

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict: A way Out?

It calls for a re-foundation of the United Nations and the transfer of its headquarters to a rebuilt GAZA.

Introduction:

Since the events of October 7th, governments, political authorities, experts and the media have unanimously agreed on a single conclusion:

"The unprecedented barbarity of the attacks and the taking by Hamas of Israeli and foreign hostages, as well as its own population, make any negotiation with a view to a lasting peace unthinkable for the immediate future".

The parameters defining the situation stem as much from Israel's history since its creation in 1948 (if not before) as from the conflicts themselves. These involve not only the primary responsibility of the belligerents, but also the ambiguous attitude - if not the lack of interest - of the Arab world and the international community as a whole, as well as the deliberate manipulation of national public opinions. The latter are often mobilized for purposes unrelated to the underlying conflict, driven by imperialist ambitions for regional or world hegemony or by the desire to impose political ideologies or religious fundamentalism. This is why there is no point in arguing about any particular aspect of this issue, as each side will find ample justification for the theses it supports. A complete paradigm shift is required.

A utopian solution!

First we must acknowledge that the architecture of the world governance that emerged from WWII is outdated and is no longer capable of meeting today's challenges. Its principal organ, the UN, is in a state of clinical death; paralyzing its capacity to operate. It needs to be rebuilt to take into account the new world order that is emerging; it must be given the means to operate effectively and to ensure that its decisions are enforced. Without calling into question the lofty objectives defined in 1945, it is a question of reviewing from top to bottom the architecture of its statutes (composition and powers of its various bodies), as well as the administration and financing of the institution.

This objective creates an opportunity to defuse the deadly spiral that is

increasingly pitting the democratic world up against autocratic regimes; the latter, by exploiting the detestation of the West (often under the pretext of a bygone colonialism), enjoy the almost "visceral" support of the "Global South" and collectively represent a large majority of the world's population.

One of the keys to the success of this exercise will be the decision on the location of its headquarters (as well as those of the IMF and IBRD). Their gradual transfer over the next 10 to 20 years to the **Gaza Strip** meets a number of key imperatives:

- To create an entity with its own territory and sovereignty, managed by the United Nations itself and ensuring legal equidistance between its Members.
- Defuse the perceived "pro-Western" bias that gradually undermined the cohesion and solidarity of the international community after the Second World War.
- To recognize the equality of all humans in rights and dignity and rights by symbolically choosing a seat at the junction of the African and Asian continents.
- To make the reconstruction of Gaza a reaffirmation and lasting testimony to the renunciation of the use of force in conflict resolution.
- To resolve the current situation in the Middle East by providing a solution that reflects the scale of the suffering experienced by all parties since the beginning of the conflict.
- Bring tangible relief to local populations by making them the primary beneficiaries of investment, reconstruction and the development of the local economy.

Above all, this choice requires an unshakeable **political will** that, in the face of the challenges posed by global warming, nuclear proliferation, the fight against poverty, access to water and healthcare, etc., makes it possible to prioritize the interests of the people over those of leaders who wield power, be it political, military, religious, economic or financial.

While this proposal and the implicit aspirations it conveys would primarily benefit disadvantaged populations, they should also prove positive for humanity as a whole, offering it a framework within which its harmonious economic, social and cultural development can prosper.

The realization of this "utopian" project cannot be envisaged without the commitment and leadership of the United States, which is being asked to relinquish certain attributes that contribute to its aura and power. President Biden appears to be up to the challenge, not the least of which will be

convincing his own public opinion.

The European Union should rethink its representation in order to endorse the responsibilities commensurate with its standing; other countries with prosperous economies will also be called upon to give their support, as will any other UN Member wishing to join in this ambitious collective effort.

The material feasibility of the "GAZA project" should not encounter any particular difficulties, if we refer to the emergence of metropolises in the deserts of the Arabian Peninsula that are the admiration of the world.

Moreover, there are no insurmountable problems in raising the necessary resources: new tranches of SDRs could be issued by the IMF; Member Countries would be called upon to finance the infrastructures for their own usage and the private investments would be attracted by the security and attractiveness of such an environment.

On the other hand, there is no reason to see this as a roundabout way of weakening the indisputable supremacy of the US dollar in economic relations. Indeed, the characteristics and size of its financial markets constitute a foundation whose hegemony is an essential factor underpinning the development and prosperity of the planet.

Conclusion:

If a political agreement were to be reached - which remains a highly doubtful hypothesis - a partial solution to the intractable problems mentioned above would have been found, in particular, that of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its potential extension to a world war. The efforts required are worthwhile because the accumulation and speed of transmission of the existential challenges we are facing bring us closer every day to an irreversible Armageddon.

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