

The ISIS threat

Expert analyst Lt. Col. (res.) Yoram Schweitzer says the penny still has not dropped for Egypt when it comes to Sinai-based Islamic State terrorism • Meanwhile, Israeli officials worry that the jihadi group would assist Hamas against Israel in a Gaza war.

Nadav Shragai / [January 5, 2018](#)

Will the Islamic State forces in Sinai take part in the next clash between Israel and Hamas in the Gaza Strip?

Officials in the intelligence community who are monitoring the group's growing strength and movements on the Sinai Peninsula tend to think so, and Israel is preparing accordingly. The IDF has even notified communities in the Eshkol Regional Council that it is considering lengthening the anti-tunnel barrier that has been dug along the Gaza border to areas on Israel's border with Egypt to counter Islamic State in Sinai.

The **Institute for National Security Studies** has been busy studying the jihadi group for years. This week, the institute presented President Reuven Rivlin with its annual security assessment. Among other issues, the report discusses the potential for a major terrorist event in Islamic State-controlled Sinai.

"If there is another war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas and other organizations there, we can assume that the parts of Sinai controlled by the Islamic State will also take part in it," Lt. Col. (res.) **Yoram Schweitzer**, who heads the Program on Terrorism and Low Intensity Conflict at the INSS and is an expert in the field, says in an interview with Israel Hayom.

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<http://www.israelhayom.com/2018/01/05/joining-forces/>