



Turkey seeks Gaza ceasefire role despite US criticism over Hamas ties

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Turkey is positioning itself as a key player in efforts to secure a Gaza ceasefire, despite its close ties with Hamas, which have drawn criticism from Washington. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has vowed to "make every contribution" to end what he called the "massacre" in Gaza.

[...]

"We have 101 hostages that are still, we don't know their fate," says **Gallia Lindenstrauss, an Israeli foreign policy specialist at the Institute for National Security Studies**.

"There are attempts to at least receive information about who's alive, who's dead, who's holding them – Hamas or Islamic Jihad."

Lindenstrauss cautioned that Israel remains sceptical of Turkey's ability to act as a neutral mediator.

"It would be very hard for Israel in general and specifically Prime Minister Netanyahu to trust Turkey to be a mediator that will be respectful to both sides," she said.

While Erdogan's public rhetoric often inflames tensions, analysts say Turkish-Israeli relations are shaped more by pragmatism than politics.

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