



Lauder School
of Government,
Diplomacy & Strategy

IPS
Institute for
Policy and Strategy



#HC17

כנס הרצליה 2017 תשע"ז
HERZLIYA CONFERENCE

JUNE 20-22, 2017

SIMULATION :

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

The Herzliya simulation

Three foreign research institutions will participate in the simulation:

China University of Foreign Affairs

**Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton
University**

France – Sciences Po CERI Paris

The Herzliya simulation



Assad's Syria



China



Egypt



European Union



Hamas



Hezbollah Lebanon



Iran



Iraq



ISIS



Israel



Jordan



Palestinian Auth.



Russia



Saudi Arabia



Syrian Rebels



Turkey



United States

The Herzliya simulation

SIMULATION SCENARIO

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

- The president of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), **Mahmoud Abbas** (Abu-Mazen) was admitted to the hospital in Ramallah and the spokesman of the PNA announced that due to **the president's condition he is unable to fulfill his duties for an unknown period of time.**
- Following this announcement, the leadership of the PNA and the Palestinian National Liberation movement have decided to appoint an interim leadership Council headed by the deputy head of the Palestinian National Liberation movement - **Mahmoud Al-Aloul**, Secretary-General of the Palestinian National Liberation movement - **Jibril Rajoub**, the director of the Palestinian general intelligence service - **Majid Faraj** and **Nabil Shaath**.

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

- A young Israeli man, resident of one of the settlements, was kidnapped and no organization took responsibility for the kidnapping.
- Israel demanded that the PNA take the necessary steps to return the kidnapped civilian.
- The interim leadership Council announced that it decided to stop the security cooperation with Israel and thereafter demanded the immediate release of *Marwan Barghouti* from prison and a halt to IDF's activities within the West Bank.
- As a result of the IDF's operational activities violent riots erupted in different hotspots within the West Bank.

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

- The wave of terrorism by lone attackers (stabbings, running over and into crowds with a vehicle and shootings) intensifies and Hamas committed a suicide attack in a bus within Jerusalem which caused an immense number of civilian deaths and injuries.
- Hamas announces that it will not restrain itself in light of the acts of aggression made by Israel against the Palestinian people.
- Rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip towards the Gaza envelope but caused no damage or injuries.
- The IDF responded to the rockets fired by attacking Hamas's strongholds in the Gaza Strip.

Israel Faces a Multi-Front Confrontation

Syria

- Forces loyal to Assad, forces of Hezbollah and elements of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard have taken control over the Syrian Golan Heights - from Mount Hermon's lower parts to the area of Quneitra.
- These forces started building fortifications and transferring weapons to the area (rocket launchers and anti-tank missiles).
- In a speech carried by *Hassan Nasrallah* he announced that the liberation of Quneitra is an important step towards the liberation of the Golan Heights and threatened that Hezbollah will not stand by when Israel "slaughters the Palestinians".

Lebanon

- Hezbollah reinforced its forces in southern Lebanon using units of the organization that returned from Syria to Lebanon.

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

- The war against Islamic State.
- The battle for a-Raqqa.
- The battle for Mosul.
- As a result of the fighting against the Islamic State in a-Raqqa and Mosul, the refugee problem in Syria and Iraq has worsened. Aid organizations and the UN report that there was a sharp rise in the number of refugees and a severe shortage of food, drinking water and medicine.
- **The Secretary-General of the UN** calls for an immediate convening of an international convention for the resolution of the refugee crisis and to bring order and security to the region.

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

The war in Yemen - between the Houthi rebels aided by Iran and the loyal forces of the Yemeni government headed by President Hadi together with the coalition headed by Saudi Arabia continues. The Houthi rebels struck two oil tankers and one merchant ship using shore-based anti-ship missiles and naval mines. As a result of the damage made to the sea trade route at the straits of Bab-el-Mandeb the cost of oil has risen globally and so do the costs of maritime insurance. The United States announced that it will organize an international naval force which will enable the freedom of sailing in the Red Sea.

Israel in a Multi-Front Escalation

- President Trump announced in a special address to the nation that the US achieved an important victory in the war against terror in Iraq and that soon the Islamic State will be eliminated in Syria as well. He expressed hope that after the elimination of the Islamic state, peace and stability will return to the region.
- Talks are being conducted between the White House and the Kremlin in order to arrange a formal summit meeting between President Trump and President Putin.
- United States, the European Union and Russia are in close contact regarding an international convention sponsored by the UN to reach political agreements in Syria and Iraq.