# Israeli spokesperson accuses Channel 4 presenter of advocating for Hamas amid Gaza conflict debate



In a recent segment on Channel 4 News, a heated exchange unfolded between presenter Krishnan Guru-Murthy and Israeli government spokesperson David Mencer, who accused Guru-Murthy of "advocating for Hamas." The discussion came in the wake of a tragic incident in Rafah, where health officials reported that Israeli troops had opened fire, resulting in the deaths of at least 27 Palestinians. According to the Israeli military, the troops acted in response to a perceived threat when a group reportedly left a designated access route. Mencer emphasised that the forces did not target civilians, yet this justification did little to quell the ongoing discourse surrounding the violence.

During the interview, Mencer faced scrutiny when he claimed that video evidence showed Hamas firing at their own people. In a striking rebuttal, he stated, "Sometimes Krishnan, you actually advocate for Hamas and I must say it's bizarre," reflecting the heightened tensions in dialogue over the Israel-Palestine conflict. This interaction is emblematic of the complex narratives surrounding the situation, where heavily mediated views often clash dramatically.

The portrayal of Hamas and its role in Gaza continues to be a contentious issue. In a previous interview on Channel 4 News, Brigadier General Amir Avivi argued that Hamas must be dismantled to restore peace, asserting that it could not remain in Gaza for stability to be achieved. He underscored the considerable suffering endured by Israeli civilians due to Hamas's actions, urging a definitive end to their governance. His comments reinforce a broader Israeli narrative focused on perceived existential threats from the militant group, compelling them to take decisive military action.

Adding another layer to the narrative, Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, the Israeli Special Envoy for the Foreign Ministry, suggested in a separate interview that Palestinians remaining in Gaza might very well be affiliated with Hamas. This assertion opens the door to discussions about the difficulties in distinguishing between civilians and combatants, often resulting in tragic casualties on both sides. The complexities inherent in such a situation lay bare the ethical dilemmas faced by military forces operating in densely populated areas.

The urgency of military action against Hamas has also been voiced by other Israeli officials. Notably, Avi Hyman, another spokesperson, claimed that Israel would aim to eradicate Hamas within weeks, underscoring a pressing need to address the threats posed to Israeli citizens. This narrative of urgency has resonated widely, affecting public perceptions and policies regarding the military approach in Gaza.

In contrast, voices like Prince Turki Al-Faisal, the former head of Saudi Arabian intelligence, have highlighted the broader implications for peace talks in the region, examining how the actions of both Israel and Hamas influence the prospects for a two-state solution. Al-Faisal's insights stress the intricate interplay of regional and international dynamics that shape the ongoing conflict, suggesting that any resolution necessitates constructive dialogue amongst all parties involved.

These layered interactions and perspectives encapsulate the broader struggle for understanding and resolution in the ongoing conflict, revealing how entrenched positions can stifle progress while also igniting contentious debates over responsibility, narrative framing, and humanitarian considerations.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/israel-channel-4-hamas-krishnan-guru-murthy-b2763051.html), [[5]](https://www.channel4.com/news/were-protecting-ourselves-against-jihadis-israeli-spokesperson)
* Paragraph 2 – [[2]](https://www.channel4.com/news/hamas-cannot-stay-in-gaza-says-former-israeli-general), [[3]](https://www.channel4.com/news/we-will-destroy-hamas-in-weeks-says-israeli-government-spokesperson)
* Paragraph 3 – [[4]](https://www.channel4.com/news/those-refusing-to-leave-gaza-probably-hamas-israeli-special-envoy), [[6]](https://www.channel4.com/news/is-peace-possible-with-netanyahu-in-israel-and-hamas-in-gaza)
* Paragraph 4 – [[2]](https://www.channel4.com/news/hamas-cannot-stay-in-gaza-says-former-israeli-general), [[7]](https://www.mediaite.com/uk/cannot-be-trusted-israeli-official-accuses-un-of-covering-up-hamas-tunnels-when-pushed-for-unwra-claim-evidence/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://www.channel4.com/news/we-will-destroy-hamas-in-weeks-says-israeli-government-spokesperson)
* Paragraph 6 – [[6]](https://www.channel4.com/news/is-peace-possible-with-netanyahu-in-israel-and-hamas-in-gaza)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/israel-channel-4-hamas-krishnan-guru-murthy-b2763051.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.channel4.com/news/hamas-cannot-stay-in-gaza-says-former-israeli-general> - In a Channel 4 News interview, Brigadier General Amir Avivi, a former Israeli military officer, stated that Hamas cannot remain in Gaza. He emphasised the need for Hamas to lay down its weapons and leave the area to end the conflict. Avivi also highlighted the suffering of Israeli civilians due to Hamas's actions and the importance of eradicating Hamas as a governing and military entity in Gaza. The interview was conducted by Krishnan Guru-Murthy on 27 January 2025.
3. <https://www.channel4.com/news/we-will-destroy-hamas-in-weeks-says-israeli-government-spokesperson> - Avi Hyman, an Israeli government spokesperson, appeared on Channel 4 News on 26 February 2024, stating that Israel intends to destroy Hamas within weeks. The interview, conducted by Krishnan Guru-Murthy, discussed Israel's military objectives and the urgency of addressing Hamas's threat to Israeli citizens. Hyman emphasised the need for decisive action to ensure the safety and security of Israel.
4. <https://www.channel4.com/news/those-refusing-to-leave-gaza-probably-hamas-israeli-special-envoy> - Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, the Israeli Special Envoy for the Foreign Ministry, appeared on Channel 4 News on 5 February 2025. She discussed the situation in Gaza, suggesting that Palestinians refusing to leave the area were likely affiliated with Hamas. The interview, conducted by Krishnan Guru-Murthy, delved into the complexities of the conflict and the challenges in distinguishing between civilians and Hamas members in Gaza.
5. <https://www.channel4.com/news/were-protecting-ourselves-against-jihadis-israeli-spokesperson> - David Mencer, an Israeli government spokesperson, appeared on Channel 4 News on 3 June 2025. In the interview with Krishnan Guru-Murthy, Mencer discussed Israel's military actions in Gaza, stating that Israel is engaged in a war against Hamas, not against Gazans. He emphasised the importance of protecting Israeli citizens from jihadist threats and the necessity of dismantling Hamas's military capabilities.
6. <https://www.channel4.com/news/is-peace-possible-with-netanyahu-in-israel-and-hamas-in-gaza> - Prince Turki Al-Faisal, former head of Saudi Arabia's intelligence service, appeared on Channel 4 News on 13 September 2024. In the interview with Krishnan Guru-Murthy, Al-Faisal discussed the prospects for peace between Israel and Hamas, the role of Saudi Arabia in the Middle East, and the challenges in achieving a two-state solution. He also addressed the complexities of regional dynamics and the importance of international involvement in the peace process.
7. <https://www.mediaite.com/uk/cannot-be-trusted-israeli-official-accuses-un-of-covering-up-hamas-tunnels-when-pushed-for-unwra-claim-evidence/> - An Israeli official accused the United Nations of 'covering up' Hamas tunnels when pressed for evidence regarding UNRWA staff's alleged involvement with Hamas. The official stated that the UN 'cannot be trusted' and was 'unaware' of the evidence provided. This accusation highlights ongoing tensions between Israel and the UN over the conflict in Gaza and the role of UNRWA staff in the region.