

Israel should be careful not to get bogged down in Ukrainian quagmire

The Russia-Ukraine war is changing the global order and Israel must consider its steps carefully.

By Ariel Kahana / Oct. 21, 2022

The 15-minute meeting that Vladimir Putin requested with Benjamin Netanyahu lasted for three hours. It was the early 2000s, Putin was newly installed as president of Russia and Netanyahu was a former prime minister and a "concerned citizen" – in other words, he was at the time out of the political game.

[...]

On the other hand, some project the Russian invasion of Ukraine on the issue of Judea and Samaria. As Maj. Gen (res.) **Tamir Hayman** of the **Institute for National Security Studies** put it, "Israeli is resolutely opposed to an external interference in border conflicts and the resolution of border issues through external enforcement." That in his opinion is a decisive consideration in not speaking out against Russia.

Alongside the moral considerations, there are national ones. Israel must, of course, maintain its freedom of operation in Syria. But here as well, opinions within the Israeli establishment are divided.

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