

Israel likely to ignore an ICJ order to stop its attack on Hamas, says military law expert

By [Peter Fabricius](#)

10 Jan 2024 21

Pnina Sharvit Baruch, the former head of the Israel Defense Forces' international legal department, says SA's accusation of genocide is designed to delegitimise and therefore destroy Israel.

Israel would probably ignore an interim order by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to stop its assault on Hamas in Gaza, the former head of the Israel Defense Forces' international legal department has said.

“I really hope that the court doesn't give an interim order that would compel Israel to choose between abiding by a judicial order or defending itself,” said **Pnina Sharvit Baruch**. “And they might probably ignore the order,” she added.

Baruch is an advocate and a colonel in the Israeli reserves. She was head of the International Law Department of Israel's Military Advocate General Unit from 2003 to 2009. She is now the senior researcher and head of the programme on law and national security at the **Institute for National Security Studies**.

She was giving an online briefing for the Jerusalem Press Club on Wednesday on the case which South Africa will argue before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on Thursday that Israel is violating the 1948 Genocide Convention by trying to destroy part of the Palestinian population through its military assault on Gaza.

Israel will answer SA's charges on Friday. The court could then issue interim orders to Israel within weeks to stop its assault on Gaza, before delivering a final judgment, probably within years, on whether Israel has carried out genocide.

...

For full interview:

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2024-01-10-israel-likely-to-ignore-icj-order-to-stop-attack-on-hamas-expert/>