

BENNY GANTZ, GABI ASHKENAZI,

Against the backdrop of coalition negotiations, we, the hundreds of members of Commanders for Israel's Security (CIS) and other former senior officers of the IDF, the Mossad, the Israel Security Agency and the Police, found it essential to issue this warning:

The Corona situation, one of the most severe crises since the establishment of the State of Israel, demonstrates how unanticipated developments become major threats to each individual and the nation as a whole. We call attention to another, equally potentially ominous development: unilateral annexation.

CIS analysis concluded that unilateral annexation has the potential to ignite a serious conflagration. It shows that any partial annexation is likely to set in motion a chain reaction over which Israel will have no control, leading to the collapse of the Palestinian security agencies and of the Palestinian authority. This, in turn, would require Israel to take full control over the entire West Bank, and assume responsibility for the lives of its 2.6 million Palestinians. Such unilateral steps would jeopardize the peace treaty and security cooperation with Jordan, coordination with the Palestinian security forces, and the very Jewish character of the State.

Furthermore, the annual cost of assuming responsibility for civilian life in the territories would reach NIS 52 billion. The corona crisis, which exposed the limitations of Israel's health care system, and the vast economic damage it has caused, should serve as a warning of what is in store if we are forced to care for – and finance – millions of Palestinians, once annexed to Israel.

You, the government and the Knesset must refrain from taking such irresponsible measures, but rather ensure that:

- Prior to voting in support of unilateral annexation of any kind, every MK and cabinet member demand that relevant government agencies challenge our findings and hold a transparent discussion of their conclusions.
- A clear answer is provided to the question of what are the expected benefits from annexing territory where we already enjoy freedom of military and civilian action, that justify the risks we identified.
- Before making any decision about annexation, the government share with the public its full ramifications and the exit strategy from the ensuing military, economic and political imbroglio.

Do not proceed with unilateral annexation (of settlements, settlement blocs or the Jordan Valley), for Israel will have no control over the ensuing chain reaction.

THERE IS NO COST FREE ANNEXATION: WHAT STARTS WITH A PARTIAL ANNEXATION WILL LIKELY SPILL OVER INTO FULL-SCALE ONE.

[Signed by 220 generals and equivalents.]

