# Biden's Policy Swings and International Pressures: Impact on Israel-Gaza Conflict



**Key Developments in the Israel-Gaza War and Biden Administration's Actions**

The ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict, now in its eighth month, has involved significant U.S. political maneuvers and international diplomacy. On May 8, 2024, President Biden announced the suspension of a weapons shipment to Israel, warning that further actions could follow if Israel proceeded with a planned ground invasion of Rafah in Gaza. However, less than a week later, his administration notified Congress of over $1 billion in new arms deals for Israel, indicating a shift back to full support.

Biden's initial suspension included the delay of 3,500 bombs. Additionally, he cautioned Israel against advancing into Rafah, where 1.4 million Palestinians have sought refuge. However, ongoing supply deals, such as $700 million in tank ammunition and $500 million in tactical vehicles, contradict this stance. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan met with Israeli officials, emphasizing the need for a political strategy to complement military actions and ensure humanitarian aid.

The conflict has seen high casualties, with the Gaza Health Ministry reporting at least 35,456 deaths and 79,476 injuries, predominantly women and children. Israel's October 7 cross-border attacks by Hamas initiated the conflict, resulting in around 1,200 Israeli deaths. The humanitarian situation in Gaza remains dire, with considerable displacement and limited aid access due to Israeli restrictions.

The Biden administration faces criticism for inconsistent policies, despite expressing concerns for Palestinian civilians. High-profile figures, including Democratic donors, influenced the administration's reversal on arms suspensions. Reports and observations from rights groups highlight significant hardships in Gaza, challenging the administration's assurances of Israel’s compliance with international law.

In light of political tensions, including those within Israel's War Cabinet and Netanyahu's fragile coalition, international and U.S. pressures continue to shape the conflict. Despite a temporary hold on arms, substantial military support from the U.S. persists.