# Israeli Reservists Grapple with Uncertainty Over Gaza's Post-War Governance



### Israeli Reservists Face Uncertainty About Post-War Gaza Management

Israel-Gaza Border - As the conflict between Israel and Hamas continues, Israeli reservists play a critical role in the military operation. However, there is significant uncertainty and lack of consensus about how to handle the Gaza Strip once the fighting ends.

**Who:** Among the reservists is Lia Golan, a 24-year-old tank instructor and student at Tel Aviv University, who has expressed concerns about the unclear future strategy for Gaza. Ariel Heimann, a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv and former chief reserve officer for the Israel Defense Forces, highlighted the strain on reservists, likening overuse to stretching a rubber band until it snaps.

**What:** The Israeli government, led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, has not reached a consensus on Gaza’s post-war governance. This indecision has caused tension within Netanyahu's coalition and the war cabinet. Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and war cabinet member Benny Gantz have publicly voiced their opposition to indefinite Israeli military rule over Gaza, which some believe would lead to prolonged conflict and economic strain.

**Where:** The conflict mainly centers around Gaza, particularly in areas like Rafah and Jabalya, where recent military operations have taken place.

**When:** The current war broke out on October 7, 2023, after Hamas launched a large-scale attack on Israel, killing around 1,200 people and kidnapping more than 250. The war has continued for several months with no clear end in sight.

**Perspective:** Different reservists have varied opinions on Gaza's future. Some, like Yechezkal Garmiza from the Givati Brigade, advocate for re-occupying Gaza to prevent future conflicts. Others, like special forces commander Oren Shvill, hope for an international solution that excludes Hamas governance.

**Impacts:** The ongoing conflict has resulted in significant casualties and humanitarian issues. Over 293 Israeli troops and more than 36,000 Palestinians have lost their lives, with vast destruction and displacement occurring within Gaza. The conflict has strained community and family dynamics, with many reservists caught between their military duties and civilian lives.

**Conclusion:** The future of Gaza remains a heavily debated and unresolved issue. Israeli reservists, crucial to the ongoing military efforts, are left questioning the long-term strategy and implications of their service.