



Israel plans to use lasers to shoot down incoming missiles

By Nadeen Ebrahim, CNN / November 1, 2024

Israel expects its “Iron Beam” laser defense system to be operational within one year, saying it will bring “a new era of warfare” as it engages in a war of drones and missiles with Iran and its regional partners.

[...]

Each Iron Dome interception missile is estimated to cost approximately \$50,000, if not more, according to experts. Israel fires two missiles per interception, **Yehoshua Kalisky, a senior researcher the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS)** in Tel Aviv, told CNN.

Israel has been intercepting projectiles almost daily since the war with its northern neighbor began. Just on Tuesday, some 50 projectiles crossed from southern Lebanon into Israeli territory, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said, adding that some were intercepted and others weren't.

[...]

One of the main problems was that to meet their aspirations with this laser technology, governments always needed billions of dollars and decades of research, Bruchmann said. The world is yet to see if Israel “actually cracked the code this time,” and can operate it by next year, he said.

Kalisky of the INSS said that, while it is unclear if the Iron Beam will indeed be a “gamechanger” for Israel, it will still be “another layer of defense,” adding that it will likely be most effective against drones and short-range rockets and missiles. It may not be as effective against ballistic missiles, he said, which Israel's Arrow 2 and Arrow 3 interceptors have traditionally thwarted.

For full article:

<https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2024/11/01/middleeast/israel-iron-beam-laser-system-intl>