



Is Retaliation Imminent? Israel's Strike on Iran and Its Impact on China

By Stephanie Fried, VOA / November 02, 2024

According to Israeli intelligence, Iran is preparing to launch an attack on Israel via Iraqi territory in the coming days, potentially taking action before the U.S. presidential election. An Israeli military official revealed that Israel is on "high alert" against potential drone and ballistic missile strikes from Iran.

[...]

Dr. Raz Zimmt, a senior fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies, explained, "This may not necessarily reduce Iran's risk but could limit it to some extent."

"If the attacks are carried out by pro-Iranian militias based in Iraq, Israel might find it more challenging to justify further strikes on Iran, especially on oil and nuclear facilities," Zimmt added. However, regardless of the origin of the attacks, the intensity of Israel's response will depend on the Netanyahu administration's stance.

[...]

Former Israeli Deputy National Security Adviser and senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies, Chuck Freilich, stated, "Israel's last strike primarily targeted military facilities, especially air defense and missile systems." However, it is uncertain whether Israel will comply with U.S. requests to avoid nuclear sites in future strikes, or if such requests will even be made.

[...]

Facing global sanctions over the Ukraine war, Russia is struggling with economic pressure. Iran's Middle Eastern proxies have suffered significant losses from Israeli strikes and assassinations. **Tuvia Gering, a non-resident fellow at the Atlantic Council's Global China Hub**, pointed out, "China is not a key player in this conflict."

Gering noted, "Analyzing economic data closely, one can conclude that the impact is minimal. China's support helps Iran avoid collapse under sanctions, which, in turn, helps prevent more regional instability."

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