



How Afghanistan Influences Hamas, PIJ, and Iran's Approach to Israel

by Kobi Michael, Yoel Guzansky / Aug 24, 2021

As the Taliban takeover boosts Iranian proxies' morale, Israel and the United States should develop a coordinated strategy against these groups to enhance Israeli security and restore confidence in American commitments to regional partners.

Although it was predictable, the Taliban's rapid takeover of Afghanistan nonetheless shocked the West. This development and its outcomes are liable to tar the United States with the brush of defeat and paint it as a failure in its role as leader of the free world and the West. Moreover, the United States has long been viewed as the most bitter foe of fundamentalist Islamist movements and the most significant obstacle to the latter realizing its visions. Therefore, necessary and justified as it may have been, the disturbing images of the U.S. withdrawal—though no withdrawal ever looks good—are proving a tailwind in jihadists' sails.

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