

List of Terms and Abbreviations

Al-Saiqa	“Thunderbolt,” Palestinian PVM integrated into Syrian armed forces
Al-Qaida	“The Base/Source,” Islamist-jihadist PVM umbrella organization governed by the tenets of Wahabism
Al-Qods Brigade	“Jerusalem Brigade,” elite Pasdaran special operations formation
APF	Alliance of Palestinian Forces, Iranian-Syrian engineered rejectionist framework emerging in the wake of the Oslo Agreement.
DFLP	Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Syrian-funded, Marxist-Leninist Palestinian PVM
Deuxième Bureau	Early Syrian intelligence agency
HAMAS	Harakat al-Muqawama al-Islamiyya, (Islamic Resistance Movement) Jihadist-rejectionist Palestinian PVM
Hezbollah	“Party of God,” Lebanese Shi’ite PVM
IDF	Israel Defense Forces (“Zahal”)
IRGC	Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (“Pasdaran”)
Izzeldin al-Kassam Brigades	Alleged “military wing” of Hamas, operating under the direct leadership of the Hamas “political wing”
LF	The Lebanese Forces rose to become the most significant Christian Maronite Force in Lebanon after the outbreak of the Civil War in 1976
MEK	Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, the “People’s Mujahadeen” is the largest PVM opposed to Khomeini’s theocratic state in Iran
Mukhabarat	Compound of security services in authoritarian Arab states
PA	Palestinian Authority, quasi-sovereign successor to the Palestinian Liberation Organization
Peshmerga	Kurdish guerrilla forces fighting for an independent Kurdistan
PFLP	Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Syrian-funded, Marxist Palestinian PVM
PFLP-GC	Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Syrian-directed and funded Palestinian PVM
Phalange	Conservative, right-wing Christian Maronite political movement in Lebanon

PIJ	Harakat al-Jihad al-Islami al Filastini (Palestinian Islamic Jihad), Jihadist-rejectionist Palestinian PVM
PKK	“Partiya Karkeren Kurdistan” – the Kurdistan Worker’s Party constitutes the major Kurdish guerrilla group inside Turkey. It has recently assumed the designation KADEK (Kurdistan Freedom and Democracy Congress)
PLO	Palestinian Liberation Organization, umbrella organization subsuming most of the Palestinian PVMs
PVM	Political Violence Movement
Return Brigades	“Kata’ab al-Awda” – Palestinian Jihadist PVM recruited by Hezbollah with the support of the Pasdaran and Fatah members in the PA
Shihab-3	Recently tested and fully operational Iranian ballistic missile delivery system for conventional and unconventional munitions with a range of 1,300 kilometers
SLA	South Lebanon Army, a Christian militia financed and trained by Israel with a view to control the Israeli security zone in the south of Lebanon; largely defunct in the wake of the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon in June 2000