

Fuel Battle Between Egypt and Israel, with Hamas as the Stakeholder

Hamza Hassan | November 1, 2023



The director of Al-Shifa Hospital in the Gaza Strip announced that the hospital's suspension of operations due to fuel shortages could exacerbate the health situation for patients, amid the ongoing conflict and restrictions on fuel entry into the territory.

Some analyses indicate that restrictions on fuel entry may affect the ability of local authorities to manage both military operations and medical supplies.

Pressure on Hamas

According to various reports, Hamas possesses a stockpile of fuel

used to operate certain infrastructure, including some military operations. Israeli authorities are working to prevent fuel from entering through the Rafah crossing in coordination with Egyptian authorities, which could affect different uses of fuel within the territory, including for hospitals.

Potential Impacts

Redirecting fuel from military use to hospitals could alter the distribution of resources in Gaza, with potential effects on both the management of military operations and the delivery of medical supplies. At the same time, some Arab and international actors may take official positions regarding the situation, including issuing statements on humanitarian and health conditions in Gaza.

Conclusion

The situation in Gaza reflects ongoing challenges in providing basic medical services due to fuel restrictions and the continuing conflict. The hospital and relevant authorities are working to manage these challenges within the resources available.