

China's post-Gaza war ambitions will have to include Israel eventually: experts

- Beijing's diplomatic efforts since conflict's outbreak have been weighted towards its Arab partners and disregarded by Tel Aviv

Zhao Ziwen / Published, 18 Aug 2024

With the Israel-Gaza war in its 10th month and the prospect of a widening in the conflict to include Iran, Washington and Beijing have stepped up their diplomatic efforts in recent weeks to exert their influence and achieve a ceasefire.

[...]

Galia Lavi, deputy director of the Diane and Guilford Glazer Israel-China Policy Centre at Israel's Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), predicted Tel Aviv's alignment with Washington would continue, along with its further move away from Beijing.

"Israel looks to secure its standing in the area in terms of security and the economy. China cannot guarantee Israel's security and may even undermine it by supporting Israel's enemies. That leaves us with the economy," she said.

"There is only room for cooperation with China where the economy does not conflict with security."

Lavi added that the US had proven that it was "Israel's best friend", and that "Israel will find it difficult to refuse the Americans' demands".

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