

ISRAEL WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY

Week #105 October 5 - October 12, 2025

This is a product of the IDSF Habithonistim Research Department, distributed by the David Institute for Security Policy in coordination with IDSF USA



Account of the main events in the Israel-Hamas war and hostilities by the Iranian Axis



President Trump arrives to the Knesset with Prime Minister Netanyahu and Knesset Speaker Ohana

Source: Government Press Office

President Trump arrived in Israel and delivers a speech in the Knesset—the first parliament in the world to host President Trump in his second term.

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- All 20 living hostages have been returned to Israel.
- Following the Israeli government's approval of the ceasefire framework, the IDF was given 24 hours to reorganize and reposition along the "yellow line", effectively maintaining control over 53% of the Gaza Strip. Once this redeployment is complete, Hamas and the other terrorist factions are required, within 72 hours, to hand over all living hostages as well as the bodies of all deceased captives in their possession. The plan stipulates that once the hostages and bodies are returned, the Gaza Strip will receive an influx of at least 400 humanitarian aid trucks every day, signaling a large-scale reopening of humanitarian access.
- In parallel, 250 "heavy security prisoners" — those convicted of lethal attacks or with "blood on their hands" — will be released, but they will not be permitted to return to the West Bank. Instead, they will either be exiled to the Gaza Strip or deported abroad under the condition that they cannot return to Judea and Samaria. Alongside this, 1,700 Gazans captured during the ground maneuver will also be released as part of the exchange framework.
- The plan establishes a precise timeline: by the end of Monday, October 13, the diplomatic phase (Stage B) is set to begin. This next phase will center on negotiations regarding Hamas's disarmament and the future governance of Gaza. The Israeli government emphasized that if Hamas refuses to disarm or insists on taking part in the new governing body, Israel will have full American backing to resume combat operations and re-enter the Gaza Strip militarily. Prime Minister Netanyahu described this as a choice between "the easy way or the hard way."

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- U.S. envoys, Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, met with the Prime Minister of Qatar and the head of Turkish intelligence to discuss the latest stage of the ceasefire negotiations. The talks have now entered a critical phase, with Hamas attempting to raise its demands and reshape the deal's core clauses. Hamas has now officially demanded the release of Marwan Barghouti — the Fatah leader imprisoned in Israel — along with other senior Palestinian prisoners. Moreover, Hamas has demanded the return of the bodies of Yahya and Muhammad Sinwar, and declared that the last hostage will only be released once the IDF completes a full withdrawal from Gaza, thereby rejecting the Trump Plan and attempting to rewrite its central provisions to ensure the organization's survival.
- By the end of the week, most IDF combat forces had withdrawn from Gaza. Only Division 99 and the Regional Gaza Division, supported by several reserve brigades, remain positioned inside the Strip. All regular combat brigades have left and are now stationed outside Gaza, prepared to resume fighting if necessary. The Commando Brigade held a ceremonial end-of-offensive event, marking the completion of its operational mission.
- Egyptian officials are now seeking to enshrine the ceasefire framework into a United Nations Security Council resolution, transforming the plan into a binding international agreement that would legally prevent Israel from resuming combat. If successful, this would grant Hamas powerful international leverage through formal “guarantees” against renewed Israeli action.
- As the withdrawal and redeployment proceeded, an operational accident occurred when a Golani Brigade Humvee collided with a heavy self-propelled artillery vehicle (a Doher). The crash left one soldier seriously injured and three lightly wounded.

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- Following the Israeli withdrawal from nearly half the Strip, Hamas swiftly moved to reassert control. The organization deployed 7,000 armed fighters, equipped primarily with Kalashnikov rifles, across the 47% of Gaza no longer under Israeli control. In the areas they seized, Hamas began a campaign of executions and intimidation, shooting dissenters in the legs and executing suspected collaborators. On the evening of Saturday, October 11, Hamas's Sahm Unit executed 15 members of the Dagmash clan in Tel al-Hawa after they allegedly killed a Hamas operative.
- Within the Israeli-controlled 53% of Gaza, three anti-Hamas militias — the Abu Shabab, Hussan al-Astaf, and Ashraf al-Mansi factions — are expected to remain under the IDF's protection. These groups, which had cooperated with Israel during the war, will likely expand their ranks in anticipation of future developments. Their continued presence is intended to stabilize the areas still held by Israel and serve as local counterweights to Hamas.
- The U.S. State Department has issued invitations to a wide array of European, Muslim, and even Latin American nations to participate in the "Gaza Summit" scheduled to take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on Monday, October 13. The list of invitees includes Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Italy, Indonesia, Pakistan, El Salvador, the Palestinian Authority and others. Prime Minister Netanyahu was invited in the last minute, but his office announced he would not go. The summit is Egyptian-led, and its purpose is to chart the pathway for Gaza's reconstruction and administration in the aftermath of the conflict.

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- On October 12, Hezbollah's youth organization held a mass rally at a Beirut stadium with a capacity of 49,500 people, marking the 40th anniversary of the organization's founding and one year since the assassination of its senior leaders. The stadium was filled to capacity, and the event's clear intent was to demonstrate resilience and defiance, signaling that Hezbollah has no intention of surrendering its weapons or reducing its regional influence.
- The "Druze National Guard" in the Hauran region released a new video this week showing a fully operational military base, complete with commanders, parade formations, and sniper training exercises. Some of the officers appear to be former Druze officers from Assad's army, now reorganized into an independent Druze force. The footage demonstrates that the Druze are entering an advanced stage of military organization, forming a semi-autonomous armed structure in response to ongoing threats from Ahmad al-Sharaa's regime and Bedouin incursions into their territory.
- Iran has intensified its military preparations to potentially close the Strait of Hormuz, deploying naval mines, ballistic missiles, anti-ship cruise missiles, and its trademark fast-attack boats across the region. This comes amid growing talk of a U.S.-led enforcement operation to intercept Iranian oil tankers as part of the SnapBack sanctions mechanism. Tehran has threatened retaliation, warning that it could seal off the strait entirely if its exports are obstructed.