

## 6.3. Areas controlled by different actors

### 6.3. Areas controlled by different actors

As of July 2025, the LAF had deployed over 5 000 of their planned 10 000 troops south of the Litani River, trying to take control of areas previously dominated by Hezbollah.<sup>[431](#)</sup> Despite this, Hezbollah continued to maintain presence in the south of Lebanon.<sup>[432](#)</sup> In August 2025, Daher stated that ‘in practice, Hezbollah retains influence in southern Lebanon, parts of the north-east, and Beirut’s southern suburbs, while the army is already deployed alongside Hezbollah in these areas, and the organisation maintains a presence beyond the south’.<sup>[433](#)</sup> Daher further noted that the ‘LAF and Hezbollah sometimes both operate on the ground in the same areas’.<sup>[434](#)</sup> However, ‘the groups co-exist rather than compete for control and are not hostile to each other’, according to Daher.<sup>[435](#)</sup> For more information on disarming Hezbollah and deployment of LAF to the south, see section [6.2 Overview of security dynamics related to recent developments with Israel](#).

As of September 2025, UNIFIL continued its mandate in southern Lebanon.<sup>[436](#)</sup> According to its August 2025 report, the mission operated from 50 positions along the Blue Line, supported by a Maritime Task Force of five patrolling ships, and was staffed by over 10 000 troops from around 50 countries, along with 800 civilian personnel.<sup>[437](#)</sup>

As of September 2025, Israel continued to maintain military positions at five locations in southern Lebanon <sup>[438](#)</sup> including Hamames hill (Marjayoun district), Labouneh/Alma al-Shaab (Sour), Jabal Blat near Ramaya (Bint Jbeil), Jal al-Deir south of Aitaroun (Bint Jbeil), and a newly established position along the Markaba-Houla road (Marjayoun).<sup>[439](#)</sup> These locations were chosen by the Israeli army for their elevation and proximity to the border, providing surveillance over areas linked to Hezbollah activity.<sup>[440](#)</sup> In addition, Israel has continued occupying the Shebaa Farms since 1967.<sup>[441](#)</sup> UNIFIL reported that the Israel Defense Forces remained in five positions and two buffer zones north of the Blue Line, while also observing their presence on at least 98 occasions outside these posts in areas such as Arab al-Luwayzah, Ghajar, Markaba, Ayta al-Sha‘b, Labouneh, Marwahin, Rumaysh and Ramiyah, often engaged in earthworks or installing concertina wire.<sup>[442](#)</sup>

On 21 December 2024, the LAF took control of three military bases in Bekaa that had for decades been held by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command (PFLP-GC) and Fatah al-Intifada (Palestinian factions), including positions in Sultan Yaaqoub and Hechmech, as part of efforts to confiscate weapons, dismantle non-state armed infrastructure, and extend state authority.<sup>[443](#)</sup> According to Arab News, these factions were historically aligned with the Syrian regime and later with Hezbollah, and the army seized weapons and equipment during the takeover.<sup>[444](#)</sup>

As of June 2025, a PLO delegation has been working with Lebanese officials in Beirut on a plan to disarm armed groups in all 12 Palestinian refugee camps in the country, aiming to strengthen state control, though the effort faced delays and resistance from factions not aligned with the Palestinian Authority.<sup>[445](#)</sup> The 12 official Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon are located across several cities and areas:<sup>[446](#)</sup> (1) Burj al-Barajneh in the southern suburbs of Beirut;<sup>[447](#)</sup> (2) Shatila in Beirut<sup>[448](#)</sup> (near Sabra, a neighbourhood that became an extension of the camp due to population displacement and informal settlement after 1948<sup>[449](#)</sup>); (3)

Mar Elias in southern Beirut;[450](#) (4) Dbayeh 12 kilometers north of Beirut;[451](#) (5) Nahr el-Bared near Tripoli;[452](#) (6) Beddawi northeast of Tripoli;[453](#) (7) Ain el-Helweh south of Saida;[454](#) (8) Mieh Mieh south of Saida;[455](#) (9) Rashidieh south of Tyre;[456](#) (10) El Buss south of Tyre;[457](#) (11) Burj Shemali near Tyre;[458](#) and (12) Al-Jalil[459](#), which is referred to as Wavel camp by UNRWA, located near Baalbeck in the Bekaa Valley.[460](#)

As of July 2025, Lebanon has dismantled over 500 arms sites in the south since the 2024 Israel-Hezbollah war[461](#) though the state has continued to struggle with controlling and securing its territory.[462](#)

