



## **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>