and poverty rates.

These consequences exacerbate the humanitarian catastrophe and increase the difficulty of development and rehabilitation. The conflict also affects the world economy more broadly. Due to the Middle East's strategic importance in the world's energy markets, disturbances there may have an impact on worldwide trade routes and oil prices. Such volatility frequently leads to higher energy and goods costs globally, which affects international markets and the stability of the economy.



Nations that participate in conflicts or controversies often get obliged with financial sanctions and other restrictions as a cost of their so-said actions, each aimed at a distinct facet of their economic operations. In the specific situation of

the conflict involving Israel and Hamas, trade restrictions have taken place, which involves limiting or prohibiting the import and export of products and services. These limitations have the potential to impair vital industries, sour trade ties, cause shortages and inflation, and more.

Sanctions might, for example, target particular industries like consumer products, technology, or energy, which would increase the economic burden. Blocking the financial assets of people, groups, or governments involved in the conflict is known as an asset freeze. By



limiting their access to global financial institutions, this approach weakens economic stability and makes it more difficult for them to execute international transactions. As a result of this,

countries are unable to add on to their economy or military without the help of external powers. In this case, Israel gets the support of the United States while Hamas is backed by Iran and external militias such as Hizbullah and the Houthis in Yemen.

## Conclusive Statement

As a result of the conflict between the two nations, many have suffered the consequences including the Palestinian minority intimidated by Israeli power as well as the sanctions Israel faces for the so-called consequences of their actions. Regardless, the continuous conflict between Israel and Hamas has had a significant impact on world affairs, changing the diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian landscapes. The complexity of contemporary geopolitics has been exposed by this conflict, which has its roots in decades of historical tension and has heightened regional and international connections. Hamas's attack on October 7th signalled a dramatic uptick in bloodshed and further polarised opinion around the world.

International alliances have been strained diplomatically as a result of the war, with various nations and organisations aligning themselves according to their historical ties and geopolitical objectives. Major nations including the US, EU, China, and Russia have taken a variety of positions that influence their peace attempts and diplomatic endeavours. The ongoing political and humanitarian issues have frequently limited the effectiveness of attempts by regional and international organisations, including the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League, to mediate and address the conflict.

Both locally and globally, the conflict has caused enormous economic harm. On the ground, the humanitarian crisis has worsened due to the destruction of infrastructure and the disruption of economic activity in Gaza and Israel, which has increased unemployment and poverty. Given the strategic importance of the Middle East, changes in trade routes and oil prices have an impact on the global economy. The parties involved have been subject to a variety of sanctions, which have affected global commerce and financial stability. These sanctions range from travel bans and arms embargoes to asset freezes and trade restrictions.

The intricate relationship between diplomacy, economy, and humanitarian crises highlights how difficult it is to find a solution. The road to enduring peace is still paved with obstacles as global actors struggle to manage the shifting alliances and economic fallout. In order to address the root causes of the conflict and bring stability back to the area, a multipronged strategy balancing diplomatic engagement, financial support, and humanitarian aid would be needed to resolve it