

Implications for Cyprus from Turkey's volte face over Israel

By [Jonathan Gorvett - CM Correspondent](#) / January 9, 2021

With the clock ticking down to Joe Biden's inauguration as the 46th president of the United States, a host of regional countries have recently been re-adjusting their foreign policies – and frantically making up.

[...]

Yet, while Turkey's foreign policy interests may be served by rapprochement, there are considerable barriers to Israel reciprocating.

“The response in Israel to the Turkish overtures has been remarkably mute,” **Gallia Lindenstrauss**, from the **Institute for National Security Studies** in Tel Aviv, told the *Cyprus Mail*. “From an Israeli perspective, it seems that Turkey is acting in a destabilising manner.”

Erdogan's championing of the Palestinian cause and support for Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, but is classified as a terrorist group by Israel, the US and the European Union, is one major reason for this.

In addition, an earlier attempt at rapprochement, back in 2016, quickly collapsed, resulting in “a high level of mistrust” towards Turkey amongst the Israelis, according to Lindenstrauss.

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