

US-led task force to patrol Red Sea will do little to deter Houthis, analysts say

Bahrain is the only Arab country participating in the 10-nation Operation Prosperity Guardian coalition

Ismaeel Naar, Thomas Helm / Dec 19, 2023

The latest US-led naval coalition will "do little" to deter Houthi attacks on vessels in the Red Sea, analysts have said, warning of further escalation in the strategic waters.

The warnings came as the US pushes forward with plans to use force against the Iran-backed rebels, who continue to attack ships in support of their ally Hamas in the Gaza Strip where thousands have been killed in the Israeli offensive against the militant group.

[...]

Dr Yoel Guzansky, a senior researcher at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies, said Israel "wisely decided to outsource the effort against the Houthis.

"If Israel attacked the Houthis, it would immediately be labelled an Israeli issue and could start an escalation with the group that would be hard to stop. That in turn would risk opening up another front.

"Israel should focus on Gaza right now and not divert attention and capabilities elsewhere."

For full article:

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/gulf-news/2023/12/19/us-led-task-force-to-patrol-red-sea-to-deter-houthi-attacks/>