

Hamas Still Operates in the West Bank. What is Israel Doing About It?

Keren Setton / Jan. 8, 2024

The West Bank becomes a critical focus for Israel in its ongoing war against Hamas, with escalating violence and strategic operations

[...]

"The events are deteriorating," said **Professor Kobi Michael, a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies**. "But, as opposed to Gaza, where Hamas is the single governmental, sovereign actor that controls the whole territory and can coerce the civilian population to cooperate, this is not the situation in the West Bank. Despite widespread support for Hamas, this is not translated into action, and we do not see the masses joining."

[...]

"There are several terrorist groups and organizations that operate locally in the West Bank," Michael told The Media Line. "There is no clear coordination between them and while they are trying to generate terrorist attacks and are accumulating more weapons, Israel is successful in thwarting attacks because of its presence there and its intelligence. In order to continue to do so, it needs to maintain its presence all the time."

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