



**RESEARCH PAPER**

**Analysis of the Contemporary Politics of Palestine-Israel Conflict and Role of Major Powers**

**<sup>1</sup>Dr. Sadia Mahmood Falki\* and <sup>2</sup> Saareena Asrar**

1. Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, LCWU, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan
2. Undergraduate Scholar, Department of Political Science, Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore, Punjab Pakistan

**\*Corresponding Author:** [sadia.falki@lcwu.edu.pk](mailto:sadia.falki@lcwu.edu.pk)

**ABSTRACT**

This research investigates the necessity of statehood for preserving Palestinian identity amid globalization, focusing on the role of major global powers in the Palestine-Israel conflict and examines the involvement of key international actors, including the Palestinian diaspora, in advocating for Palestinian rights against Israeli policies and the Zionist agenda. A qualitative approach is employed, analyzing historical and contemporary sources to understand the political dynamics and the strategies of the involved global powers. The research reveals the varied approaches of the United States, Russia, and China, highlighting past American policies, Russia's multifaceted strategy, and China's cautious diplomacy. The study also highlights the current role of Iran in the conflict and escalating armed skirmishes. It underscores the complex interplay of geopolitical factors affecting the conflict. The study recommends pursuing alternative paths towards resolution, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and a balanced approach to address the multifaceted nature of the Palestine-Israel conflict.

**KEYWORDS** China, Ethnic, Genocide, Identity, Israel, Major Powers, Palestine, Russia, Statehood, U.S. Zionist Agenda

**Introduction**

The complexity of the Palestine-Israel conflict is exacerbated by insufficient global attention, particularly from major powers. On April 18th, 2024, the United Nations Security Council blocked Palestine's attempt to gain full membership in the organization. This decision followed a U.S. veto on a draft resolution supporting Palestine's upgrade to full member status. Algeria introduced the proposal, which received 12 votes in favor, while the U.S. voted against it, and Switzerland and the United Kingdom abstained. For a resolution to pass in the Security Council, it requires at least nine affirmative votes and no vetoes from any of the five permanent members—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Algerian proposal was ultimately unsuccessful due to the U.S. veto. Had it been approved; the resolution would have led the 15-member Council to recommend to the 193-member General Assembly that "the State of Palestine be granted membership in the United Nations." In 2011, Palestine officially applied to achieve full enrollment status in the UN. While this try didn't work out as expected, Palestine accomplished acknowledgment as a non-part eyewitness State in November 2012, following a Gathering vote of 138 in favor, nine against (Palau, Marshall Islands, Panama, Czech Republic, Canada, Unified Territories of Micronesia, Nauru, Israel & US), and 41 abstentions.

**Literature Review**

In their work "An Asymmetrical Conundrum: Israel and Palestine," the authors provide a nuanced analysis of the ongoing and complex conflict between Israel and the Palestinian factions led by Hamas. The essay underscores the cyclical nature of violence, emphasizing how imbalanced power dynamics and historical grievances perpetuate hostility. Israel characterizes Hamas as a terrorist organization, while Hamas justifies its violent actions as resistance against systematic oppression, and Israel defends its military actions as acts of self-defense. The authors

highlight recent escalations and the severe humanitarian crises caused by Israel's retaliatory measures, including cutting off Gaza's essential services. They criticize both sides for actions that result in civilian casualties, illustrating the absurdity and devastating human cost of the ongoing conflict. Ibish and Ferhad also discuss the broader geopolitical context, noting the international community's failure to implement lasting peace solutions like the two-state solution. They propose future directions, such as humanitarian intervention or regional involvement within the UN framework, suggesting that Turkey could play a pivotal role in fostering peace and supporting Palestinian self-determination. This paper provides a comprehensive examination of the protracted conflict, emphasizing the urgent need for equitable and practical solutions. (Ibish & Ferhad, 2023)

In their article titled, "Ireland, Spain, and Norway Say They Will Recognize a Palestinian State," report a significant diplomatic development with these three European nations announcing their formal recognition of Palestine as a state. Despite Israel's immediate condemnation of the decision, which is scheduled to take effect on May 28, 2024, this move is viewed as a potential step toward achieving lasting peace in the Middle East. Israel considers this recognition a threat to its security and sovereignty. The article includes statements from key leaders, such as Irish Prime Minister Simon Harris, who stressed the importance of recognizing both Israeli and Palestinian governments to support a viable two-state solution. Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre echoed this sentiment, highlighting that the recognition aims to promote peace in the Middle East rather than favor any particular group within Palestine. Palestinian leaders welcomed the decision, which drew mixed reactions from the international community and underscored ongoing tensions and the intricate dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The article provides a balanced analysis of the implications of this recognition, noting both potential diplomatic fallout and the symbolic endorsement it offers to Palestinian aspirations for statehood. (Jeong, Mahmood, Goodman, Kennedy, & Noor Haq, 2024)

