

**RESEARCH PAPER****Israel's Military Actions in Palestine and Lebanon: A Critical Analysis of Humanitarian, Political, and Strategic Implications****¹Syed Rizwan Haider Bukhari * ²Nasir Iqbal and ³Prof Dr. Amir Ullah Khan**

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***Corresponding Author:** bukharipalmist@gmail.com**ABSTRACT**

This research examines Israel's military actions in Palestine and Lebanon, focusing on their humanitarian, political, and strategic consequences. The ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine, along with Israel's involvement in Lebanon, has deepened regional instability. Military operations have worsened humanitarian conditions, causing widespread civilian casualties, mass displacement, and significant damage to vital infrastructure in both regions. Politically, these actions have weakened the sovereignty of Palestine and Lebanon, fueling further conflict and instability. Strategically, the escalating tensions have hindered regional peace efforts and contributed to a more volatile security environment. Using a mixed-methods approach, including literature reviews, case studies, and interviews with key stakeholders, the study provides a comprehensive analysis of the multifaceted impacts. It highlights the need for immediate international intervention to address humanitarian concerns, foster diplomatic solutions, and ensure accountability for human rights violations. Key recommendations emphasize prioritizing human security and conflict resolution to build a more stable and peaceful future for the region.

KEYWORDS Conflict Resolution, Humanitarian Crisis, Israel, Lebanon, Military Actions, Palestine**Introduction**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict and Israel's involvement in Lebanon are among the most protracted and complex geopolitical issues in modern history. Rooted in historical grievances, national identities, and territorial disputes, this conflict has spanned decades, affecting millions of lives and influencing regional and global politics. Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, the conflict has led to significant humanitarian crises, military confrontations, and ongoing political instability. The dynamics of this conflict have evolved over time, with numerous military operations and escalations that continue to shape the lives of people in both Palestine and Lebanon (Caplan, 2019).

Between 2020 and 2024, the intensity of military actions has increased significantly, raising urgent concerns about their humanitarian, political, and strategic implications. This period has been marked by a series of violent confrontations, including clashes in the Gaza Strip, incursions into Palestinian territories, and heightened tensions along the Israel-Lebanon border. Notably, the 2023 Israel-Hamas war and the conflict with Hezbollah have escalated fears of a broader regional war, drawing in international attention and diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalation (O'Flynn, 2019).

Historically, the conflict's roots can be traced back to the displacement of Palestinians during the creation of Israel, leading to ongoing issues of occupation, settlement expansion, and statelessness. The Israeli-Lebanese conflict, particularly with Hezbollah, has added another layer of complexity, involving various militias and armed groups, and peaking during the Lebanese Civil War. These historical dynamics have resulted in entrenched positions on both sides, complicating efforts toward resolution (Center for Preventive Action, 2024).

The humanitarian consequences of this conflict are dire. Civilian populations bear the brunt of military operations, facing loss of life, displacement, and widespread destruction of infrastructure. Reports indicate that the Gaza Strip is experiencing extreme food insecurity, with a significant portion of its population living under crisis conditions. The ongoing violence and instability not only exacerbate humanitarian needs but also hinder access to essential services, education, and economic opportunities (Hovring, 2023).

Politically, the conflict has profound implications for regional stability. The persistent violence threatens to spill over into neighboring countries, creating a volatile environment that undermines peace efforts. The international community has repeatedly called for a ceasefire and a two-state solution; however, these efforts have faced numerous obstacles, including political divisions, the influence of extremist groups, and a lack of mutual trust between the parties involved (United Nations General Assembly, 2024).

This research aims to critically analyze Israel's military actions in Palestine and Lebanon from 2020 to 2024, focusing on their humanitarian, political, and strategic consequences. By examining the recent developments within the context of historical grievances, this study seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the ongoing conflict and its implications for the future of the region. Ultimately, the findings aim to contribute to the discourse surrounding conflict resolution and the pursuit of lasting peace in an area long marked by violence and division.

