



HEZBOLLAH



Violating International Law While the U.N. Fails to React

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1701—adopted in 2006 following the Second Lebanon War—calls for the disarmament of all non-state actors in Lebanon, including Hezbollah. UNSCR 1701 also strengthened the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL), and authorized it to take action in order to ensure that southern Lebanon would not be used for hostile activities. Unfortunately, UNIFIL and the Lebanese government failed to enforce the resolution. As a result, Hezbollah has turned southern Lebanon into a military fortress from which it can attack Israel—in blatant violation of UNSCR 1701.

U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701 calls for Hezbollah's disarmament.

Hezbollah, and its state sponsor Iran, have consistently defied UNSCR 1701, which specifically calls for:

- Making southern Lebanon into a zone “free of any armed personnel, assets and weapons” other than the Lebanese Armed Forces and UNIFIL
- Disarming all armed groups so that there are no weapons in Lebanon other than those of the Lebanese state
- Banning foreign forces from Lebanon
- Prohibiting arms sales or arms transfers except as authorized by the Lebanese government



Since UNSCR 1701's passage in 2006, Hezbollah's arsenal has grown nearly tenfold with Iran's help.

Hezbollah, with help from Iran, continues to arm itself at an alarming rate.

With Iran's help, Hezbollah's arsenal has grown nearly tenfold since UNSCR 1701's passage. In 2006, the terrorist group possessed approximately 15,000 rockets. Today it has up to 150,000 missiles and rockets—many of which are more destructive and capable of precisely targeting any location in Israel. Iran recently began building underground missile factories for Hezbollah in Lebanon, and has supplied the group with drones that have since been deployed to spy on Israel. Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah has boasted that the group's “weapons and rockets come from the Islamic Republic of Iran,” and that it will continue to receive Iranian arms shipments.

Hezbollah has embedded its military infrastructure within civilian areas.

In direct violation of Article 57 of the Geneva Conventions, Hezbollah endangers Lebanese civilians by using them as human shields and positioning its forces and weapons inside hospitals, homes and schools. Today, virtually all of southern Lebanon is

Due to intimidation by Hezbollah, UNIFIL does not routinely patrol population centers in southern Lebanon, allowing Hezbollah to use these areas to hide weapons.

a Hezbollah maze of underground bunkers, rocket-launch sites and interconnecting tunnels.

The New York Times

revealed in May 2015 that Hezbollah had established command posts, rocket-launching sites and underground tunnels in the small village of Muhaybib, while fortifying an additional 400 military sites and facilities in the larger village of Shaqra.



Hezbollah uses Lebanese civilians as human shields by hiding weapons in schools, mosques and hospitals.

UNIFIL's mandate and its passivity have prevented it from thwarting weapons smuggling and terrorist activity.

Resolution 1701 expanded UNIFIL from 2,000 troops to as many as 15,000 in order to prevent Hezbollah's rearming. The resolution authorized UNIFIL to take "all necessary action" in cooperation with Lebanon's army to stop Hezbollah attacks on Israel. However, due to intimidation by Hezbollah, UNIFIL does not act against the group's weapons. UNIFIL routinely fails to patrol areas known to host illicit Hezbollah weapons and neglects to report on Hezbollah violations. U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Nikki Haley called on UNIFIL in August 2017 to "increase its capacity and commitment to investigating and reporting these violations."

The Israeli military revealed in June 2017 that Hezbollah established approximately 15 outposts along the Israel-Lebanon border under the guise of an environmental non-governmental organization. Hezbollah outposts are often situated mere feet from UNIFIL outposts.



Lebanon's porous border with Syria has allowed Hezbollah to import significant arms from Iran.

Lebanon's porous border with Syria has also allowed Hezbollah to import significant arms from both Syria and Iran. While UNSCR 1701 does allow UNIFIL to deploy along the border with Syria at the Lebanese government's request, such a request has never been made—largely due to Hezbollah and Iranian intimidation.

To learn more visit www.aipac.org/Hezbollah