# Israeli PM Netanyahu Shifts Focus to Northern Border as Gaza Conflict Nears End



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced that the intense phase of Israel's conflict with Hamas in Gaza is nearing an end. This shift will allow Israeli forces to redirect efforts towards the northern border with Lebanon, where exchanges with the militant group Hezbollah have heightened concerns of a broader conflict.

In an interview on Channel 14, Netanyahu retracted support for a US-backed ceasefire proposal with Hamas, suggesting a more limited ceasefire deal. He emphasized that any agreement would be temporary and that Israel is committed to eliminating Hamas. Netanyahu also mentioned the potential for deploying forces to the north to address threats from Hezbollah.

Further complicating the situation, Netanyahu's remarks and the insistence on continuing the offensive in Gaza have caused friction with the US, a key ally. In Gaza, Israeli airstrikes continue, targeting Hamas and resulting in civilian casualties. In Lebanon, Hezbollah has retaliated by attacking Israeli military positions with drones.

In addition, Israel's Defense Minister Yoav Gallant is in Washington for discussions with US officials about the ongoing conflicts. The European foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, and German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock have expressed concerns about the potential for the conflict to expand further into Lebanon.

This situation continues amid warnings from international officials of a risk of a wider war involving Iran, which could involve US forces in the region.