In "Palestinian Representation and the Struggle for Statehood," the history of Palestinian national identity under colonial rule is examined, emphasizing the necessity of forming a cohesive representative body. Hijazi argues that creating such a group was essential for advancing national objectives and involving regional and international stakeholders. However, both internal and external challenges have persistently weakened these efforts. Fragmentation due to conflicting regional and international pressures has hindered the pursuit of independence and respect. Hijazi notes that achieving political independence in representation was a significant milestone, facilitating recognition on both regional and global levels. Yet, attempts at statehood have often been thwarted by foreign manipulation of Palestinian representation, particularly during periods of internal discord. Hijazi stresses the importance of maintaining unity within the Palestinian delegation, as internal divisions allow adversaries to undermine Palestinian aspirations. To avoid obstacles on the path to statehood, Palestinians must strategically ensure cohesive representation (Hijazi, 2010).

## **Material and Methods**

This qualitative research extensively addresses the apprehensions of major powers to deal with Palestine-Israel conflict in the present scenario. Recent developments are contextualized in an analytical perspective to examine the dispositions of major powers towards this convoluted issue. The purpose of study to dig out the global aspirations with respect to Palestine-Israel issue and its regional and international implications makes it more viable. An in-depth exploration of the strategies by US, Russia and China expounds the scope of research in the current scenario of Middle eastern politics. The research questions epitomize the relevance of Palestinian statehood and the non-consensual approach by major powers to resolve this conflict.

## **US and Palestine-Israel Conflict**

For many years, Palestinians and Israelis have clashed over conflicting claims to the Holy Land, making it one of the most protracted and challenging conflicts in history. Despite its strong support for Israel, the United States has traditionally sought to promote a diplomatic resolution that addresses the competing claims of both nations. Various U.S. administrations have crafted proposals for a negotiation process aimed at establishing two states: one Israeli and one Palestinian. However, critics argue that under President Donald Trump, whose administration implemented controversial policies affecting key aspects of the conflict, the prospects for a two-state solution diminished. Although the Trump administration frequently affirmed its support for a two-state solution, the Biden administration has only partially reversed some of Trump's decisions, such as maintaining the recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital (What Is U.S. Policy on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict? , 2022).

As subsequent governments implemented a wide range of interconnected objectives, such as obtaining crucial energy supplies, warding off Soviet and Iranian authority, guaranteeing the continuing existence and safety of Israel and Arab partners, combating terrorism, advancing democracy, and minimizing refugee flows, the Middle East has always been of paramount significance to the United States. In order to achieve these diplomatic objectives whilst managing its encouragement for Israel with its quest for greater peace in the area, the United States has attempted to find a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian issue, which has been an essential component of the regional environment. The American Jewish community and Christian Evangelicals, who are both fierce advocates of Israel, have both made the disagreement a top priority. The United States has given Israel financial and armed forces assistance worth billions of dollars, and it frequently uses its right to veto in the UN Security Council to protect Israel from condemnation and criticism. The United States has also tried to facilitate peace deals involving Israel and Palestine at the same duration, with different levels of accomplishment (New US approach needed for Israeli-Palestinian conflict, 2023). The legal and governmental framework that supports the conflict was shaped in part by the U.S. For instance, the United States had a significant role in the creation of the State of Israel in 1948 and has participated in discussions over the legal status of Palestinian territories, such as the West Bank and Gaza Strip. However, a lot of skeptics believe that American conflict diplomacy has been prejudiced in favor of Israel and has not fully taken into account the interests and worries of Palestinians. Critics contend that the United States has not exerted sufficient force on Israel to terminate its colonization of Palestinian territory and argue that its financial backing for Israel has made it possible for that country to compile crimes of international law and violations of human rights. In general, the U.S.'s involvement in the Israel-Palestine dispute has been complex and contentious, and the conflict is still unresolved due to co

Recently, any notion that US abstaining on a UN truce resolution signaled a significant shift in the Biden administration's approach to the Gaza conflict was short-lived. The UNSC resolution, mission for an instantaneous end of hostilities, hostage release, and substantial donation of food relief, was approved in the last week of March. However, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Friday, the Washington Post was already reporting on the latest shipment of billions of dollars' worth of US bombs and aircraft to Israel. According to a source familiar with the process, the only delay was in processing the approval for 1,800 MK-84 2,000lb (907kg) bombs, capable of demolishing an apartment building and creating an 11-meter-deep crater (Borger, 2024).