Literature Review

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a deeply rooted and complex issue that has generated extensive scholarly attention. This literature review explores key themes and perspectives regarding the humanitarian, political, and strategic implications of Israel's military actions in Palestine and Lebanon from various historical and contemporary sources. Scholarly works, such as Neil Caplan's *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: Contested Histories* (2019), provide a comprehensive overview of the historical roots of the conflict, tracing its origins to the establishment of Israel in 1948 and the subsequent displacement of Palestinians. Caplan emphasizes how historical narratives shape contemporary perceptions and political dynamics, underscoring the ongoing struggles for national identity and statehood among Palestinians. Similarly, Rashid Khalidi's *The Iron Cage: The Story of the Palestinian Struggle for Statehood* (2006) discusses the systematic barriers that have hindered Palestinian aspirations, providing a critical lens on the socio-political context of the conflict. (Khalidi, 2006).

Recent literature highlights the intensification of military operations in the region, particularly in the aftermath of events such as the 2006 Lebanon War and the recurring conflicts in Gaza. The report by the Center for Preventive Action (2024) outlines the escalation of violence and its implications for regional stability, emphasizing the humanitarian crises that ensue from military actions. This is supported by accounts from humanitarian organizations, including reports from Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, which document violations of international humanitarian law and the dire humanitarian conditions faced by civilians in Gaza and Lebanon (Abuamer, 2024).

Numerous studies focus on the humanitarian impacts of the conflict, with a specific emphasis on civilian casualties, displacement, and infrastructure destruction. A recent article by Roald Høvring (2023) outlines ten critical points regarding the humanitarian situation in Gaza, highlighting extreme food insecurity and the challenges faced by displaced populations. The literature consistently points to a humanitarian crisis exacerbated by military operations, with civilians bearing the brunt of the conflict's consequences.

The political ramifications of the conflict are significant, as detailed in works such as Avi Shlaim's *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World* (2000). Shlaim argues that Israel's

military strategies have not only perpetuated Palestinian suffering but have also contributed to broader regional instability. This view is echoed in analyses of the international community's responses to the conflict, which often emphasize the need for a ceasefire and a renewed commitment to the two-state solution. However, scholars point out that these efforts are frequently undermined by ongoing violence and the lack of trust between the involved parties.

From a strategic perspective, the conflict poses challenges not only for Israel and Palestine but also for neighboring countries and international actors. Literature on regional security dynamics often explores how Israeli military actions influence relations with Lebanon and Hezbollah, as well as the broader geopolitical landscape. The implications of these dynamics are evident in the ongoing fears of escalation and potential spillover effects, which have led to calls for international intervention and diplomatic engagement.

Theoretical Framework

The Israel-Palestine/Lebanon conflict can be understood using various theoretical frameworks. Conflict theory highlights structural violence through Israeli occupation and settlements, the power imbalance that favors Israel, and how identity politics contribute to escalation. The security dilemma arises from Israel's focus on self-defense, which clashes with the rights of Palestinians and Lebanese to defend themselves, creating cycles of violence through retaliation. From an international relations perspective, realism explains Israel's actions as driven by security concerns, while liberalism suggests diplomacy and human rights could resolve the conflict. Constructivism adds that social constructs like identity and narratives shape conflict dynamics. Social science perspectives view Israeli actions through the lens of colonialism, while Palestinian and Lebanese resistance is seen as a response to oppression, all framed within a broader context of human rights violations. This multi-disciplinary approach provides a clearer understanding of the conflict's complexities. This framework offers a clear understanding of the conflict's complexities, emphasizing the need for structural changes, equal power relations, dialogue, and adherence to international law to foster a sustainable peace.

Material and Methods

This study uses a mixed-methods approach to examine the humanitarian, political, and strategic impacts of Israel's military actions in Palestine and Lebanon (2020-2024). It combines the recent and historical academic sources, key books, and reports from groups like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. Primary sources such as news articles and official statements from governments and international organizations are also included. Additionally, expert interviews with scholars, diplomats, and humanitarian workers, along with surveys and questionnaires from affected populations and policymakers, provide important firsthand insights.

Results and Discussion

- **Prolonged Conflict:** The ongoing Israel-Palestine/Lebanon conflict stems from long-standing issues like structural inequalities, unequal power dynamics, and clashes over national and religious identities, which continue to hinder peace efforts.
- **Humanitarian Crises:** The conflict has caused immense suffering, leading to mass displacement, loss of lives, and severe hardships, particularly affecting Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.
- **Escalating violence:** Cycles of violence and retaliation have further fueled the conflict, making it more difficult to find peaceful solutions as violence intensifies over time.
- **International Involvement:** Various external powers have been involved in the conflict, attempting to mediate or influence the outcome. Their success in promoting

peace has been mixed, with some efforts contributing to stability while others exacerbated tensions.

