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Israel's hollow support for Kurdish independence

[Oded Eran](#) / October 2, 2017, 3:03 pm

Once again Israel finds itself alone in the international arena. This time the isolation is not due to the Israeli-Palestinian situation but because, unlike the rest of the regional and international community, Israel supports political independence, not that of the Palestinians, but of Kurdistan, the Kurdish region in northern Iraq. From the Kurdish point of view, one wonders if it really is an asset to have Israel as the single state supporting its cause.

The roots of Israeli support for Kurdistan were sown in the mid-1950s. For Israel, the support, mostly in security, was part of an effort to break the political siege imposed by the surrounding Arab world. The Kurds, who lost their chance at independence in when the Second World War hastened the end of the old era of colonialism, kept the hope alive in the post-war era and were grasping for any help they could get. Israel, being the only non-Arab state without a Kurdish minority in the region, was a natural ally.

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