

Beat: Politics

## France is neither pro Palestine, nor pro Israel

### France wants PEACE in the near East

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**USPA NEWS** - That's what was declared by the President of the Republic of France, François Hollande in his interview (to Gilles Bouleau and David Pujadas journalists of TF1 and France, French TV) on the occasion of the national Day on July 14th, 2014.

About the issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the Middle East François Hollande explained :

"What it was ? First of all there were three young Israelis who were murdered. Then there was a young Palestinian lynched, burned alive by few extremist Israelis, and then there has been a climbing. A rocket launched from Gaza into Israel, and then Israel's response to the Gaza Strip with indeed many deaths of civilians, sometimes dramatic children. So what I said. Israel has the right to its security, Israel can defend itself if attacked at the same time, Israel must have the candidate must have the reserve compared to abuses and especially what I said, quickly even a ceasefire is agreed, but today there rocket attacks that were sent to Gaza, and then there were climbing. I told you, three young Israeli and a Palestinian who was lynched and civilian population of Gaza. I'm not here to say that we are pro-Israeli or pro Palestinian, we are for peace. The role of France is what? Is to get all mediations. This is what I do for a few days, going to convince those who have an influence on Hamas (French President, François Hollande called Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and later Tunisian President Moncef Marzouki) on the Gaza Strip and then try to put pressure on Israel, because the situation in the Near East can be explosive and can cause very significant losses. On the other hand, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can not be imported into France".

Moreover he addressed his concern to Mahmood Abbas on the situation in Gaza and deplored the military operations and the many Palestinian victims. Insisting that "Everything must be done to restore the truce established in 2012." This is the message that France has today brought to the Security Council.

Meanwhile he talked to Moncef Marzouki, in this decisive moment, to combine their efforts in France and Tunisia and to use all the possibilities of mediation with other partners to achieve a ceasefire as soon as possible.

As summarized by the French President, the kill of first 3 Israelis by Palestinians (Cis Jordan), ensued by the lynching of the young Palestinian boy by extremists Israelis (East Jerusalem), have led to a climbing attack from Israel, and response on the part of Hamas, by rocket without sparing civilians (including women and children) with heavy human losses from the Palestinian side. The death toll rose again with 172 Palestinians killed, and 1200 wounded overwhelmingly civilians during the last 7 days of conflict.

### THE REACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The Arab League calls on the international community to protect the Palestinians from Gaza to the seventh day of the Israeli offensive. The death toll rose again with 172 Palestinians killed, 1200 wounded overwhelmingly civilians. For the first time since the conflict a rocket shot from Syria landed on the Golan Heights occupied by Israel. There are no casualties, the IDF responded with artillery fire targeting Syrian positions.

Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Pan Arab countries will meet today in Cairo on the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip to find a solution to stop the bloodshed of Palestinian civilians and find common solution according to a statement from the Foreign affairs

Meanwhile, the American Secretary of State, John Kerry should go tomorrow in Cairo to discuss a ceasefire.

In Ramallah, Mahmoud Abbas, the Palestinian President, very quiet since the crisis urges UN to place Palestine under International Protection of the United Nations, as he sent a request to the General Secretariat of the United Nations Ban Ki Moon and also calls for the creation immediate commission of inquiry.

While the verbal diplomacy European side is running through mediations, the intervention of the American side tries also to reach a ceasefire alongside the Arab League, by attending at the meeting in Cairo. As for the famous activist Leila Shahid, General Delegate of the Palestinian Authority, (since 2005) in France who is also ambassador to the Palestine with the EU has expressed in several French media (RFI, France 24) by reporting the "cowardice or complicity of the international community about 47 occupation by Israel."

She added that it is the situation that gets unstable in major Western capitals unless John Kerry leads peace through the efforts he has already deployed since 9 months, by the side of its allies of the EU.

The wish of Ms. Shahid seems to develop slowly and gradually through diplomacy, remains whether the Security Council will effectively impose or not, binding resolutions to Israel as she asks. Meanwhile, the meeting of the Arab League in Cairo is imminent.

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