

The ongoing war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah along Israel's northern border positions the Jewish State against these terrorist groups that are committed to destroying Israel and attacking Jewish and American interests around the globe. Senior officials of the two groups are very clear about their motives.

- Hamas senior official Yahya Sinwar, who is the mastermind behind the October 7 massacres, spoke openly about his plans to attack Israel at a rally in Gaza in December 2022. He [said](#), "We will come to you, God willing, in a roaring flood. We will come to you with endless rockets, we will come to you in a limitless flood of soldiers, we will come to you with millions of our people, like the repeating tide."
- Saleh al-Arouri, the most senior Hamas official eliminated in the war to date, spoke to Lebanese TV in August 2023 [saying](#), "A total war has become inevitable. We all consider it necessary...We are meeting with all the parties that [will take part] in this total war, and we are discussing together the different scenarios and possibilities."
- In an [interview](#) on a Lebanese broadcast just a few weeks after the October 7 massacres, Hamas senior official Ghazi Hamad called the existence of Israel "illogical" and vowed that Hamas would repeat the attacks until the annihilation of Israel. "The Al-Aqsa Flood is just the first time, and there will be a second, a third and a fourth," he said.
- In May 2021, senior Hamas official Fathi Hammad [said](#), "The Jews are a treacherous people. There can be no peace with the Jews. There can be no peace with the Zionists. The only thing we have for the Zionists is the sword."
- Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah has a decades-old history of supporting and advocating for terrorist attacks against Jewish and western targets. [In 2002 he said](#), "If they (Jews) all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide." For over two decades, he has long advocated for attacks against America. In 2002 he [said](#), "Our hostility to the Great Satan [America] is absolute... Regardless of how the world has changed after 11 September, Death to America will remain our reverberating and powerful slogan: Death to America."
- Last month, Hezbollah official Nawaf Moussawi [said](#), "I have a desire for ground combat that we'll fight with the Zionist enemy... We have some weapons and can have whatever we want sent to us."

Words matter. These threats should be taken seriously and responded to accordingly.