In late March 2024, Francesca Albanese, the UN rapporteur on HR in the occupied Palestinian territories, presented a report to the UNHRC regarding the genocide in Gaza. The report, titled "Anatomy of Genocide," argued that there were reasonable grounds to suspect Israel of committing genocide against Palestinians in Gaza. It claimed that Israel's political and armed leaders with intent misinterpreted universal humanitarian law to substantiate

their actions. Israel dismissed the report, and Albanese revealed that she had received threats since starting her role in 2022. The Biden administration, which clashes with Albanese's directive, rejected her genocide assertions, with a State Department spokesperson accusing her of anti-Semitism. Albanese, in an in-depth interview with Democracy in Exile, asserts, "The Israelis must confront the consequences of their actions towards the Palestinians. I don't believe they fully comprehend it yet."

Regarding the United States, she expresses astonishment, stating, "It's remarkable to me that a country home to some of the world's most esteemed universities, particularly in fields such as international law, is governed by an administration that appears thus disconnected, if not openly opposed, to international legal principles." When asked "Given how close you are to this issue, what do many other people—for example, in Europe or in the U.S., in Washington, in the media—not see about what is happening in Gaza?" She replied "They fail to acknowledge the humanity of Palestinians. They see them as a faceless, nameless mass, devoid of aspirations or individuality. This lack of recognition troubles me deeply. There exists a pervasive, entrenched racism within our societies that prevents us from viewing Palestinians as ordinary human beings with everyday lives—attending school, shopping, cherishing their homes filled with personal belongings, from birthday cards to musical instruments to wedding pictures. Everything they held dear has been destroyed. The scale of devastation is staggering, with hundreds of thousands of lives shattered and 17,000 children left orphaned—an incomprehensible tragedy. In conversations, people often interject with remarks like, "but what about the events of October 7th?" There can be no "but" when confronting such atrocities. The events of October 7th, I emphasize, would not have occurred if Israel's impunity had been challenged earlier. While the violence unleashed against Israeli civilians on that day was undeniably brutal and horrific—something I vehemently condemn and refuse to justify—it's crucial to recognize that this hatred was fueled by years of unchecked Israeli actions. The relentless bombings, killings, and destruction inflicted upon Palestinians with impunity, particularly the inhumane conditions imposed on Gaza, have bred deep-seated resentment and a thirst for vengeance among some individuals (Memarian, 2024)."

### **Russia and Palestine-Israel Conflict**

As a large state with ambitions in the Middle East and as an arbitrator in the Israel-Palestine issue, Russia has always played a key role. Political thinking in Russia has significantly shifted away from the previous, dogmatic ideologies. This change has produced a more reasonable and balanced strategy for addressing the Middle East problem and identifying solutions. In contrast to the Soviet era, when Israel's aggressive policies were solely blamed for the instability and lack of peace in the region, the Russian position today takes into account Israel's security concerns and its ongoing struggle against terrorist attacks carried out by extremist regional groups claiming affiliation with Islam. In addition, Russia is in favor of a settlement to the conflict based on the coexistence of two independent governments for two diverse populations, with a focus on peaceful coexistence. President Vladimir Putin recently underlined in a statement that the inability to create a sovereign state for the Palestinian people in compliance with UN resolutions is the root cause of the ongoing war, which he called a grave injustice.

He emphasized that tensions have increased in part because of Israel's settlement development. Putin presented this as an example of what he called a glaring weakness in Washington's efforts to mediate peace, charging that the US is primarily focused on giving the Palestinians financial support while failing to take into account their fundamental statehood-related issues. The carefully worded remarks from Putin and his allies indicate Moscow's conscious effort to maintain good relations with the Israeli government as well as the Palestinian leadership. Dmitry Peskov, a spokesman for the Kremlin, emphasized the significance of Moscow taking a "balanced approach" by conversing with all sides in order to establish Russia as a possible mediator in order to reach a settlement. In addition to

playing the twin role of potential broker of peace, Moscow hopes that the current confrontation would draw attention away from the situation in Ukraine for Washington and its allies, thus weakening Western support for Kyiv. Peskov even went to make fun of Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the president of Ukraine, by implying that he might be jealous of the greater emphasis that the US is now required to concentrate on giving Israel military support.

