

Roundtable: From Influence to Intervention: Mapping Security Architectures in the Middle East



Actors in Axis of Resistance:

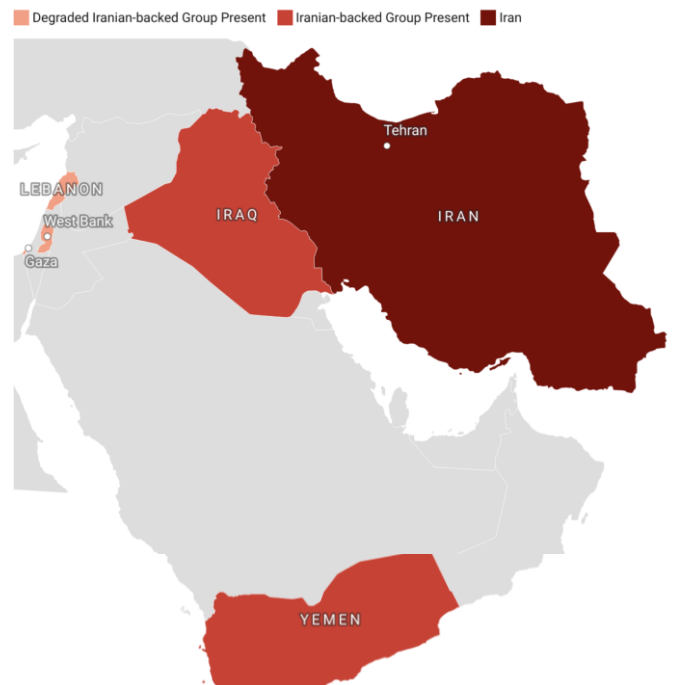
- **Iran:** The main actor in Axis of Resistance is one of the biggest players in the Middle East is Iran, driven by Muslim Shiite majority.
- **Hezbollah:** Shiite Muslim militant group, but also a political party in Lebanon, supported by Iran.
- **Hamas:** Palestinian militant group operating primarily in Gaza Strip and West bank
- **Pro-iranian Shia militias in Iraq:** Asaib al-Haq, Harakat Hezbollah al Nujaba, Badr Organization, Kataib Sayyad al Shuhada.
- **Houthis:** Also known as Ansar Allah is a Zaydi revivalist and Islamist political and military organization controlling the north-west of Yemen.
- **Syria:** Historically, Bashar al-Assad was an ally of Iran. Through Syria ran the supply line to Hezbollah.

Axis of resistance is the manner in which Iran empowers its position through its proxies in the region of the Middle East. Following October 7, 2025, the activity of Iranian proxies intensified with a noticeable increase in coordinated attacks across the region. The strongest proxy had been represented by Hezbollah in Lebanon. However, after the fall of Bashar Assad's regime in Syria (December 2024), the supply line between Iran and Hezbollah was disrupted. Thus, Hezbollah lost the connection between it and its significant supporter, during the recovery from war with Israel. These days not only Iran but also its proxies are weakened as a consequence of Israeli and US strikes during the wars with Israel.

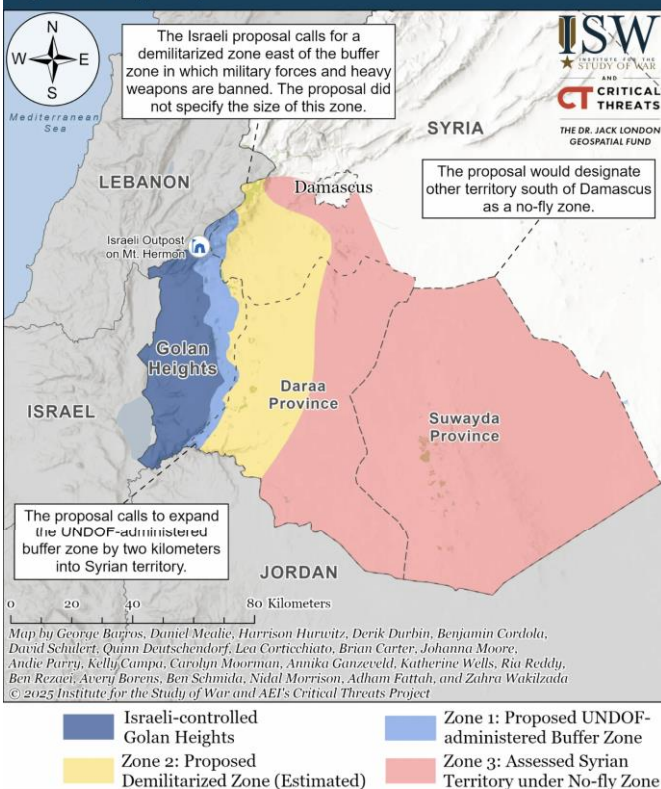
Future prospects of Gaza Strip

As of mid-October 2025, tensions between Israel and Gaza remain high despite recent diplomatic steps. On October 13th, all living hostages were returned to Israel, though the bodies of the deceased remain in Gaza. In late September, Israel and Hamas agreed via indirect talks in Egypt on the "20 Points of Peace" plan proposed by former U.S. President Trump. Following limited Israeli withdrawals from Gaza, Hamas began consolidating power, reportedly executing suspected collaborators, raising concerns about the stability of the peace process

Iran and the Axis of Resistance



Reported Israeli Proposal for Demilitarized Southern Syria September 17, 2025



Israeli role in Syria

After the fall of Bashar al-Assad's regime, the al-Sahraa administration, linked to HTS, took control in Syria, leading to instability in the south. In response, Israel launched a military incursion into southern Syria, expanding its presence near the Golan Heights (territory still considered occupied by the UN). Since Ahmed al-Sahraa came to power, numerous Israeli airstrikes have been reported, further complicating efforts to stabilize the region. Currently, a security agreement between Syria and Israel is being negotiated with U.S. involvement, but Israel's demand for a humanitarian corridor to Sweida has sparked criticism as a sign of expansionist intent.