

"Lasers will be very effective for short-range rockets"



Dr. Yehoshua Kalisky credit: INSS website

[Ariel Whitman](#) / 10 Oct, 2024

INSS senior researcher Dr. Yehoshua Kalisky talks to "Globes" about Hezbollah's capabilities and why the organization is reluctant to fire on central Israel.

What are Hezbollah's capabilities, why are they not firing on central Israel and can Israel's aerial defense system cope with a large number of missiles? Dr. Yehoshua Kalisky, a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS), an expert on laser, electro-optical and sensor technologies explains the situation to "Globes."

What have we learned from Hezbollah's rocket firing patterns in recent days?

"We have learned one simple thing. It's not like they were shouting about. In my opinion, until now they have fired inaccurate missiles, but we can't know that because from the interception systems point of view, it doesn't really matter what the type of missile is, accurate or inaccurate, they all have to be intercepted."

He adds, "A distinction must be made between two types of events - long-range and medium-range missiles versus rockets and other short-range means. So what can we learn? First of all, our systems deal very well with medium- and long-range ballistic missiles. At the same time, we can also learn that the systems do not deal well with short-range rockets."

So the less sophisticated the system, the more difficult it is to cope?

"This is not because our systems are not good, they are simply not built to cope with short-range missiles. To cope, the system needs to intercept an object that reaches its target sometimes within a few seconds. The Iron Dome system does not have the time to deal with them, nor is it built to deal with low flying targets. So this is actually the main problem and that's why they also managed to wreak havoc in places close to the border."

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For full interview:

<https://en.globes.co.il/en/article-laser-system-will-be-very-effective-for-short-range-rockets-1001491543>