



This view shows the aftermath of a deadly blast that struck al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza City, on October 18, 2023.
ANADOLU

Surprise, surprise, Israel manipulated evidence

Iran FM calls for oil embargo, expelling Israeli envoys

Gaza war spillover to cost West economically: *Iran MPs*



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Economists believe that continuing the war in Gaza and expanding the scope of war on new fronts, apart from the increase in casualties and the creation of insecurity in the region, will have a devastating impact on the global economy, leading to rising inflation and worsening economic conditions in various parts of the world, especially Western countries.

They argue that the Middle East region, which holds nearly 50% of the world's oil reserves and about one-third of the world's liquefied natural gas, with nearly 25% of the world's total oil consumption passing through the strategic chokepoint of the Strait of Hormuz, is crucial to the United States and Western industrialized countries, which

rely on the region's fossil fuels. More than anything else, the expansion of war in the region puts pressure on the economies of the United States and Western countries.

Seyyed Mehdi Toghiani, a member of the Economic Committee of the Iranian Parliament, discussed the economic implications of the continuation of the Zionist regime's attacks on Gaza, saying, "The continuation of the war in Gaza will have far more negative economic consequences than the conflict in Russia and Ukraine. During the Russia-Ukraine conflict, many European countries heavily relied on Russian gas and grain, and the outbreak of this war caused significant turmoil in the European economic market and led to inflation in many countries that had not experienced the economic consequences of inflation before the war." He emphasized that the world's economic situation is not pre-

pared to accommodate another widespread war and cannot endure it. Toghiani said, "In any case, the United States and Western countries, whose economies are highly dependent on Middle Eastern fossil fuels, will be heavily burdened by the continuation and expansion of this war. This is because the issue of fuel and transit of goods through the region is vital, and if the war expands, it will affect fuel and transit in the region."

Gholamreza Marhaba, another member of the Economic Committee of the Iranian Parliament, commented on the possibility of new fronts opening against the Zionist regime and the expansion of war. He stated, "The more pressure is exerted on the Zionist regime by the world's countries, the possibility of a change in their strategy in Gaza and the cessation of their war crimes will be greater. When a discussion of sanctions and restrictions on oil exports

comes up, or if the expansion of war does not allow oil exports from Middle Eastern countries, the price of oil and energy will naturally rise significantly, because the issue of fuel and energy prices is greatly influenced by political factors."

Ali Rezaei, another member of the Economic Committee of the Iranian Parliament, said to Iran Daily: "The outbreak of war in any corner of the world has economic repercussions, and the expansion of the Gaza war will certainly impact global oil and energy prices and other areas. A major shock has entered the region, and if the conflict continues, freedom-loving and anti-oppressive countries worldwide may join the war in support of the Palestinian people's plight, and then the consequences of the expanding war will become apparent." He emphasized the dual and contradictory behavior of the United States in relation to the

Gaza war, saying, "On the one hand, US officials condemn the war, while, on the other hand, they supply military weapons to the Zionist regime and provide them with financial support, knowing full well that continuing the war does not benefit them in any way." Ebrahim Rezaei, a member of the National Security Committee of the Iranian Parliament, explained the situation in Gaza and stated, "Palestine has been the top issue in the Islamic world from the past until today. What we are witnessing today, a humanitarian crisis and a war crime in Gaza, makes the Gaza war a top priority for Is-