Findings

- **Occupation And Settlements:** The expansion of Israeli settlements and the occupation of Palestinian territories are key factors driving the conflict's escalation, fueling resentment and resistance.
- **Power Dynamics:** The imbalance of power between Israel and Palestine/Lebanon creates challenges for negotiations, as weaker parties struggle for fair representation in peace talks.
- **Identity and narrative:** National and religious identities on both sides play a significant role in perpetuating the conflict, but common humanitarian concerns can serve as a bridge for dialogue and potential cooperation.
- **International law:** Violations of international law, including human rights abuses, continue to escalate the conflict, making it harder to achieve a peaceful resolution and undermining global efforts for justice.

Key Statistics

- **6.3 million Palestinian Refugees.** According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), there are 6.3 million Palestinian refugees in 2024. These refugees are individuals who were displaced from their homes due to conflict, particularly following the creation of Israel in 1948 and subsequent wars. They reside in countries like Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria, or within the occupied Palestinian territories. This massive number reflects the prolonged nature of the refugee crisis, which remains unresolved after decades.
- **147 Israeli Settlements in the West Bank.** In 2024, Peace Now reported that there are 147 Israeli settlements in the West Bank. These settlements are communities built by Israel in territories it has occupied since the 1967 Six-Day War. Their existence and expansion are highly controversial, with many considering them illegal under international law. These settlements often increase tensions, as they result in the displacement of Palestinians and the appropriation of land.
- **2,500 Palestinian Prisoners in Israeli Jails.** As per B'Tselem's report, there are currently around 2,500 Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails. These individuals are often detained on charges related to security offenses, including participation in protests, armed resistance, or even alleged terrorist activities. The issue of Palestinian prisoners is highly contentious, as many of these detainees face long-term imprisonment without trial (administrative detention), fueling grievances and protests.
- **20,000 Palestinian Homes Demolished Since 1967.** The Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions reported that around 20,000 Palestinian homes have been demolished by Israeli authorities since 1967. These demolitions often occur in areas designated for settlement expansion or due to the lack of building permits, which are hard for Palestinians to obtain. The destruction of homes leads to mass displacement, economic hardship, and a deepening sense of injustice among the Palestinian population.
- **\$4.1 billion annual US military aid to Israel.** According to the Congressional Research Service, the U.S. provides Israel with \$4.1 billion in military aid annually in 2024. This aid helps Israel maintain one of the most advanced militaries in the region, strengthening its security but also raising concerns about

the role of external powers in the conflict. Critics argue that such aid perpetuates the military imbalance between Israel and Palestine, making it harder to achieve a peaceful resolution.

Additional Statistics

- **342 Palestinian Children Killed in 2024.** Defense for Children International - Palestine reported that 342 Palestinian children were killed in 2024. Children are often the most vulnerable during periods of intense conflict, and their deaths highlight the devastating impact of military operations and clashes in the region. The killing of children often sparks outrage and calls for accountability, with international human rights organizations frequently condemning these incidents.
- **1.4 Million Palestinians in Gaza Rely on International Aid.** In 2024, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) estimated that 1.4 million Palestinians in Gaza are dependent on international aid. Gaza, which has been under a blockade by Israel since 2007, faces severe restrictions on goods, services, and movement. This has resulted in widespread poverty, unemployment, and reliance on aid for basic necessities like food, water, and healthcare.
- **70% of Gazans Live Below The Poverty Line.** The World Bank reports that 70% of the population in Gaza lives below the poverty line in 2024. The blockade, coupled with periodic military conflicts, has decimated Gaza's economy, leaving most people without stable employment or income. This high poverty rate reflects the immense economic challenges and humanitarian crisis in Gaza, making everyday survival a struggle for many.
- **95% of Gaza's Water is Contaminated.** The United Nations Environment Programme states that 95% of the water in Gaza is contaminated and unsafe for drinking in 2024. Gaza's water supply has been severely affected by overuse, pollution, and the destruction of infrastructure during conflicts. The lack of clean water poses severe health risks to the population, contributing to waterborne diseases and exacerbating the humanitarian crisis.
- **200,000 Palestinian Olive Trees Uprooted Since 2000.** According to OCHA, 200,000 Palestinian olive trees have been uprooted since 2000. Olive trees are an important cultural and economic symbol for Palestinians, with many relying on olive farming for their livelihoods. The destruction of these trees, often during settlement expansion or as punitive measures, represents a significant economic blow and deepens the environmental and psychological impact of the conflict. (OCHA, 2024)

