

TEL AVIV (Dispatches) – Israel’s extremist finance minister and de facto “governor” of the West Bank, Bezalel Smotrich, has unveiled a controversial plan to annex the vast majority of the occupied Palestinian territory. Speaking at a press conference on Wednesday, Smotrich proposed absorbing 82 percent of the West Bank into Israel, a move that would effectively eliminate the prospect of a future Palestinian state. Under the proposal, only six isolated enclaves - where major Palestinian cities such as Jenin, Tulkarm, Nablus, Ramallah, Jericho (Ariha) and Hebron (Al-Khalil) are located - would remain outside of Israeli control. All other areas, including dozens of towns and villages, would be formally annexed.

I define Islam for you in a way that nobody dared do it before me. Islam means obedience to Allah, obedience to Allah means having sincere faith in Him, such a faith means to believe in His Power.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

### Saudi Arabia Coordinates With U.S., Israel to Intercept Attacks

# Sensitive Israeli Sites Targeted in Major Yemeni Missile Strike

SANAA (Dispatches) – Yemen’s Armed Forces, led by the Ansarullah movement, launched a high-profile missile strike on Tel Aviv on Wednesday, temporarily shutting down Ben Gurion Airport and sending thousands of Israeli settlers rushing to shelters.

The operation, described by the Yemeni military as a “qualitative, dual strike,” used a “Palestine-2” missile and a “Zulfiqar” missile to target what they called “sensitive enemy sites” in the occupied Yaffa area.

The strike marked a direct retaliation for Israel’s deadly air assault on the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, which killed Prime Minister Ahmed Ghaleb al-Rahawi of the National Government of Change and Construction, along with eight other senior officials. Yemen’s government in Sanaa vowed that further escalations would follow.

In a notable regional development, the Lebanese newspaper Al-Akhbar reported that Saudi Arabia had placed its air force and missile defense systems on high alert along its southern border in the hours leading up to the Yemeni strike.

Sources linked to Ansarullah



This picture shows the aftermath after a missile from Yemen bypassed four layers of air defense and landed in the heart of Ben Gurion Airport, creating a crater 25 meters deep in May.

revealed that Riyadh was coordinating with the U.S. and Israel to intercept launches from Yemen. The Yemeni side accused Saudi Arabia of “defending the Zionist regime” and betraying the Palestinian cause.

Saudi jets reportedly intensified patrols near the border, and missile defense systems were activated to counter potential Yemeni launches toward Israeli territory.

Ansarullah-linked sources view the move as part of a wider “Sau-

di-American-Israeli axis,” aimed at suppressing regional resistance movements and shielding Israel from Arab backlash.

The Yemeni Armed Forces have been conducting increasingly sophisticated military operations across the region since October 2023, when Israel launched its assault on Gaza.

Yemen has declared that it will target Israeli-linked assets—including oil tankers and military infrastructure—as long as the war

and blockade on Gaza continue.

“The Israeli enemy will not enjoy security or stability while our brothers and sisters in Gaza are being starved and massacred,” the Yemeni military said in its latest statement. It described Wednesday’s strike as just “the beginning of a broader escalation.”

Israel’s onslaught in Gaza has killed more than 63,600 Palestinians and wounded over 160,000—mostly women and children—according to local health authorities. Humanitarian agencies have repeatedly warned of famine, disease, and the collapse of infrastructure amid the Israeli siege.

Despite Israel claiming one missile was intercepted, Tel Aviv residents experienced widespread panic, with air raid sirens blaring and airport operations suspended. The disruption highlighted Yemen’s growing regional reach and the vulnerability of Israel’s critical infrastructure.

Ansarullah leaders maintain that their campaign is both moral and strategic. “Our response will intensify until the aggression ends,” the statement said. “Gaza is not alone.”

## Dutch University First in West to Boycott Israel Over Gaza War

UTRECHT, Netherlands/ANN ARBOR, USA (Dispatches) – The Netherlands’ Utrecht University has become the first academic institution in the West to impose a full academic boycott of Israel, citing what it described as Israel’s “genocidal violence” in Gaza.

