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*Plenary sitting*

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**B9-0557/2022**

9.12.2022

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 132(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the prospects for the two-state solution for Israel and Palestine  
(2022/2949(RSP))

**Angel Dzhambazki, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Charlie Weimers, Joachim  
Stanisław Brudziński, Valdemar Tomaševski, Assita Kanko, Carlo  
Fidanza, Adam Bielan, Denis Nesci, Alexandr Vondra**  
on behalf of the ECR Group

**European Parliament resolution on the prospects for the two-state solution for Israel and Palestine  
(2022/2949(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to its previous resolutions on the Middle East peace process,
  - having regard to the EU-Israel Association Council meeting and statement of 3 October 2022,
  - having regard to the Abraham Accords,
  - having regard to Rule 132(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas Israel, the EU and the Quartet support a negotiated two-state outcome as the way to achieve an enduring peace that meets Israeli security needs and Palestinian aspirations;
- B. whereas the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict remains a key priority for the international community; whereas the Abraham Accords have sought to advance regional security, prosperity and peace in the region and they provide an unprecedented opportunity to strengthen cooperation in promoting tolerance and countering extremism in the Middle East region;
- C. whereas according to Palestinian and Israeli public opinion polls, public support for the two-state solution has declined in both Israel and the Palestinian territories since the signing of the Oslo Accords;
- D. whereas Israel is a democratic state, which held its last legislative elections on 1 November 2022; whereas the last Palestinian parliamentary elections were held in 2006, which resulted in a victory for the EU-listed terrorist organisation Hamas in Gaza and led to its subsequent bloody takeover of the territory from Fatah; whereas the last Palestinian presidential elections were held in January 2005, when the current Palestinian president, Mahmoud Abbas, was elected to succeed former Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat for a four-year term;
- E. whereas according to Palestinian polls conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PCPSR), including the most recent survey conducted in September 2022, if elections between current Palestinian President Abbas and the leader of the EU-listed terrorist organisation Hamas, Haniyyeh, were to be held in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, President Abbas would receive 38 % of the Palestinian vote while Haniyyeh would receive 53 %; whereas according to the same poll if presidential elections were to be held between Marwan Barghouti, who is serving a life sentence in an Israeli jail for his involvement in terrorist attacks against Israelis, and Haniyyeh, Barghouti would receive 63 % while Haniyyeh would receive 33 %; whereas such figures raise credible concerns regarding terrorists running for Palestinian political

office and a possible Hamas takeover of the West Bank if Palestinian elections were to take place; whereas PCPSR polls consistently find that around half of Palestinians support an armed struggle against Israel, while the other half oppose it;

- F. whereas according to the PCPSR poll of September 2022, 86 % of Palestinians in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza say that there is corruption in Palestinian Authority institutions and 73 % say that there is corruption in the institutions under Hamas's control in Gaza;
  - G. whereas seven of the 21 organisations listed on the EU terrorist list are Palestinian; whereas Hamas and other EU-listed Palestinian terrorist organisations use hybrid terror tactics, including knife and bomb attacks against Israeli civilians, as well as the firing of rockets from Gaza at Israel, deliberately seeking to hit civilian areas;
  - H. whereas terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians have increased in the West Bank in recent years; whereas on 22 November 2022, two separate terrorist attacks in Jerusalem killed an Israeli-Canadian citizen and injured at least 10 others;
  - I. whereas terrorism, incitement and violence are incompatible with the peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; whereas the EU and the international community have repeatedly recognised Israel's right to exist and its right to defend itself against terrorism;
  - J. whereas the EU has continuously called for all militant groups in the Gaza Strip to disarm, has condemned the rocket attacks on Israel as unacceptable and condemned the tunnel construction by Hamas and other militant groups to infiltrate Israeli territory;
  - K. whereas the EU has recalled that the situation in the Gaza Strip has to be seen within the broader context of the Middle East peace process and has on various occasions reiterated its support for the Palestinian Authority to exert full control over Gaza;
  - L. whereas the international community has continuously called for the repatriation of the remains of Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul to Israel as they are being held in violation of international humanitarian law in Gaza and whereas the international community has expressed unanimous solidarity with the Goldin and Shaul families;
- 1. Reiterates its continued support for a negotiated 'two states for two peoples' solution with the mutual recognition of Israel and Palestine as the homelands of their respective peoples; recalls the EU's commitment to a negotiated and viable two-state solution, with a secure Israel and an independent, democratic and viable state of Palestine, living side by side in peace, security and mutual recognition;
  - 2. Calls on both sides to support a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that aims to ensure peace and security and the return of direct bilateral peace negotiations without delay; expresses concern at the declining support for a two-state solution amongst the Israeli and Palestinian publics; calls on the Israeli and Palestinian leaderships to refrain from provocative actions and rhetoric;
  - 3. Strongly condemns continued Palestinian terrorism against Israel and recalls Israel's right to exist and to defend itself against terrorism; stresses the imperative need for the

EU to work in partnership with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, the United States and Arab partners in the region with a view to preventing the re-arming of terrorist groups in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and their smuggling of weapons, manufacturing of rockets and building of tunnels; stresses once more the overwhelming need for all terrorist groups in Gaza to disarm, in line with previous Foreign Affairs Council conclusions; condemns the unacceptable activities by the de facto authorities in Gaza and in this context reiterates the need for the Palestinian Authority to take charge of the Gaza Strip;

4. Stresses that terrorism, incitement and violence are fundamentally incompatible with a peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; expresses grave concern about people affiliated with EU-listed terrorist organisations running or seeking to run for Palestinian political office;
5. Underlines the responsibility of relevant EU authorities in continuing to ensure that no EU funding can be directly or indirectly diverted to terrorist organisations; recalls that in line with the EU strategy on combating anti-Semitism, EU external funds may not be misallocated to activities that incite hatred and violence;
6. Reiterates the strong need for EU funding to go to specific well-defined projects in Gaza, solely in line with the trilateral mechanism for financial support and ensure that it reaches the intended civilians;
7. Welcomes the Abraham Accords and stresses their importance for peace and cooperation in the region; calls on other regional countries to join the Abraham Accords without delay;
8. Recalls that all education curricula funded by the EU must be in line with UNESCO standards of peace, tolerance, co-existence and non-violence; strongly condemns the hate speech, violence and anti-Semitism that continue to be found on Palestinian Authority education curricula;
9. Offers its condolences to the families of Israeli soldiers Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul; deplores the refusal of Hamas to return their remains to Israel for burial; calls for all efforts to be made for the immediate repatriation of their remains, in line with the provisions of the UNSC special session of 22 December 2017 and the relevant Geneva Conventions and humanitarian law; calls, furthermore, for the immediate release of Israeli citizens Avraham Mengistu and Hisham Al-Sayed, who have not committed any crime or offence that justifies their captivity by Hamas in the Gaza Strip;
10. Strongly condemns Iran's growing interference in the Middle East region, including through its support to proxies such as the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Gaza; believes that conflict and instability on Israel's borders negatively affect the prospects for a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process, the governments and parliaments of the Member States, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Middle East Quartet Envoy, the Knesset and the Government

of Israel, the President of the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian Legislative Council.