

Israel's FM tells NATO to expel Turkey as Erdogan threatens war over Gaza

As Turkey threatens military intervention in Gaza and Israel pushes for Turkey's removal from NATO, questions of how Turkey and Israel's already strained relations will be affected arise.

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Turkey's relations with Israel, rocky at the best of times, continued to take a nosedive as Israel's foreign minister, [Israel Katz](#), called on NATO to expel Turkey. The call came following threats from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of intervening militarily against Israel in defense of Gaza. Turkey had violated NATO's core principles, Katz asserted in a Monday statement, by threatening to invade a Western democratic country unprovoked. "The United States and the Western world must denounce Erdogan and halt his destructive activities," Katz said.

[...]

Back in Israel there are similar dynamics at play. Katz is engaged in "a bizarre and sometimes provocative Twitter diplomacy," said **Gallia Lindenstrauss, a senior research fellow at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies**. "It is mainly directed to the domestic audience and specifically to [Netanyahu's] Likud party members," Lindenstrauss told Al-Monitor.

That said, Erdogan's most recent salvo has struck a raw nerve amid mounting fears of a second front opening against Hezbollah in Lebanon, Lindenstrauss explained. "People are over the edge and coming just after the terrible attack on [Majdal Shams in the Israeli held] Golan Heights. Erdogan's threats leave them feeling that Turkey has completely taken sides with the enemies of Israel," [Lindenstrauss](#) concluded.

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