



## **As South Africa vows to arrest dual citizens who serve in the Israeli military, will other countries follow?**

Although no other nations have said they'll prosecute their own citizens, campaigns are underway to push several other governments to do the same.

By Josh Lederman and Shira Pinson / March 15, 2024

South Africa's threat to arrest its own citizens who serve in the Israel Defense Forces is raising legal, moral and strategic questions for a military that relies heavily on foreign-born troops to fill its ranks.

What effect will the decision have on IDF readiness amid the Israel-Hamas war? Could South Africa's move create a chilling effect that would dissuade people from taking the risk of serving? And what about dual nationals, who have no choice under Israeli law but to complete mandatory military service?

[...]

**Pnina Sharvit-Baruch**, a colonel in Israel's reserves and former head of the IDF's international law department, said she didn't expect any short-term, significant effect on IDF readiness.

"People who are serving in the IDF ... are coming here to defend the country in our most precarious security situation since our existence," said **Sharvit-Baruch**, now a senior researcher at Tel Aviv's Institute for National Security Studies. "I don't think these considerations will play a major role in the consideration of specific people to whether to join the IDF."

*For full article:*

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/south-africa-vows-arrest-dual-citizens-serve-israeli-military-will-cou-rcna143460>