

How Hamas Has Turned the Ceasefire Into a Strategic Advantage

The Lie:

- Hamas is adhering to the ceasefire terms.

The Truth:

- Hamas has violated every single condition of the Trump-brokered ceasefire — militarily, politically, economically, and humanitarily — from day one.

Background:

- President Trump's **October 10, 2025** Gaza plan created a ceasefire, released the last *living* hostages, and required Hamas to **disarm, stay behind the yellow line**, and **return all hostages — including bodies — within 72 hours**.
- The "yellow line" is the boundary inside Gaza where Israeli forces withdrew to under the ceasefire, marking the limit Hamas was required to stay behind as part of the truce conditions.

Truth Explained:

- Instead of complying, Hamas has used the ceasefire to rebuild power, rearm, and tighten its grip over 2 million Gazans.
- Hamas murdered three Israeli soldiers during the ceasefire by crossing into areas Israel controls under the agreement — a direct violation of the ceasefire's security terms. <https://x.com/IsraelWarRoom/status/1988987507757756848>
- Hamas still has not returned the bodies of three hostages — Ran Gvili, Dror Or, and Sutthisak Rintalak — despite being required to return **all** bodies within 72 hours of the US-brokered ceasefire coming into effect. The deadline passed more than a month ago. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bymwkwfwlwx>
- Hamas used hostage-search operations as a pretext to plant explosives and attempt to **injure or kill IDF soldiers**, turning a humanitarian mechanism into a staging ground for attacks. <https://x.com/IsraelWarRoom/status/1988987507757756848>
- Hamas has reestablished its rule in Gaza by **killing dozens of Palestinians it accuses of “collaboration”** and by **retaking control of Gaza's economy by monitoring goods, taxing fuel and cigarettes, and fining merchants**. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/hamas-quietly-reasserts-control-gaza-post-war-talks-grind-2025-11-14/>
- Hamas is collecting taxes, fees, and revenue from displaced families, refugees, businesses, and bereaved households — “collecting millions” — to rebuild its military and payroll under the ceasefire. <https://x.com/afalkhatib/status/1854567518170161432>

Quotes

- **“They have failed to return all hostages within 72 hours. That deadline passed a month ago.”** — IDF spokesperson (Israel War Room)
- **“Hamas is taxing Gazans heavily to pay its fighters.”** — Gazan civilian (Center for Peace Communications)
- **“Hamas actions give a clear indication that Hamas wants to continue to govern.”** — Munther al-Hayek, Fatah spokesperson (Reuters)

Takeaway:

Hamas has treated the ceasefire as an opportunity to rebuild its power, violating security terms, refusing its hostage obligations, reimposing taxes on civilians, and reestablishing military positions across Gaza. Does this surprise anyone?