

Five reasons the Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire deal could fail

Israeli forces will remain in Lebanon for months and Hezbollah could be difficult to uproot from the border region

By Kieron Monks / November 27, 2024

The guns largely fell silent on Wednesday morning as a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah went in to effect after 14 months of war, leaving both sides to count the cost.

Lebanese prime minister, Najib Mikati, hailed "a new page" in history as displaced families flooded back to their homes in devastated regions of south Lebanon.

[...]

Professor Kobi Michael, a military analyst at Israeli think-tanks the Institute for National Security Studies and the Misgav Institute, predicts the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) will continue operations in Lebanon indefinitely.

"The IDF will continue 'mowing the grass' after the 60 days and wherever the inspecting forces will not do their job," he said, using a term originally coined for regular actions against militants in Gaza.

[...]

Statements from the military have advised caution to residents considering moving back to homes in the north. Dr Michael suggested most would return "not now and not soon".

He added: "I think that most of them will prefer to see what will be there and how determined Israel and the IDF will be. There is huge frustration among them and they do not trust the government."

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