On 27 August 2025, the International Crisis Group reported that Lebanon has relied increasingly on hybrid security arrangements, with formal agencies delegating tasks to informal actors: in Tripoli through local notables including crime figures; in Beirut's southern suburbs through cooperation with Hezbollah, Amal, and local clans; in refugee inhabitant areas through camp committees; in other communities through self-organised patrols.[463](#)

[431](#)

The Economist, A bloody week in Syria may have ripple effects in Lebanon, 24 July 2025, [url](#)

[432](#)

This is Beirut, Disarming Hezbollah: The Lebanese army challenge, 5 September 2025, [url](#); LWJ, Israeli operations in Lebanon against Hezbollah: July 14–20, 2025, 23 July 2025, [url](#); ACLED, A year of multi-front conflict: Israeli military operations in Gaza, the West Bank, and Lebanon, 12 December 2024, [url](#)

[433](#)

Daher A., Online interview, 13 August 2025, and email communication, 22 August 2025

[434](#)

Daher A., Online interview, 13 August 2025, and email communication, 22 August 2025

[435](#)

Daher A., Online interview, 13 August 2025, and email communication, 22 August 2025

[436](#)

UNIFIL, UNIFIL Mandate, 2 September 2025, [url](#)

[437](#)

UNIFIL, FAQs, information observed on 12 August 2025, [url](#)

[438](#)

Jazeera, Lebanon's terrible year: From exploding pagers to Israeli occupation, 17 September 2025, [url](#)

[439](#)

L'Orient Today, Israel to keep troops at five 'strategic points' in Lebanon beyond Tuesday, 17 February 2025, [url](#); RFI, L'armée israélienne va se maintenir dans cinq «points stratégiques» au Liban, 17 February 2025, [url](#); Al

[440](#)

L'Orient Today, Israel to keep troops at five 'strategic points' in Lebanon beyond Tuesday, 17 February 2025, [url](#); RFI, L'armée israélienne va se maintenir dans cinq «points stratégiques» au Liban, 17 February 2025, [url](#)

[441](#)

Britannica, Shebaa FormsFormsFarms, n.d., [url](#)

[442](#)

UNSG, Implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) during the period from 21 February to 20 June 2025, report of the Secretary-General, S/2025/460, 11 July 2025, [url](#), para. 13

[443](#)

The New Arab, Lebanese army takes over three bases previously held by armed Palestinian factions, 21 December 2024, [url](#); L'Orient Today, Lebanese Army takes over former Popular Front for Liberation of Palestine positions in Bekaa, 21 December 2025, [url](#); Arab News, Lebanese army reclaims Palestinian sites in Bekaa that served Syrian regime and Hezbollah, 21 December 2025, [url](#)

[444](#)

Arab News, Lebanese army reclaims Palestinian sites in Bekaa that served Syrian regime and Hezbollah, 21 December 2025, [url](#)

[445](#)

Al-Monitori, PLO officials in Lebanon as push to disarm Palestinian camps steam, 2 June 2025, [url](#)

[446](#)

This is Beirut, EXPLAINER: What Are the 12 Palestinian Camps in Lebanon?, 23 May 2025, [url](#)

[447](#)

UNRWA, Burj Barajneh Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[448](#)

UNRWA, Shatila Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[449](#)

UN Habitat, Sabra Neighbourhood profile, information observed on 10 October 2025, [url](#)

[450](#)

UNRWA, Mar Elias Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[451](#)

UNRWA, Dbayeh Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[452](#)

UNRWA, Nahr El-Bared Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[453](#)

UNRWA, Beddawi Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[454](#)

UNRWA, Ein El Hilweh Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[455](#)

UNRWA, Mieh Mieh Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[456](#)

UNRWA, Rashidieh Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[457](#)

UNRWA, EL Buss Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[458](#)

UNRWA, Burj Shemali Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[459](#)

This is Beirut, EXPLAINER: What Are the 12 Palestinian Camps in Lebanon?, 23 May 2025, [url](#)

[460](#)

UNRWA, Wavel Camp, last updated December 2023, information observed on 9 October 2025, [url](#)

[461](#)

Al-Monitori, With UNIFIL under attack, Lebanon says 500 arms depots dismantled, 10 June 2025, [url](#)

[462](#)

The Economist, A bloody week in Syria may have ripple effects in Lebanon, Malcolm H. Kerr Carnegie Middle East Center, 24 July 2025, [url](#)

[463](#)

International Crisis Group, Supporting Effective Policing by Lebanon's Embattled Security Agencies, 27 August 2025, [url](#)

© European Union Agency for Asylum 2026 | Email: [info@euaa.europa.eu](mailto:info@euaa.europa.eu)