

Lawmakers, experts and Israeli officials are warning of the threat posed by Hezbollah.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

// Hezbollah is a bad actor, contributing to the destabilizing violence in Syria, continuing to undermine the independence of Lebanon, and terrorizing innocent families across Israel's northern border with the constant threat of rockets and war. // – House Democratic Whip Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), March 3, 2016



// Hezbollah is not a moderate voice in Lebanon. They are supported by the Iranians. They have had a record of attacking Israel and killing us for decades. // – Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Chairman Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), March 12, 2015

// Hezbollah has transformed into one of the world's most sophisticated and complex and dangerous terror organizations. // – House Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY), December 16, 2015



// [Hezbollah] is an Iran proxy group that is known to be one of the world's most dangerous and capable terror organizations, trained and equipped and funded by Iran's Qods Force. // – House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa Chairman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), March 22, 2016

POLICY EXPERTS

// Today, Hezbollah has scattered its presence across 240 villages in southern Lebanon; each has a defense system; and each, of course, also has a civilian population. In the event of a new confrontation, Israel will be facing a more entrenched, more experienced enemy and the IDF will face real dilemmas in ground operations in southern Lebanon. // – Tamara Cofman Wittes, Director of the Center for Middle East Policy for the Brookings Institution, April 19, 2016



// When one considers that Hezbollah has the capability to rain down 1,500 rockets a day on Israel, it becomes clear that civilian casualties in the next war will be much higher on both sides than in any of the previous wars. // – Tony Badran, Research Fellow for the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, March 22, 2016

ISRAELI MILITARY OFFICIALS

// Hezbollah has set up for the day of battle... Nasrallah's main target is to get to Shiite hegemony in Lebanon and I think that poses a real threat because it limits the IDF's freedom of movement because it is all deployed within civil society. // – General Gadi Eisenkot, Chief of Staff for the Israel Defense Forces, January 19, 2016



// Many villages in Lebanon are built anew to turn into army bases with underground missile sites, and ammunition storage. This is how things are in some areas of Beirut as well. // – Major General Amir Eshel, Commander of the Israeli Air Force, July 2, 2015