



*Interview conducted by Ilya Roubanis / 24 Sep 2024*

### **Gallia Lindenstrauss: A Spillover of the Conflict in the Caucasus Cannot Be Excluded**



Iran's new president, Masoud Pezeshkian, recently urged the Iranian Revolutionary Guards not to respond to the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh with a direct attack. The British daily Telegraph reported on August 9 that the reformist president suggested countermeasures against Israeli assets in neighboring Azerbaijan. The existence of these assets has never been officially acknowledged, and it is believed that such an attack could have more limited consequences. They might be even less consequential if warning had been given in advance.

This proposal once again brings to the fore the question of the possible spillover of the Middle East crisis into the South Caucasus. In an attempt to assess the Israeli projection of such an eventuality and to put current developments into context, Caucasus Watch turned to Gallia Linderstrauss. Dr. Linderstrauss is one of the leading experts on Israel's evolving relations with Turkey and Azerbaijan. She is a senior research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv and an authority on the region.

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*For full interview:*

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