The decision was confirmed by Rector Wilco Hazeleger, who said the university had “stopped or suspended all institutional collaborations with Israeli parties” and would not enter new agreements “until further notice.”

“The situation in the world, and in Gaza in particular, requires us to act with a moral compass,” Hazeleger said, citing “great human suffering” as

a driving factor. He added that “a red line has been crossed.”

The boycott follows sustained protests by Utrecht students and staff, and aligns with the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI). PACBI welcomed the move as the result of “strategic, principled work” by the university community.

Utrecht’s decision comes amid growing international outrage over Israel’s year-long military atrocities in Gaza. According to Gaza’s Health Ministry, over 63,000 Palestinians have been killed and more than 160,000 injured since October 2023. Human rights groups have accused Israel of collec-

tive punishment and violations of international law.

While Utrecht took steps toward accountability, U.S. universities have come under fire for cracking down on students protesting against the Gaza war.

At the University of Michigan, multiple students face disciplinary action—including job termination, bans from re-enrollment, and surveillance by private investigators—after participating in campus protests.

One student, Drin Shapiro, was jailed for handing out flyers and is now suing the university. Others, including Eaman Ali, say they’ve been barred from future employment and

subjected to closed-door disciplinary hearings.

UM’s Office of Student Conflict Resolution has been accused of operating as a “kangaroo court,” with students and faculty alleging a 100% conviction rate against pro-Palestine protesters. “It’s like the Israeli military courts,” said Kathleen Brown, a PhD candidate who also faced university sanctions.

Civil liberties advocates have denounced what they describe as a coordinated campaign to silence dissent and punish opposition to Israel’s actions. Students say they are being targeted not for misconduct but for standing in solidarity with Gaza.

## Turkey Detains Opposition Officials After Court Annuls CHP Congress

ISTANBUL (Dispatches) – Turkish authorities ordered the detention of seven officials from opposition-run municipalities in Istanbul on Wednesday, broadcaster NTV reported.

The detentions followed a court ruling on Tuesday that annulled the legality of the Republican People’s Party’s (CHP) Istanbul provincial congress held in October 2023, citing irregularities in the election of delegates.

The court found evidence of “willful misconduct and actions of a criminal nature,” including allegations that votes were influenced through money, gifts such as phones and tablets, job promises, and other material benefits.

The ruling also ended the mandate of CHP’s Istanbul provincial chairman Ozgur Ozel, replacing him with Gursel Tekin, a former senior party official and ally of former party

leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu. Tekin accepted the court-appointed post and pledged to restore the party’s democratic functioning.

On Wednesday, Turkish police detained five employees from the Besiktas municipality and two from Avcilar, both run by CHP mayors, according to NTV.

The arrests come amid a wider investigation into alleged corruption targeting CHP-run municipalities. To date, 15 CHP mayors have been jailed, including Istanbul Mayor Ekrem Imamoglu, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s main political rival, who is also the CHP’s presidential candidate.

The CHP has denied all accusations, condemning the court ruling and the arrests as politically motivated. Ozel called Tuesday’s ruling “completely illegal” and vowed the party would resist attempts to undermine it.

He is scheduled to address a party rally in Istanbul’s Zeytinburnu district on Wednesday evening.

The court’s decision on the Istanbul congress is expected to influence a separate case in Ankara, where a court is set to rule on Sept. 15 on alleged procedural irregularities in the CHP’s 38th Ordinary Congress held earlier this year. That case could lead to the dismissal of Ozel’s administration and the reinstatement of Kilicdaroglu as interim party leader.

Since March, hundreds of CHP officials, including mayors and municipal administrators, have been arrested on charges of terrorism and corruption, allegations the opposition rejects. Ozel’s administration, supported by Imamoglu, secured a landslide victory in the 2023 local elections, winning control of major cities across Turkey.

### Hezbollah Deterrence

## Validated After Israeli Drone Attack on UN Troops

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Israeli drones dropped four grenades near UN peacekeepers clearing roadblocks in southern Lebanon, in what the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) described as one of the most serious attacks on its personnel since the November 2024 ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hezbollah.

