

## The Potential Threat of a Far-Right Coalition with WMD as Israel's Election Looms

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As a consequence of government policy, Germany's Chancellor, Angela Merkel, has given the state of Israel ultimate military control over both the Mediterranean (and therefore Europe) and the entire Persian Gulf.

Merkel's difficult relationship with Israel's current right-wing, prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu has not prevented her decision to increase the supply to the Israeli Navy of Type 800 Dolphin Class, nuclear-powered, diesel-electric, AIP submarines, to six. This fleet of nuclear-armed warships, 57m long x 7m wide, with the most advanced sailing and combat systems in the world, were developed and constructed by the HDW shipyard in Kiel; cost over \$320 million each and were heavily subsidised by the German government.

Israel has reportedly already modified these undersea strike vessels to being each armed with long-range, turbo cruise missiles (SLCMs) equipped with nuclear warheads (that could reach any part of Europe or the Gulf), plus a maximum of 16 torpedoes – a naval task-force capable of destroying half the world. It also gives the Israeli government an offshore, second strike, nuclear capability.

Germany itself has no such massive nuclear armament, neither has France, Britain or any European state, for Israel is estimated to also possess up to 400 undeclared nuclear warheads. All of which means that Merkel has effectively made Israel into the most lethal, nuclear weapons state outside of the US or Russia.

The rationale for Merkel's strategic error in altering the balance of power not only in the Middle East but also in Europe, is unknown, but would seem to stem from a misplaced guilt for the victims of the Holocaust – a European genocide that ended over a decade before Angela Merkel was born.

It is too late, of course, to reverse her inexplicable decision to supply and deliver these now nuclear-armed submersibles to the government of the most contentious piece of land on earth but, inevitably, Europe and the world will, in future, look back on this German military supply to a non-European navy as one of the defining, strategic errors of the 21st century – and a potentially very serious, military threat.

For the record:

1. Israel – unlike the whole of Europe, North America and even Iran – refuses to be a party to the nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

2. Israel, together with North Korea and Pakistan, refuses to submit its nuclear weapons

arsenal to IAEA inspection.

3. Israel refuses to be a party to either the Chemical or Biological Weapons Conventions (CWC / BWC) which have been ratified both by all EU member states, and the U.S.

As Israel prepares to elect its next government, perhaps the foregoing verifiable facts send a message.

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