Moscow vigorously supported the Palestinian cause and its Arab allies in their battles against Israel during the Cold War era, offering both political and military help. Following the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, diplomatic ties between the Soviet Union and Israel were terminated. But as Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev altered the country's foreign policy, connections with Israel were restored only before the USSR collapsed in 1991, signaling a change in Moscow's strategy. Russia's influence in the world waned in the ten years that followed the fall of the Soviet Union due to political unrest and economic woes that forced the Kremlin to turn inward. Following Vladimir Putin's election, efforts were made to keep friendly ties with Israel while reviving old Middle Eastern relationships. Russia joined the United States, the European Union and the United Nations as one of the four mediators for peace in the Middle East, although its contribution to these efforts was very little in contrast to that of the United States (Hill & Huggard, 2024).

### **China and Palestine-Israel Conflict**

The leaders of several major world powers, including the United States, the United Kingdom, India, and Japan, all strongly condemned the terrorist organization and vowed their support for Israel in response to the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7 that claimed over 1,400 lives. China, on the other hand, first advised the parties involved to display caution, maintain composure, and swiftly halt hostilities. China later changed its stance in response to international pressure to express its opposition to and condemnation of actions that damage civilians. In its statement, it did not specifically mention Hamas, though. China has since maintained a clear position of disapproval on Israel's retaliatory air assaults in the Gaza Strip, which have caused at least 34,844 Palestinian deaths and 2.3 million people displaced (Reuters, 2024).

The Chinese foreign minister, Wang Yi, told his Saudi colleague over the phone that "Israel's actions have exceeded the boundaries of self-defense," according to the Chinese state news agency Xinhua. China has constantly reaffirmed its commitment to peace while aggressively striving to develop a footprint in the Middle East and present itself as an alternative power for neighboring governments to unite with. Beijing looks unwilling to intervene significantly, despite its potential power, since the Israel-Hamas war appears to be expanding into a larger regional battle. While China is attempting to assemble a larger alliance of developing nations to increase its global influence and compete with the United States, Russia is seeking support for its prolonged struggle in Ukraine. The Belt and Road Initiative, President Xi Jinping's grandiose infrastructure project to connect markets all over the world to increase Beijing's power, is centered on the Middle East, which supplies the majority of China's oil needs.

Since the start of the conflict, Israel has come under fire from the Chinese official media, which also accuses the US—Israel's biggest ally—of inflaming regional tensions. According to Yaqiu Wang, the research director for China, Hong Kong and Taiwan at the US-based non-profit organization Freedom House, there has also been an upsurge in anti-Semitic content on the strictly regulated Chinese internet. Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia, made a contentious comparison on 13th Oct 2023 Friday, saying that an Israeli siege of Gaza that has been tightened would be similar to the German troops' siege of Leningrad during World War II. Israel is sure to take offense at this parallel. Like the Soviet Union during the Cold War, China has always supported the Palestinian cause. China and Russia both sought to maintain stronger ties with Israel in more recent years while pursuing

broader diplomatic initiatives to win supporters in the Arab world and on the international scene (Muzaffar & Khan, 2016).

China offered to arbitrate a similar agreement between Israel and Palestine earlier this year after helping to broker a historic reunion between Saudi Arabia and Iran in March. China has repeatedly stated that it will remain neutral in the conflict and that it wants to keep friendly ties with both Israel and Palestine. However, experts and observers contend that China's standing as an impartial mediator has eroded since the Israel-Hamas conflict broke out in October 2023 (Ewe, 2023). Beijing must balance the interests of both Arab countries and Israel in its role as a mediator, according to Clemens Chay, a research fellow at the Middle East Institute of the National University of Singapore. Israel has expressed alarm over China's hesitation to denounce Hamas. Despite the fact that a number of Chinese citizens were among the victims, Chinese officials have refrained from labeling Hamas' actions as acts of terrorism. China has urged a cease-fire and a "two-state solution" repeatedly, while crediting the U.S. for regional tensions (Gan, 2023). The U.S. has been accused of escalating tensions by Chinese official media, and the foreign minister of China has reiterated China's support for the "just cause" of Palestinian nationalism.

