

## Israeli official says Houthis are 'more technologically advanced than perceived' – should not be underestimated

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With the Hamas terrorist organization in Gaza largely defeated and Hezbollah forces in Lebanon severely degraded, Iran's terror proxy, the Houthis in Yemen, has been described as the last man standing in Tehran's year-long war against the Jewish state.

While Hezbollah is widely considered to be Iran's most powerful proxy in the region, **Yoel Guzansky**, a former official on Israel's National Security Council, told The Washington Post on Friday that the <u>Houthis are "more technologically advanced</u> than perceived," and warned that they should not be "underrated."

Guzansky explained that the large amount of military and financial assistance from the Iranian regime has enabled the Houthis to take "practical steps" in embracing their radical ideology that openly calls for the destruction of the State of Israel

"The Houthis want a war of attrition on Israel, to continue firing so that they can say, 'We are the real resistance,' Guzansky told The Post.

The Houthi terror group's attacks on Israel are guided by its <u>radical slogan</u>, "God is the Greatest, Death to America, Death to Israel, Curse be upon the Jews, Victory to Islam."

While the Houthis are an ideologically driven terror group, Guzansky stresses that there is also an important economic reason behind the ongoing attacks on Israel. While each Houthi missile or drone attack costs a few thousand dollars, Israel's advanced interceptions cost at least tens of thousands of dollars. By keeping up their attacks on Israel, the Houthis and Iran hope to wear down Israel and its economic resilience.

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