# Deadly Israeli Strike in Gaza's Rafah Sparks International Concerns



### Deadly Israeli Strike in Gaza's Rafah Raises International Tensions

This week, an Israeli strike in Rafah, Gaza's southernmost city, resulted in at least 45 Palestinian deaths and hundreds of injuries. The attack set fire to a makeshift tent camp sheltering refugees. Images of the aftermath have proliferated, intensifying calls for U.S. President Joe Biden to reconsider U.S. support for Israel.

White House spokesperson John Kirby emphasized that a major ground operation in Rafah is not warranted according to current U.S. policy. However, Israeli operations have already displaced many Rafah residents and strained humanitarian efforts by closing the main border crossing into Egypt.

Israeli National Security Adviser Tzachi Hanegbi has indicated that operations in Gaza could continue for at least another seven months to dismantle Hamas' military capabilities. Political dynamics in the U.S. could shift, with former President Donald Trump indicating policies that would favor Israel if he returned to office.

In concurrent developments, President Biden has approved Ukraine's use of U.S.-supplied arms to defend Kharkiv against Russian offensives. The policy shift permits strikes on Russian forces but maintains restrictions on long-range missile use inside Russia. Ukrainian forces have targeted Kerch port in Crimea, disrupting Russian military logistics.

The geopolitical landscape remains complex, as China declined participation in Switzerland’s planned Ukraine peace conference, citing the absence of both Russia and Ukraine. Meanwhile, NATO's support for Ukraine, including the provision of F-16 fighter jets, has prompted Russian warnings of nuclear escalation.

These events underscore the intricate and evolving nature of global conflicts and their far-reaching impacts.