Some claim that China's long-standing policy of refraining from interfering in other countries' internal affairs is the reason for its restrained response to the current crisis. Others draw attention to China's previous assistance to the Palestinian cause in the 1960s, which included arming and educating Palestinian fighters. However, as it developed full diplomatic ties with Israel in the 1990s, China softened its position. On the other hand, others claim that China's hesitation to denounce Hamas and its calls for an end to violence on both sides may be motivated by a pragmatic wish to keep good ties with Arab states in the region. This strategy is consistent with China's ambitious objectives for economic growth, particularly the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) led by President Xi Jinping. Due to its energy exports, the Middle East is crucial to the BRI and is currently seeing increased economic cooperation with China. The majority of Middle Eastern nations and China have trade ties. China has made significant investments, totaling \$56.28 billion and \$40.81 billion, respectively, in Saudi Arabia and the UAE (Ewe, 2023), two popular BRI investment targets.

China has also maintained a sizable economic relationship with Iran over the past ten years and decided in 2021 to invest \$400 billion in the nation over the following 25 years. China might learn from its recent backing of Russia's actions in Ukraine by emphasizing the significant consequences of taking part in a protracted conflict. The Ukrainian issue has had a knock-on effect that has hurt China's economy by preventing importation of vital supplies and accelerating the global economic recession. Along China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), where China has already had financial difficulties due to its infrastructure projects, this economic unrest has spread to heavily indebted nations. Chay asserts that China's present response to the Gaza situation looks to be a desire to preserve its good relations with Arab countries while being generally willing to operate under the security umbrella provided by the United States.

The U.S.'s unwavering backing for Israel has garnered condemnation from Arab states amid an increasing number of Palestinian deaths and a worsening humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, exacerbating the diplomatic gap in the Middle East that China aims to fill. Over the weekend, Washington even asked Beijing to utilize its rising clout to stop more assaults on Israel. (Yaseen et. al, 2023). Specifically, Beijing's relationship with Iran may be crucial in determining whether the crisis escalates. It is unclear whether China will or will not be able to use its close ties to Iran to defuse the issue. Arguments have been made that China may indirectly fund Hamas; some claim that China backs Iran, which in turn backs Hamas. It's crucial to remember that not everyone agrees with these assertions. Iran has a history of supporting Hamas through financial support and military assistance, but it has also consistently denied any involvement in individual assaults.

Even though there have been rumors that China has supported Hamas over the past ten years, there hasn't been much proof to prove a clear link. According to reports, some of the weaponry used by Hamas militants may have come from China or Russia, both of which are Iran's friends. Uncertainty exists regarding China's potential level of involvement or support. The statement of China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, however, which emphasizes the idea that the core cause of the Israel-Hamas conflict is regarded as a historical injustice against the Palestinian people, proves one thing for sure. It is believed that this historical injustice has not been corrected, which contributes to the delay in achieving the Palestinians' goal of creating an independent state. In order to find a peaceful settlement to the dispute, this viewpoint emphasizes the significance of resolving historical grievances.

Iran's involvement in the Israel-Palestine conflict began after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, when the then Iranian leadership, led by Ayatollah Khomeini, took an anti-Israeli stance. Since then, Iran has allegedly provided substantial support to Palestinian groups such as Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), offering financial, military, and political assistance. This support, driven by Iran's ideological rejection of Israel as an illegitimate state, aligns with its strategy to expand influence in the Middle East and position itself as a leader against Israel and Western influence. Iran's backing of these groups has caused concern for Israel, viewing it as a security threat, while Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states see it as destabilizing. Israel has been conducting attacks on Iran's positions, a key supporter of the Assad administration in Syria, for over an era. These strikes were intended to interrupt the transfer of armaments and artilleries to Hezbollah in Lebanon. Recently, Israel shifted from attacking munitions to targeting senior Iranian officers. This included the assassination of top Iranian commanders in Syria, such as Sayyed Razi Mousavi, Sadegh Omidzadeh, and Hajj Gholam. The killing of Gen Mohammad Reza Zahedi, overseeing Syria and Lebanon, and others, was notable for being the initial Israeli attack on a diplomatic facility in Iran. The rhetoric of Iran's leadership, especially Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, is seen as projecting strength to both domestic and international audiences, masking the regime's weaknesses. However, actions by Iran, such as incursions by Iranian-led paramilitaries in Syria and Iraq, faced retaliation, including US airstrikes. Additionally, a missile show across the Pakistani border resulted in Pakistan launching its own volley into southeast Iran (Lucas, 2024).