Discussion

Cracking the Enigma: Iran-Israel Relations Unveiled by bukhari et al, highlights the pressing need for peace in the escalating tensions between Iran, its proxies and Israel. The authors stress the importance of leaders prioritizing diplomacy and open communication to navigate the complex landscape of the Middle East (Yaseen, et. al. 2023). They propose several actionable strategies to foster peace, including providing humanitarian aid to support vulnerable communities, building trust through confidence-building measures like prisoner exchanges, and controlling arms to prevent conflict escalation. Economic incentives, such as trade agreements and development assistance, can encourage cooperation and peaceful resolutions. Additionally, engaging civil society and grassroots initiatives can complement official diplomatic efforts and create avenues for dialogue and reconciliation. The authors believe that by focusing on collaboration rather than confrontation, it is possible to move beyond historical grievances and foster mutual respect

between the two nations. Ultimately, the message is clear: strong and wise leadership is crucial at this moment. By embracing bold diplomatic efforts, leaders can seize the opportunity to pave the way for a brighter, more harmonious future for all nations in the region, fostering stability and security that benefits everyone (Bukhari et al, 2024).

Lebanon Attacks: The conflict between Lebanon and Israel has been marked by a series of significant incidents that highlight the ongoing tensions in the region. The situation escalated dramatically during the 2006 Lebanon War, which lasted from July 12 to August 14. This war not only intensified hostilities but also set a precedent for future confrontations. Following the war, the region experienced a series of border clashes, including notable incidents on August 3, 2010, and August 1, 2011, where skirmishes further strained relations. The violence reached a critical point in 2013, when a bombing in Beirut on November 19 heightened fears of broader conflict, leading to the Lebanon-Israel border conflict in December 2014. This period marked a significant escalation in military engagements. In January 2015, tensions flared once again with renewed conflict involving Hezbollah, the Lebanese militant group known for its opposition to Israel. Over the years, skirmishes continued, including border clashes in September 2019 and July 2020, demonstrating the persistent volatility in the area. By May 2021, tensions peaked with ongoing border issues, reflecting the fragile state of peace. The conflict remained active into 2023, with incidents such as Israeli shellings in April and Lebanese pager explosions early in 2024. The new year saw a notable escalation with a January 2024 Israeli drone strike that killed two Hezbollah members, indicating a more aggressive military stance. Following this, there were significant border exchanges in July, where both sides engaged in hostilities. In August 2024, Israeli airstrikes targeted Hezbollah positions, further escalating the conflict. Most recently, on September 24, 2024, an Israeli airstrike resulted in the death of Hezbollah commander Hasan Nasrallah. These ongoing events underscore the complexity and volatility of Lebanon-Israel relations, characterized by a cycle of conflict that poses challenges to stability in the region. (Al Jazeera, 2024)

Palestine Attacks: The conflict in Palestine has witnessed numerous violent incidents, particularly in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, highlighting the deep-seated tensions in the region. In the Gaza Strip, significant military operations have marked the landscape of conflict. Operation Cast Lead (2008-2009), Operation Pillar of Defense (2012), and Operation Protective Edge (2014) showcased intense military confrontations. The Gaza War in 2014 and the 2018 Gaza border protests, lasting from March 2018 to December 2019, further emphasized the ongoing struggle for rights and recognition. Clashes continued with the Gaza-Israel clashes in May 2019 and exchanges in August 2020. The Israel-Gaza conflict in May 2021 escalated the violence, followed by Operation Breaking Dawn and Operation Shield and Arrow in 2022 and 2023, respectively. In early 2024, airstrikes in January and February added to the toll, while clashes in May resulted in further casualties. Notably, airstrikes in August and September 2024 killed 10 and 5 Palestinians, respectively, underscoring the dire situation. In the West Bank, violence has also been pervasive, starting with the Ramallah lynching in October 2000, a pivotal event that intensified animosities. Operation Defensive Shield in March 2002 and Operation Shield of Defense in June 2003 highlighted the military response to unrest. Between 2015 and 2016, a series of stabbing attacks added to the tension, while protests erupted in 2018. Clashes persisted in 2020 and continued into 2023, marked by multiple arrest raids in January and September 2024, leading to the arrest of 20 Palestinians. Demolitions in June 2024 further illustrated the ongoing challenges faced by communities in the West Bank. These incidents collectively reveal the complex and often tragic realities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with both the Gaza Strip and West Bank experiencing profound unrest and suffering over the years.

