

Austin addresses Israeli security and judicial reform

The moment to act on Iran may be getting close, Gallant said in his meeting with Austin.

By Yonah Jeremy Bob / March 10, 2023

US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin addressed both US security cooperation and the Israeli government's judicial overhaul policy at a press conference with Defense Minister Yoav Gallant on Wednesday at Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) in Lod.

Although Austin took the trouble to mention the US's "ironclad commitment" to Israel's security several times, he was also likely the first US secretary of defense to express public concern about internal Israeli judicial branch politics.

[...]

Former senior IDF Intelligence Col. (res.) **Eldad Shavit** has written in an **INSS** post that Israel must view US statements on the judicial overhaul issue, taking into account that if the US assessed "that the shared values have been damaged," this could "have a direct effect on the relations between the two countries – particularly in this sensitive period, when the security challenges, especially on the part of Iran... require a tightening of coordination between the two countries."

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