



Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs

המרכז הירושלמי לענייני ציבור ומדינה

Claim: An Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank would bring peace.

Response:

1. Every insurgent or terrorist movement needs a safe haven to operate from - one that is outside the control of the state being targeted and preferably in a land that is free from interference by the target state.
2. Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon allowed Hizbullah to step up activities there, and its withdrawal from Gaza paved the way for Hamas's takeover. Both of those groups have launched attacks from those regions, killing many Israelis.
3. An Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank would not satisfy extremist groups such as Hamas, which are committed to the destruction of all of Israel. If anything, it would embolden them while offering them a safe haven with which to escalate activities and use as a launching ground for further terrorist attacks. Any move to totally cede control of the West Bank or a part of Jerusalem to the Palestinians would create an immense risk to Israeli citizens.



Source: [Will an IDF Withdrawal from the West Bank Mean a Safe Haven for Extremist Groups?](#)
By Col. Richard Kemp

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