

Facing the Possibility of More Weapons Embargoes, Israel Copes

Keren Setton / Sep. 18, 2024

Several countries, including Germany and the UK, have imposed arms embargoes on Israel amid its war with Hamas. While the US has slowed some weapons deliveries, Israeli officials express limited concern over the impact of these restrictions

[...]

According to **Dr. Yehoshua Kalisky, a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)** in Tel Aviv, Israel's concern is limited. The embargos' damage to it is "minimal and only to complementary and uncritical components."

The American slowdown of precision-guided bombs will only backfire on the US. So instead of hitting a military target, it could be a hospital.

Israel's Merkava tank, a product of a British embargo that halted the use of the UK-made Chieftain tank in the 1970s, is not manufactured solely in Israel.

"Its engine, weapons barrels, and other components are currently produced outside of Israel, so Israel cannot say it can do absolutely everything on its own," said **Kalisky**. "But no country, including the US, can do everything on its own. But Israel does have the ability and the knowledge to get along."

[...]

"Perhaps Israel should have thought differently," said **Kalisky**. "There was a feeling, not only in Israel, that the world was moving to low-intensity conflict. Israel was maybe looking to lower costs. The latest war could bring Israel to the realization that it has to have much more local stock."

With little official information publicly available about where Israel gets its weapons from and which exact components it produces locally, it is difficult to get a full picture of the impact the several and simultaneous embargoes have.

"Israel can manufacture alone and is already doing so in some cases. It is a matter of production lines that need to be established, and some of them presumably already exist," **Kalisky** said. "There is no way to create an endless supply of things."

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