Other Incidents: The Israeli-Palestinian conflict continues to unfold with a series of violent incidents that highlight the ongoing tensions and profound challenges in the region. In January 2023, a tragic attack at a synagogue in Jerusalem sent shockwaves through the community, representing not just a loss of life but also a deepening of fear and mistrust

among residents. This attack was emblematic of the fragile security situation, underscoring the vulnerability of places of worship amid escalating hostilities. Following this, in April 2023, a shooting in Tel Aviv further exacerbated concerns over public safety. The bustling city, often seen as a symbol of coexistence and resilience, was rocked by this act of violence, leaving many to question the effectiveness of security measures and the prospects for peace.

As the conflict continued, the Haifa stabbing attack in August 2024 served as a stark reminder of the ongoing threat of violence. This incident not only raised alarms about individual safety but also reflected broader societal tensions that can ignite at any moment. The situation escalated further in September 2024 when four Palestinians were killed in Nablus. This tragic event not only drew attention to the loss of life but also reignited discussions about the impact of military operations and the need for accountability in the region. Collectively, these incidents paint a troubling picture of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, revealing the deep-seated animosities and the persistent cycle of violence that affects countless lives. Each act of violence deepens the divide and complicates efforts towards peace, leaving many to grapple with the enduring challenges of insecurity, loss, and the quest for a hopeful future in a region fraught with historical grievances and aspirations for coexistence.

Conclusion

The Israel-Palestine/Lebanon conflict represents a complex tapestry of historical grievances, identity struggles, and profound human suffering. As we confront this pressing issue, it becomes increasingly clear that a sustainable and equitable resolution is not just desirable but essential. The persistent violence and displacement remind us of the urgent need for collective action, as the implications of this conflict ripple through the region and affect global security. To pave the way for a brighter future, we must focus on addressing the root causes of the conflict. Empowering Palestinian self-determination, fostering open dialogue between communities, and upholding the principles of international law and human rights are critical steps toward achieving lasting peace. Recognizing Palestinian statehood, facilitating Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories, and promoting mutual respect will create a foundation for coexistence. The international community has a vital role to play. By recommitting to a viable two-state solution, enhancing humanitarian aid, and investing in infrastructure development, we can help create conditions conducive to peace. Encouraging regional cooperation and establishing effective conflict resolution mechanisms will also be key to moving forward. Ultimately, by prioritizing justice, equality, and human dignity, we can transform the narrative of conflict into one of hope and resilience. It is time for decisive action to end this protracted struggle, ensuring a future where Israelis, Palestinians, and Lebanese can thrive together in peace and harmony. The opportunity for change is within our grasp; let us seize it for the sake of generations to come.

Policy Recommendations

- **US Involvement.** The U.S. should re-engage in peace negotiations as a neutral party, helping mediate between Israel and Palestine while fostering a balanced approach to conflict resolution.
- **EU Support.** The European Union can enhance its role by providing more support for conflict resolution initiatives and expanding humanitarian aid to affected areas, particularly Gaza.
- **Arab League Engagement.** The Arab League should play a more active role in facilitating peace initiatives, leveraging its collective influence to mediate between conflicting parties.
- **Israeli-Palestinian Economic Cooperation:** Joint economic projects between Israelis and Palestinians, such as shared infrastructure or business ventures, can create interdependence, promoting peace and prosperity.