Historically, both US and Israel have consistently regarded any threat emanating from Iran with utmost seriousness, recognizing Iran's potential for military attacks through its own forces, proxies, and allies. Consequently, both nations likely have established contingency measures in anticipation of such scenarios. What distinguishes recent events is the heightened attention drawn to these threats by both the US and Israeli authorities, serving as a public demonstration aimed at preempting or dissuading the Iranian regime. But soon after October 7, 2023, the Iranian government realized that it had the upper hand over Israel on the diplomatic and geopolitical fronts. It might portray itself and the Gaza Strip's civilian population as the victims of US and Israeli attack.

After the April 1, 2023, attack on the Iranian consulate building, this strategy has been strengthened. This Monday, the supreme leader declared that Israel "must be punished and it shall be," but he specifically urged Muslim nations to cut their political and economic links to Israel. Iranian State and semi-official media, in contrast to Western headlines, have been urging patience in Tehran's response. Tehran would probably suffer if Iran responded militarily quickly, undermining this diplomatic and political strategy. Thus, the longer-term tactic is to try to weaken Israel's own connections while bolstering Iran's relations with other countries both domestically and internationally. By doing this, the "normalization" of relations between Israel and the Arab world—a major component of the Biden administration's Middle East policy—could be effectively thwarted (Harmouch & Jahanbani, 2024).

**Conclusion**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues to be a deeply entrenched and complex issue, with historical, religious, and political dimensions shaping the dynamics between the parties involved. The asymmetrical power dynamics between Hamas and Israel have played a significant role in fueling tensions and conflicts in the region. Despite efforts by major powers and international organizations to mediate and facilitate peace negotiations, the conflict remains unresolved, with both sides holding firm to their respective narratives and demands. The quest for statehood for Palestinians and the preservation of their identity in a globalized world continue to be central issues in the conflict, with the two-state solution remaining a distant goal. Moving forward, it is imperative for all parties involved to engage in meaningful dialogue, respect international law and human rights principles, and work towards a just and lasting solution that ensures security, dignity, and self-determination for all people in the region. Only through genuine efforts towards reconciliation, mutual understanding, and compromise can the Israeli-Palestinian conflict be transformed into a story of peace, coexistence, and shared prosperity for future generations.



## **References**

- What Is U.S. Policy on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict?* . (2022, July 20). Council on Foreign Relations.
- New US approach needed for Israeli-Palestinian conflict.* (2023, February 27). Daily Sabah.
- Borger, J. (2024, April 01). *Why do arms continue to flow from US to Israel despite ceasefire resolution?* The Guardian.
- Ewe, K. (2023, October 18). How China Could Play a Key Role in the Israel-Hamas War—and Why It's Not. *Time Magazine*.
- Gan, N. (2023, October 19). China's Xi seeks swift end to Israel-Hamas conflict, calls for two-state solution. *CNN*.
- Harmouch, S., & Jahanbani, N. (2024, January 23). How much influence does Iran have over its proxy 'Axis of Resistance' – Hezbollah, Hamas and the Houthis? *The Conversation*
- Hill, F., & Huggard, K. (2024, January 31). *What is Russia's role in the Israel-Gaza crisis?* Brookings.
- Jeong, S., Mahmood, Z., Goodman, A., Kennedy, N., & Noor Haq, S. (2024, May 23). Ireland, Spain and Norway say they will recognize a Palestinian state. *CNN*.
- Lucas, S. (2024, April 11). Could Israel's strike against the Iranian embassy in Damascus escalate into a wider regional war? *The Conversation*.
- Memarian, O. (2024, May 15). 'They Don't See Palestinians as Human Beings': U.N. Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese on Israel's Alternate Reality. *DawnMena*.
- Muzaffar, M. & Khan, I (2016). China-Russia Relations after the Cold War, *Orient Research Journal of Social Sciences*, 1 (II), 151-169
- Reuters. (2024, May 14). *Gaza death toll: how many Palestinians has Israel's campaign killed.* Reuters.
- Scham, P., & Abu-Irshaid, O. (2009, June 01). *Hamas: Ideological Rigidity and Political Flexibility.* United States Institute of Peace (USIP).
- UNSC. (2024, April 18). *Security Council Fails to Recommend Full United Nations Membership for State of Palestine, Owing to Veto Cast by United States.* United Nations Security Council.
- Yaseen, Z., Muzaffar, M., & Tariq, K. (2023). Impacts of Saudi-Israel Relations on the Middle East: An Analysis, *Political Studies*, 30(1), 17-27