

Commentary | National Resilience – The Key to Winning the War

Resilience is not an innate quality. It is a trait that can and should be built and maintained steadily, over time so that it can be employed in the case of a catastrophic event

[Meir Elran](#) | 24/10/2023

Two key elements will lead to victory in the difficult war imposed upon us on the cursed Saturday of October 7th: the IDF, which will bring the necessary military decision, and the national resilience that the Israeli society will express, which will bring recovery and prosperity after the war."

What is resilience?

The academic literature defines resilience as the ability of any system to successfully cope with a severe disruption or disaster, maintain reasonable differential functionality during the event, and recover quickly to support growth.

Resilience is not an innate quality. It is necessary and possible to build and maintain resilience persistently over time, prior to a disaster, according to a detailed and comprehensive plan. This is a necessary effort, from top to bottom, which does not require excessive effort, one that benefits the system even if a disaster or disruption does not occur – something which, unfortunately, does happen almost inevitably.

The key components of generic resilience are awareness of relevant risks; practical and proactive preparedness and planning according to those risks; strengthening the system's weak points; leveraging human resources (social capital); inclusive leadership; internal and external connectivity; optimism, and self-assurance.

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