



By: TA | AP Insight

# Hamas will dissolve its Gaza government when new Palestinian body takes over



Hamas said it will dissolve its existing government in Gaza once a Palestinian technocratic leadership committee takes over the territory, as mandated under the U.S.-brokered peace plan. But the group gave no specifics on when the change will occur.

Hamas and the rival Palestinian Authority, the Palestinians' internationally recognized representative, have not announced the names of the technocrats, who are not supposed to be politically affiliated, and it remains unclear if they will be cleared by Israel and the U.S.

The "Board of Peace," an international body led by Trump, is supposed to oversee the government and other aspects of the **ceasefire** that took effect on Oct. 10, including disarming Hamas and deploying an international security force. The board's members have not been announced.

Meanwhile, the **post-ceasefire** death toll continued to rise in Gaza, with Israeli gunfire killing three Palestinians, according to Palestinian hospital officials.

The ceasefire began with a halt in fighting and the release of hostages held in Gaza in exchange for thousands of Palestinians held by Israel.

The deal is still in its first phase as efforts continue to recover the remains of the final hostage left in Gaza.

An Egyptian official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss closed-door information, said Hamas was sending a delegation to talks with Egyptian, Qatari and Turkish officials about moving to the second phase.

## Future Gaza governance in flux

In comments posted on his Telegram channel Sunday, Hazem Kassem, a Hamas spokesperson, called for speeding up the establishment of the technocratic committee.

The Egyptian official said Hamas will meet with other Palestinian factions this week to

finalize the committee's formation.

The Hamas delegation will be chaired by top negotiator Khalil al-Hayya, the official said.

Trump has said the "Board of Peace" will monitor the committee and handle the disarmament of Hamas, the deployment of an international security force, additional pullbacks of Israeli troops and Gaza's reconstruction.

The U.S. has reported little progress on any of these fronts, though the members of the board are expected to be announced this week.

## Bulgarian diplomat Nickolay Mladenov has been selected as the board's director-general

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Thursday that Bulgarian diplomat **Nickolay Mladenov** has been selected as the board's director-general.

Mladenov is a former Bulgarian defense and foreign minister who served as U.N. envoy to Iraq before being appointed as the U.N. Mideast peace envoy from 2015 to 2020.

During that time, he had good working relations with Israel and frequently worked to ease Israel-Hamas tensions.

Also Sunday, Israel's Foreign Minister Gideon Saar met in Jerusalem with Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi.

Saar said Israel was committed to enforcing Trump's plan, while Motegi expressed Japan's willingness to play an active role in the ceasefire.

According to Japan's Foreign Ministry, Motegi visited the Civil-Military Coordination Center, where the ceasefire is being monitored.

He was also set to meet Netanyahu and Palestinian officials in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

## Violence in Gaza continues

In Gaza, two men were shot dead in the southern town of Bani Suhaila, according to Nasser Hospital, which received the bodies. Earlier Sunday, a man was killed by Israeli gunfire in the Tuffah neighborhood of Gaza City, according to Al-Ahly hospital, which received the body.

In response to questions about the Tuffah incident, Israel's military said it had fired at and hit a "terrorist" in northern Gaza who had approached troops.



*The Israeli military says any actions since the ceasefire began have been in response to violations of the agreement*

In a later statement, the military said it had killed a "terrorist" in southern Gaza who approached troops.

Israel and Hamas have accused each other of violating the ceasefire. Continued Israeli strikes in Gaza have killed more than 400 Palestinians, according to local health officials.

The **Israeli military** says any actions since the ceasefire began have been in response to violations of the agreement.

## Israeli police detain top official

Israeli police said Sunday they were questioning a top official from Netanyahu's office over possible obstruction of an investigation into last year's leak of classified military information to a German tabloid.

Israeli media identified the official as Tzachi Braverman, Netanyahu's chief of staff, who is expected to start as the next ambassador to the United Kingdom in the coming months.

**Tzachi Braverman is the latest official to be caught up in the scandal, in which Netanyahu's inner circle is accused of leaking confidential information to German tabloid Bild**

He's the latest official to be caught up in the scandal, in which Netanyahu's inner circle is accused of leaking confidential information to German tabloid Bild to improve public perception of the prime minister following the killing of six hostages in Gaza in 2024.

It comes after an **explosive interview** by Kan News with former Netanyahu spokesperson Eli Feldstein, who described a clandestine meeting with Braverman in an underground parking lot in the middle of the night in connection with the leak.

Feldstein, who has been indicted, said Braverman offered to "shut down" the probe into the leaked information.

Opposition leader Yair Lapid immediately called for the suspension of Braverman as ambassador. "It is unacceptable that a person suspected of involvement in obstructing a serious security investigation should be the face of Israel in one of Europe's most important countries," Lapid wrote on X.

In response, Saar defended Braverman's appointment and said he would not be removed from it until formally charged or tried.