# Israeli Ministers Threaten Resignation Over Ceasefire Plan as Coalition Government Hangs in the Balance



Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir have threatened to resign and potentially collapse Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s coalition government if he agrees to a ceasefire plan proposed by US President Joe Biden. The US-backed plan aims to initiate a six-week ceasefire, facilitate the release of hostages, and lead to a permanent cessation of hostilities alongside major reconstruction efforts in Gaza.

Smotrich and Ben-Gvir insist on the destruction of Hamas before any ceasefire and have publicly stated their intentions to dissolve the government should Netanyahu accept the proposal. Conversely, opposition leader Yair Lapid has pledged support for Netanyahu if he proceeds with the US plan.

While President Biden’s three-part deal seeks a temporary ceasefire and aims eventually to end the conflict, Netanyahu asserts that a permanent truce is contingent on Israel's conditions: dismantling Hamas’s military and governance, ensuring the release of all hostages, and eliminating threats from Gaza.

The proposal has garnered international mediation efforts from Egypt, Qatar, and the US, urging both parties to finalize the agreement. Meanwhile, UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak voiced support, noting that more aid could flow into Gaza if Hamas assents to the plan.

Hostilities continue, particularly in Rafah and northern Gaza, amid persistent air strikes and ground conflict. The war began on October 7, 2023, following an attack by Hamas gunmen on Israel.