

Introduction: The decades-long Israeli-Palestinian conflict saw a major escalation on October 7, 2023, when Hamas launched a major attack on Israel. (Reuters, 2024) Critical analysis related to offensive realist theory: Understanding power and security dynamics in international relations may be gained from an examination of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, particularly when seen through the prism of aggressive realism theory. Decades of failed peace negotiations, coupled with persistent violence and insecurity, have perpetuated a cycle of mistrust and hostility between Israelis and Palestinians. (Haushofer and associates, 2010) Fundamentally, offensive realism holds that nations are motivated by an unrelenting quest of power, which often takes the form of dominance over territory and military prowess. (Et al., Javadikouchaksaraei) With no centralized authority to enforce peace, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is characterized by a constant fight between the two parties for security and power, as highlighted by the aggressive realist approach. (Et al., Javadikouchaksaraei) According to an offensive realist approach, as long as the fundamental power balances do not alter, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is likely to persist in the future. This attack led to a series of intense military operations, (Reuters, 2024) as the IDF entered Gaza to clash with armed groups. As the conflict has continued, it has raised regional tensions and raised concerns about wider instability in the Middle East. They include historical injustices, territorial disputes, and competing claims over land and resources. In addition, the rise of extremist and unprovoked actions by Israel and the killing of civilians has complicated efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the conflict. (Britannica, 2024) Possible future developments: The future trajectory of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is yet unknown. The conflict has led to widespread destruction, displacement and loss of life, with casualties mounting on both sides. The reasons: The root causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict are multifaceted and deeply entrenched