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Jerusalem Program LWF World Service

Situation Report, March 2nd, 2026

Disclaimer: This update is not intended to be a comprehensive overview of the events unfolding since 28 February 2026, when the U.S. and Israel launched massive, coordinated strikes on Iran.

Overview

Iran responded with large-scale missile and drone barrages against Israel, triggering widespread air-raid sirens in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, other parts of the country and in the West Bank. During the night from Sunday, 1 March, to Monday, 2 March, the IDF struck Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, and it appears that Hezbollah one of Iran's principal regional allies is now becoming engaged in the conflict.

The Augusta Victoria Hospital management activated its emergency protocols to ensure continuous staffing and safe commuting for staff and patients across checkpoints. The LWF Vocational Training Centers are closed, with teachers transitioning to online instruction. All schools remain closed and educational activities are conducted online. Most workplaces are shut except for essential services such as the Augusta Victoria Hospital, and public gatherings are prohibited. The Government of Israel has announced a 12-day extension of the special state of emergency. Ben Gurion Airport is closed to all flights until Friday, 6 March, at 10:00 a.m., subject to change depending on the security situation.

Israeli air-defense systems have intercepted incoming missiles, causing debris to fall in different areas, which poses significant danger. Prior to sirens sounding, residents receive alerts on their mobile phones warning of an imminent missile attack and urging them to seek shelter. However, there are no shelters in East Jerusalem or the West Bank. The IDF has imposed a full closure across the West Bank, and movement between governorates is prohibited until further notice.

In areas without shelters, the recommended safety procedure is to avoid open spaces and seek refuge inside a building, preferably on a lower floor or in a windowless room. Access to a basement provides an additional level of protection. After interceptions, there is typically prolonged noise from defense activity, followed by an official notice from the Home Front Command indicating when it is safe to leave the protected area.

Potential Impact on Gaza

The recent escalation between the U.S.–Israel alliance and Iran is unfolding while Gaza remains in an extreme humanitarian crisis, still suffering from years of war, siege, and intermittent ceasefires¹.

¹ https://gisha.org/en/the-humanitarian-catastrophe-in-gaza-facts-and-figures_eng/ Despite the ceasefire (entered October 2025), Israeli attacks from air, land, and sea have continued, killing 601 people and injuring 1,605 as of February 2026.



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Although Gaza is not directly involved in the Iran conflict, the political, security, and humanitarian consequences are immediate and significant. A major U.S.–Israel confrontation with Iran risks further sidelining Gaza globally, diverting attention from reconstruction efforts, ceasefire negotiations, and critical humanitarian needs. Gaza remains in catastrophic humanitarian condition, with its two million residents dependent on aid. A regional war threatens to further disrupt supply lines and humanitarian access, potentially restricting medical evacuations and the entry of supplies, food, and medical aid. Gaza’s population already heavily traumatized by years of conflict faces renewed anxiety under the shadow of the Iran escalation.
