



Landscaping Israel's Political and Security Situation:

The Israel Defense Forces

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2018

Overview of the Israel Defense Forces:

The Israel Defense Forces is one of the most highly trained militaries in the world. They serve to defend the existence, and sovereignty of the state of Israel. The IDF has mandatory conscription for both men and women at age 18, with men serving two years and eight months and women serving two years. Israel has over 170,000 active duty personnel, and over 400,000 reservists.¹

The Israeli Air Force is one of the most sophisticated in the world, and has been the first to use the state of the art F-35 in combat. It is supplied mostly by the United States and their substantial military aid.

The Israeli Navy has complete control over the Israeli coastline, as well as dominance over Gaza, and the Gulf of Aqaba. It includes a number of Corvettes, Missile Boats, and Submarines.

In addition to their offensive capabilities, Israel can defend itself from a number of external threats. Their Iron Dome system prevents short-range rockets and mortars from hitting Israeli cities, Arrow rockets and David's Sling can prevent medium and long range ballistic missiles.² Israel is also rumored to have nuclear capabilities, but this has not been confirmed.

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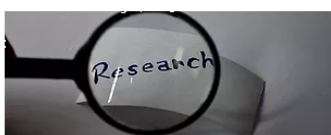
¹ https://www.globalfirepower.com/country-military-strength-detail.asp?country_id=israel

² <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-successfully-tests-missile-defense-systems/>



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