- **Civil Society Empowerment.** Supporting grassroots initiatives and civil society organizations that advocate for peace can help shift public opinion and create a bottom-up demand for conflict resolution.
- **Address structural Issues.** To reduce tensions, the occupation of Palestinian territories, settlement expansions, and blockades should end.
- **Promote Power Balance.** Support for Palestinian and Lebanese self-determination is essential for creating a more equal power dynamic in negotiations.
- **Foster Dialogue.** Identity-based negotiations, focusing on shared interests and humanitarian concerns, should be encouraged to build understanding.
- **Uphold International Law.** There must be accountability for violations of human rights and international law, ensuring justice is served to pave the way for lasting peace.

Challenging Recommendations

- **Adopt Effective Conflict Resolution Models.** Governments and international organizations should analyze and adopt successful conflict resolution models from similar global conflicts, such as mediation, arbitration, and peace treaties, to guide negotiations between Israel, Palestine, and Lebanon.
- **Conduct Economic Impact Assessments.** Both Israeli and Palestinian leadership, with support from international bodies, should evaluate the economic costs of continued conflict and the potential benefits of peace. This includes understanding how trade, tourism, and investment can improve through conflict resolution.
- **Address Social and Psychological Barriers.** Initiate programs that focus on healing historical trauma and addressing the deep-rooted identity and narrative conflicts on both sides. Reconciliation efforts should be emphasized through education, dialogue, and psychological support to reduce hostilities.
- **Strengthen Regional Security Cooperation.** Arab states should be more involved in peace talks, focusing on shared security concerns such as counter-terrorism, arms control, and stability. This can be supported through regional security agreements and joint initiatives to promote long-term peace.
- **Empower Civil Society for Peace-Building.** Grassroots organizations and civil society movements should be supported and encouraged to foster dialogue, build trust between communities, and promote peaceful coexistence through education and local initiatives.
- **Engage International Actors in Sustaining Peace Efforts.** The U.S., EU, UN, and other key international players should continue to provide diplomatic and financial support, ensuring sustained momentum in peace processes and humanitarian aid for affected populations.

These recommendations emphasize a holistic approach, integrating economic, social, regional, and international dimensions to effectively address the complex nature of the Israel-Palestine/Lebanon conflict.

Future Direction/ Implication

Each of these points helps to illustrate the complex and multifaceted nature of the Israel-Palestine/Lebanon conflict, highlighting humanitarian crises, military actions, international involvement, and the socio-economic impacts on Palestinians.

- **Two-State Solution.** This involves reviving negotiations aimed at establishing an independent Palestinian state that coexists peacefully with Israel. A two-state solution

is seen by many as a way to end the conflict by addressing the territorial disputes and ensuring security for both Israelis and Palestinians.

- **Regional Cooperation.** Engaging neighboring Arab states in peace talks is crucial to addressing shared security concerns in the region. Arab countries can play a significant role in facilitating dialogue and reducing tensions by leveraging their diplomatic influence.
- **Humanitarian Focus.** Gaza's humanitarian crisis needs immediate attention. This can be addressed by increasing international aid, rebuilding infrastructure, and improving access to basic necessities such as clean water, healthcare, and electricity.
- **Conflict Resolution Mechanisms.** Independent investigation committees should be established to ensure impartial reviews of conflict-related incidents, promoting accountability and transparency, which can help build trust and prevent further escalation.
- **Civil Society Engagement.** Encouraging direct engagement between ordinary citizens (people-to-people diplomacy) and grassroots initiatives can foster understanding and build momentum for peace from the bottom up.
- **Escalating Violence.** If the conflict continues unchecked, it could destabilize not only the Israel-Palestine region but the broader Middle East, posing a global security threat through the potential spread of violence and extremism.
- **Humanitarian Crisis.** Ongoing displacement, poverty, and deprivation could lead to greater social unrest and potentially fuel radicalization or extremism, making the humanitarian situation even worse.
- **Regional Instability.** The conflict risks spilling over into neighboring countries, potentially drawing in other regional actors and exacerbating tensions in already fragile areas, like Lebanon and Jordan.
- **International Relations.** Strained relationships between Israel and Arab states can negatively impact global diplomacy, particularly regarding international efforts to broker peace in the Middle East.
- **Economic Consequences.** Continued conflict disrupts trade, tourism, and investment in the region, resulting in significant economic losses that can further entrench poverty and instability.

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