The attack took place southeast of the village of Marwahin, with one grenade landing within 20 meters of UNIFIL troops.

According to a statement released by the peacekeeping mission, Israeli forces were notified in advance of the road clearance operation, which aimed to ensure access to a UN position.

“Any actions endangering UN peacekeepers and assets, and interference with their mandated tasks are unacceptable and a serious violation of Resolution 1701 and international law,” UNIFIL said.

The mission, established to monitor Israeli withdrawal and maintain calm after repeated incursions into Lebanese territory, has come under mounting pressure from Tel Aviv and Washington in recent months.

The Israeli attack comes just days after the UN Security Council voted to extend UNIFIL’s mandate until the end of 2026, with a phased withdrawal to follow in 2027.

The move was met with quiet resistance from the United States and Israel, both of which have increasingly attacked the peacekeeping force for not countering

Hezbollah’s influence in southern Lebanon.

However, observers note that UNIFIL’s mandate does not include disarming Hezbollah, and the group’s weapons are widely viewed across Lebanon as a critical deterrent against Israeli aggression.

Despite near-daily Israeli airstrikes and repeated violations of Lebanese airspace and sovereignty, Hezbollah remains the only credible military force capable of confronting the occupation and preventing further Israeli incursions.

Lebanese officials have condemned Israel’s continued occupation of five positions in southern Lebanon, calling it a clear breach of the ceasefire terms.

Prime Minister Nawaf Salam, under growing US-Israeli pressure to push for Hezbollah’s disarmament, welcomed the extension of UNIFIL’s mandate but emphasized the need for Israel to withdraw from occupied Lebanese territory.

Critics, however, question how Lebanese forces can assert control in the south while Israeli troops remain in place and escalate attacks.

As calls to disarm Hezbollah grow louder from Washington and Israel, many in Lebanon argue that such efforts ignore the core issue: Israel’s continued violations of Lebanese sovereignty.

With UNIFIL’s future uncertain and Israeli provocations increasing, Hezbollah’s role as the front-line defense against occupation appears more entrenched than ever.

### For First Time in 14 Years,

## Jolani-Led Syria Exports Oil After West Lifts Sanctions

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – Syria, now largely controlled by the takfiri group Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) led by Abu Muhammad al-Jolani, has exported heavy oil from the western port of Tartus for the first time in 14 years, Syrian officials said.

The HTS ministry of energy said 600,000 barrels of heavy oil were shipped aboard the tanker Nessus Christiana destined for BeServ Energy, marking a relief in years of inhuman Western sanctions.

HTS, formerly known as Jabhat al-Nusra and led by Jolani—a former commander with ties to Daesh in Iraq and Al-Qaeda—rose to power following the weakening of the Assad government during a brutal foreign-backed takfiri insurgency. Years of crippling U.S. and European sanctions severely restricted Syria’s economy and oil production, contributing to the collapse of state control in large parts of the country.

Before the conflict, Syria produced around 390,000 barrels of oil per day, accounting for roughly 20% of its GDP and half of its exports. By 2023, production had dropped to approximately 40,000 barrels daily.

The sanctions imposed by the West aimed to isolate the government of former President Bashar

al-Assad but also hampered the country’s infrastructure and economy, enabling extremist factions like HTS to gain territorial control.

In a controversial move, U.S. President Donald Trump met with Jolani, signaling a shift in Western engagement and diplomatic normalization efforts with the group, which many international actors consider a terrorist organization.

Following the U.S. Treasury Department’s recent removal of sanctions on Syria and similar steps by European countries, Syria’s media highlighted the resumption of oil exports as a sign of economic revival under HTS influence.

The port city of Tartus, which hosts Syria’s largest oil refinery and a key export terminal, also recently saw the arrival of a cargo ship carrying 19,000 tonnes of Romanian barley, the first shipment to arrive directly without passing through Turkey or Lebanon.

The move to export oil from HTS-controlled areas signals the group’s growing control over Syria’s economic resources amid ongoing instability and Western efforts to normalize relations with the de facto authorities in parts of Syria.