

At War in Ukraine, Putin Emerges as Potential Peace Broker in Middle East

Israel Considering Deal To End War With Hezbollah In Lebanon: Reports

By Tom O'Connor / Senior Writer, Foreign Policy & Deputy Editor / Published Oct 31, 2024

Russia is being considered as a potential player in a deal to halt the conflict raging between Israel and the Lebanese Hezbollah movement, leveraging its unique position to prevent an even larger-scale war from erupting across a region consumed by crisis for more than a year.

[...]

"We always prefer the Americans," **Orna Mizrahi, a former Israeli deputy national security adviser now serving as senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies**, told *Newsweek*. "But we understand that, because of [the Russians'] really good relations nowadays with the Iranians, maybe they can provide something that will contribute to this for the stability of any arrangement in the future.

"Another point is the fact that they are part of the [United Nations](#) Security Council five and if we get to the point that we have some kind of a new resolution about the ceasefire in the United Nations Security Council, we would like that the Russians will approve it."

Moreover, Mizrahi said the latest developments came at a time when Russia "wants to be involved, they want to be relevant to what's going on in the region."

[...]

Having dealt with Russian officials directly in her past roles in government, Mizrahi testified to an "astonishing" level of "their appreciation of Israeli military capabilities," something she said has helped drive a pragmatic approach on issues such as Syria, where advanced Russian air defenses have been silent in the face of hundreds of Israeli strikes against positions tied to Iran and its militia allies.

She said: "I think that this plays a very significant role in their policy towards Israel and this is one of the reasons that they are not doing anything against the Israeli attacks in Syria, although they could do a lot, of course."

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