

~ EDITORIAL ~

A CRISIS THAT CONCERNS US ALL – THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE WAR IN ISRAEL

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The war that erupted in Israel in 2023 is far more than just a local conflict; its reverberations are already being felt globally, calling into question political stability, energy security, and relationships among major powers (Nuraini et al., 2024). As a political science expert, I emphasize the importance of analyzing the implications of this conflict for a clearer understanding of the evolution of the contemporary international environment.

First, the armed confrontation in Israel deepens tensions in the Middle East, a region recognized as a hotspot of chronic instability (Hassan & Mustafa, 2024). Instead of easing the longstanding Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the new hostilities risk accelerating the regrouping of extremist groups and fueling new waves of cross-border violence (Abumbe et al., 2024). In this context, a major humanitarian crisis looms, threatening to overwhelm international organizations and neighboring states (Holail et al., 2024).

The increasing flow of refugees to countries in the region and, ultimately, to Europe becomes a sensitive issue in public policy, sparking intense debates on security and human rights (El-Shewy et al., 2024).

Economically, the escalation of the conflict threatens global supply chains for energy and raw materials (Yu et al., 2018). At a time when the global economy is already grappling with other crises—from the climate crisis to the financial crisis—any disruption to energy resource flows could lead to sharp price hikes and instability in financial markets (Pilloni et al., 2022). This volatility disproportionately affects developing countries, deepening economic inequalities and undermining international efforts for sustainable development (Hamed & Bressler, 2019).

Furthermore, the war in Israel significantly influences power dynamics among major geopolitical actors. The United States, Russia, the European Union, and China are redefining their strategies (Mărcău, 2011) and alliances in the Middle East, and this fierce competition for influence could lead to diplomatic escalations or even indirect confrontations. The international system, already marked by fragmentation and lack of consensus, risks becoming the stage for increasingly pronounced rivalries, where cooperation and peaceful negotiations prove ever more challenging to achieve.

Lastly, the war amplifies extremist discourse worldwide, promoting “us versus them” narratives. In an era of social media, where information—and disinformation (Mărcău et al., 2019, 2023, 2022a, 2022b; Peptan et al., 2022, 2023)—spreads at unprecedented speed, the risk of



escalating ethnic and interreligious tensions grows exponentially. Thus, democratic values and stabilization efforts are tested, paving the way for populist policies and violent rhetoric.

To prevent further deterioration of the international environment, urgent and concerted action by the entire global community is imperative (Rohulia, 2022). Diplomatic solutions, mediation efforts, and humanitarian support should be prioritized, and political leaders and international institutions have a duty to promote peace and protect human lives (Sutkutë, 2024).

Without sustained cooperation, the war in Israel in 2024 could become a catalyst for far broader crises, with negative consequences for world order and the future of democracy on a global scale (Calabrese, 2024).

For these reasons, the call to reason, active involvement of international organizations, and collective responsibility of state actors remain essential pillars in the effective management and resolution of this conflict (Rinku, 2024). Every hesitation, every delay could worsen the crisis, turning it into a tipping point for global stability and cooperation (Šćepanović, 2024).

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