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| Agmon, Yoram, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Dagul, Omri, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Iny, Freddy, Division Head (ret.) | Naaman, Benjamin (Benny), Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Sedaka, Dov (Fufi), Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Almog, Abraham, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Dar, Itzhak, Division Head (ret.) | Judith, Ben Nathan, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Naveh, Abraham, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Segev, Izak, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Almog, Zeev, V. Adm. (res.) | Davidov, Oded, Division Head (ret.) | Kadmiel, Doron, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Naveh, Avner, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shacham, Nisso, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) |
| Amir, Ronen, Division Head (ret.) | Dolev, Rachel, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Kanor, Zvi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Naveh, Gabby, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shachor, Ran, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Apel, Rafi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Dotan, Rami, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Katz, Amos, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Neumann, Mordechai (Motti), Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Shafir, Hertz, Commissioner (ret. Police); Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Arad, Schteinbach, Helena, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Dotan, Yishay, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Keidar, Moshe, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Nitzan, Noah, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shahar, Argaman, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Arad, Yitzhak, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Egozi, Shlomo, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Keinan, Giora, Division Head (ret.) | Olmert, Yermi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shaked, Nitzan, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Arbel, David, Division Head (ret.) | Eilam, Uzi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Kenig, Haim, Division Head (ret.) | Omri, Tamir, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shamai, Ran, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Arditi, Dani, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Einan, Menachem, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Keren, Aryeh, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Ophir, Aharon, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shamni, Gadi, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Arieli, Shaul, Col. (ret.) | Eldar, Yosef (Yose), Brig. Gen. (res.) | Kimchi, Hadar, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Ophir, Gabi, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Sharon, Menachem, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Asad, Amal, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Elia, Shlomo, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Kitrey, Ron, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Or, Jacob (Mendi), Maj. Gen. (res.) | Sharoni, Nati, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Asher, Danny, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Elran, Meir, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Kitron, Raphael, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Oron, Israela, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shavit, Shabtai, Former Director of the Mossad |
| Ashkenazi, Haim, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Erez, Amichai, Division Head (ret.) | Koren, Zeev, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Pardo, Tamir, Former Director of the Mossad | Shchori, Moshe, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ayalon, Ami, V. Adm. (res.); Former Director of the ISA | Erez, Haim, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Krause, David, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Paz, Ilan, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shefer, Gidon, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Azoulay, Avner, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Erez, Oded, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Krein, Sharag, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Paz, Mordechai, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Shiloach, Dov, Deputy Division Head (ret.) |
| Bacharach, Mena, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Even Zahav, Yehu, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Laher, Yaacov, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Peled, Shlomo, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Shmir, Yosi, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Baharav, Yisrael, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Evry Sukenik, Moshe, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Larone, Itzhak (Tzaki), Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Pellman, Arie, Division Head and Deputy Director of the ISA (ret.) | Shor, Tzvi, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Bar, Yehuda, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Frellich, David (Chuck), Deputy Head of the NSC (ret.) | Lavi, Erwin, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Perry, Golan, Division Head (ret.) | Simhony, Udi, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Barak, Haim, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Friedman, Alon, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Lavi, Israel, Division Head (ret.) | Perry, Jacob, Former Director of the ISA | Sne, Efraim, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Barak, Michal, Brig. Gen. (ret. IPS) | Friedman, Nitza, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Lazerson, Ishayah, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Perry, Yifon, Division Head (ret.) | Sofrin, Amnon, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Baratz, Oren, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Gal, Reuven, Deputy Head of the NSC (ret.) | Leder, Hezi, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Poleg, Zvi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Sonnenfeld, Rami, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) |
| Barzilay, Itzak, Division Head (ret.) | Gal, Shlomo, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Lempel, Itzhak, Division Head (ret.) | Rabin, Yitzhak, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Spector, Moshe, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben Baashat, David, V. Adm. (res.) | Gazit, Shlomo, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Leset, Gabby, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Raday, Peleg, Division Head (ret.) | Spiegel, Baruch, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben Bashat, David, V. Adm. (res.) | Gilboa, Eitan, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Leshem, Israel, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Rahav, Eli, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tal, Alex, V. Adm. (res.) |
| Ben Itzak, Uzi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Gilon, Carmi, Former Director of the ISA | Levi, Yosi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Ram (Furman), Giora, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tal, Ilan, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben Moshe, Shmuel, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Givoli, Shaul, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Levy, Asher, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Ram, Eliezer, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tamari, Dov, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben Porat, Mordechai, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Gofen, Haim, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Livne, Arie, Division Head (ret.) | Ram, Uri, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Taran, Benny, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben Reuven, Eyal, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Goldblatt, Mark, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Lotan, Rafael, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Ramat Shifman, Aryeh, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tiomkin, Moshe, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) |
| Ben Yishai, Meir, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Gonen, Yosef, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Luria, David, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Ramat, Gilad, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tomer, Heim, Division Head (ret.) |
| Ben-Abraham, Amos, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Goren, Shmuel, Division Head (ret.) | Maayan, Michael, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Raz, Gilad, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Tsur, David, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) |
| Ben-Yehuda, Ran, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Goren, Ran, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Malka, Rafi, Deputy Former Director of the ISA (ret.) | Raz, Oded, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Tsur, Eyal, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Ben-Zur, Barak, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Granot, Naftali, Deputy Director of the Mossad (ret.) | Mansour, David (Dudu), Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Raz, Yaacov, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Vardi, Aharon, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Bendel, Danny, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Gross, Ehud, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Mart, Yechiam, Division Head (ret.) | Regev, Hagai, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Vilnai, Matan, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Berger, Jacob (Yankel), Brig. Gen. (res.) | Gueron, Rolly, Division Head (ret.) | Meir, Shimon, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Reshef, Amnon, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Waxe, Shlomo, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Berkooz, Oded, Division Head (ret.) | Haik, Giora, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Melamed, Eyal, Division Head (ret.) | Revach, Moshe, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Yaari, Aviezer, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Brey, Yaacov, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Haran, Yaacov, Division Head (ret.) | Merhav, Reuven, Director Gen. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (ret.) | Rodman, Yoram, Brig. Gen. (ret. Police) | Yakuel, Eli, Deputy Division Head (ret.) |
| Brom, Shlomo, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Harrari, Matty, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Miltz, Amram, M.K.; Maj. Gen. (res.) | Romm, Giora, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Yami, Moshe, Division Head (ret.) |
| Chen, Yosef (Yosi), Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Haskel, Amir, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Mizrahi, Avi, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Rona, Elik, Maj. Gen. (ret. Police) | Yaron, Amos, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Cohen, Eli, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Hazak, Reuven, Deputy Director of the ISA (ret.) | Mizrahi, Ilan, National Security Advisor (ret.) | Ron, Aryeh, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Yaron, Ruth, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Cohen, Hagai, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Hefetz, Assaf, Commissioner (ret. Police) | Mizrahi, Orna, Deputy Director of the NSC (ret.) | Rothschild, Danny, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Yatom, Danny, Former Director of the Mossad; Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Cohen, Shlomo (Momo), Brig. Gen. (res.) | Hefetz, Shimon, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Morag, Ami, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Rubovitch, Haim, Division Head (ret.) | Yosefe, Eyal, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Cohen, Shlomo, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Hiram, Efraim, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Moran, Ami, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Sadeh, Menachem, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Zacharin, Zeev, Brig. Gen. (res.) |
| Cohen, Yoram, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Inbar, Giora, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Moschkovitch, Uzi, Maj. Gen. (res.) | Salvi, Udi, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Zamir, Avi, Maj. Gen. (res.) |
| Dagan, Avinoam, Division Head (ret.) | Inbar, Menashe, Brig. Gen. (res.) | Moshavi, Avi, Deputy Division Head (ret.) | Sarig, Shayke, Division Head (ret.) | Ze'evi-Farkash, Aharon, Maj. Gen. (res.) |

**THE PUBLIC MUST BE INFORMED,
AS THE PUBLIC WILL PAY THE PRICE.**

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