

Latest Development (as of 10 Nov 18:00 BTS)

As of 10 November, fighting between Israeli forces and Palestinian militants is likely to continue across the Israel-Gaza border over the coming days in the wake of the 7 October Hamas-led assault on Israel.

Latest Developments

As of 10 November, the 35th day of the war, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) are continuing their ground operations in Gaza. Late on 28 October, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed that the IDF had launched the second stage of its war against Hamas in the Gaza Strip. The Hamas-run health ministry is reporting that to date, 11,078 people have been killed in Gaza since the start of the war, with more than 27,000 others injured.

On 10 November, Israeli forces were reported close to key Gaza hospitals – Al-Shifa, Al-Quds and the Indonesian Hospital – with reports saying that there have been explosions inside or near the hospitals. The Indonesian Hospital has confirmed that it suffered damage after a nearby rocket strike, with the hospital also reporting that it might stop operating by Friday as it has nearly run out of fuel. Within Israel, Hamas has continued to launch rockets. On 10 November, two women were injured in Tel Aviv after Hamas launched a new wave of rockets at the city at around 1400 local time. Hamas says that the latest attacks are a response to the mounting civilian deaths in Gaza. The Israeli military is reporting that some 9,500 missiles, rockets and drones have been fired at Israel from Gaza and other fronts since 7 October, with about 12% of rockets fired from inside Gaza having fallen short within Palestinian territory.

Israel's army has said that it has struck an organization in Syria, which it said was behind the 9 November drone crash into a school in Eilat, southern Israel. The drone hit an elementary school and did not cause any injuries. The IDF did not identify the group behind the drone attack, though it said that "it holds the Syrian regime fully responsible for every terror activity emanating from its territory."

According to US officials, four-hour military pauses in areas of northern Gaza will start to be implemented each day to allow civilians to flee. However it remains unclear when these pauses are set to begin.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that his country is not seeking to conquer, occupy or govern the Gaza Strip, stating that a "credible force" would be needed to enter the enclave if necessary to prevent the emergence of militant threats. He noted that a civilian government would be required in the Gaza Strip, and that Israel would also need to ensure that an attack like that of 7 October, which killed about 1,400 people, does not occur again. The statement comes after he made comments earlier this week suggesting that Israel would be responsible for security in Gaza. Those comments drew a critical response from the US.



Travel Disruptions

Disruptions to travel continue to take place and the conflict has caused significant flights disruptions in Israel, with the Israel Airports Authority temporary closing multiple airports in the central and southern regions of the country. As of 10 November, Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport (TLV) reportedly remains open, though over the past several weeks, a number of airlines have cancelled and/or suspended flights to and from the facility. El Al (LY) continues to operate flights serving TLV, though on modified schedules. Flight disruptions, including delays and cancellations, are likely to continue at TLV and other airports in Israel until the situation stabilizes and rocket fire from Gaza subsides. Additionally, officials may suspend all flight operations at TLV on short notice in response to conflict developments.

On the ground, movements remain complicated due to the high security threat and closures being enforced by the local authorities. The IDF have closed roads near the border with the Gaza Strip, including Route 4 from the Zikim junction to Netiv Ha'asara, Route 34 from the Yad Mordechai junction to Nir Am, and Route 232, from Mefalsim to Sa'ad and Nir Yitzhak to Kerem Shalom. Authorities have also closed the Zikim beach on the Gaza border and suspended train services between Ashkelon and Sderot. Crossings between the West Bank and Israel are either closed or under surveillance. While Egyptian and American authorities have negotiated the opening of the Rafah crossing for humanitarian aid, substantive damage to roads and continued Israeli airstrikes in the area are hindering access.

Advisory

The security situation in Israel is likely to be significantly impacted in the short term and could deteriorate with little warning. Heightened security measures and disruptions to business and transport are likely to continue in the central and southern areas of Israel. Heightened security is also likely at all points of entry into Israel. Additionally, the status of border crossings, airports, seaports, rail services and roads could change on short notice, depending on the evolution the security situation on the ground. Anyone currently in Israel, notably in the impacted areas, is advised to shelter in place. The threat of attack remains significant and ground and road movements currently remain a high risk and should be avoided whenever possible. If carrying out any ground movements, avoid all demonstrations and concentrations of security personnel. Follow the instructions of the local authorities, maintain communications with responsible parties and ensure that in the event that the security situation were to degrade, a friend/family member knows where you are and can alert the appropriate officials. Monitor the local media to remain up-to-date on the unfolding situation and adhere to security forces' directives. In the event of any incoming mortar rounds or rockets, warning sirens will sound in the general vicinity. In such case, report to the nearest bomb shelter and await further instructions from the local officials. If there is no nearby shelter, remain indoors, stay away from windows and exterior walls; if possible, move to a ground floor or basement. Maintain contact with your diplomatic mission. It is advisable to follow numerous diplomatic missions to assess the overall picture. If attempting to leave Israel, confirm your flight's status before leaving your accommodation. Additional cancellations at airports could also occur with little warning. Travellers should be ready for unexpected security alerts at the airport, closures of airspace and/or cancellation of flights should the security situation on the ground deteriorate further. It is understood that currently taxis to carry out ground movements from a hotel/home to the airport may be difficult to obtain. Travellers are advised to assess all ground movement options for any intended movements in advance. Anyone considering travelling to Israel and the Palestinian territories is advised against any non-essential travel, notably to the central and southern regions of Israel until the situation stabilizes. If travelling to Israel, reconfirm the status of your flight as well as the status of border crossings and roads.