

Expert: Israel Can ‘Completely Destroy Enemy Army Without War’ Through Syria Control

Keren Setton / Dec. 10, 2024

Israel has taken control of Syria's buffer zone, including Mount Hermon, citing strategic security. Experts warn instability post-Assad poses risks, with extremist groups gaining ground and potential long-term Israeli presence

[...]

“The territory guarantees strategic control over the whole southern Syrian arena, which generates an immediate threat to Israel,” **Kobi Michael, a researcher at INSS and the Misgav Institute for National Security and Zionist Strategy**, told The Media Line. “There is no higher vantage point than the Syrian part of the Golan.”

Power in Syria is now de-centralized, with the country fragmented between several groups, most of them extreme Islamist, potentially posing a new array of threats to Israel.

“Israel is not looking to apply sovereignty to the buffer zone, but rather to militarily control the area in order to prevent danger under conditions of instability,” **Michael** assessed.

[...]

“This is an unprecedented event in which the Israeli army has the ability to completely destroy an enemy army without a war,” said **Michael**. “This opportunity is being used wisely by Israel in order to ensure a better reality.”

[...]

“There is no way to tell where this is going,” said **Michael**. “Israel could be facing a difficult reality that will force it to stay and broaden its hold on territory, perhaps even act more forcefully in order to pre-empt danger.”

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