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European Languages

زبانهای اروپایی

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28.10.2023

The Four Levels of Analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict II and III

It remains to be seen whether Israel finally launches its ground offensive on Gaza, and what will be the response of the Axis of Resistance and the Muslim world in support of the Palestinian people. This will point to the course of this conflict and the future of the planet, given the total ineffectiveness of the UN, which has been marginalized from its responsibility to make decisions that will lead to preventing and preventing this genocide from continuing to occur.

¿Dónde estaba el mundo
mientras Israel sometía
a Palestina al genocidio?



The Four Levels of Analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (II)

Last week we outlined some elements of study of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict from the perspective of its local dimension and the media handling that is done in order to generate opinion matrices that hide the real causes and those responsible for it

It is very difficult to write with equanimity when we are witnessing a genocide that the world is limited to observing because international organizations, the UN in the first place, which was created to guarantee peace on the planet, manifest total ineffectiveness. If there were any doubts about that, today it has been made public and evident. It is imperative that the world change and that a new just, equitable and democratic international system emerges. The facts bear witness to the fact that what has come to be called the "collective West" is going to be left out of the world of the future.



In this context, and continuing the review, we will now address a slightly broader spectrum that exposes another aspect of it, namely, the subregional and regional repercussions of this event that has mobilized the entire planet and the influences that they generate.

First of all, I must say that I do not believe that - to paraphrase Saddam Hussein - this is "the mother of all battles". It seems to me that the events that began on October 7 are a "test" for future operations at a higher level. In other words, everything that has happened since that day last week is part of a battle to design scenarios and make preparations for the final battle, which will be the one in which a coalition of Arab and Muslim countries propose to act together to defeat Israel, liberate Palestine, retake East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights.

That time has not yet come. This was affirmed by Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian when he said that "the resistance decides on the zero hour for any action in case of continuation of Israel's crimes against Gaza."

From my point of view, not all the conditions for fighting that battle exist yet, they must be created on all four levels. In fact, the "*Al Aqsa Deluge*" operation was planned,

organized and carried out in total secrecy, to the point that it was not known even to Hamas's internal or external allies. Since this cause belongs to all Palestinians and even to all Arabs and Muslims, it has not been by any means an action of all Palestinian forces, nor of the axis of resistance. They have limited themselves to "congratulating" Hamas, without getting involved in it, until after knowing the scope of it.

It seems to me that internally, the Palestinian forces are not yet united to confront the common enemy. Although in January 2022, five of them: [Hamas](#), [Fatah](#), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the [Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine \(PFLP\)](#) and [Islamic Jihad](#) met in Algiers seeking to settle their differences and join forces, the process initiated has not concluded. A few months later, in October last year, also [in Algeria, 14 Palestinian organizations signed a reconciliation agreement](#). Among the points agreed upon was the holding of elections this year, which has not materialized.



Flag of Palestine in East Jerusalem. File. (Anadolu Agency)

Israel, for its part, has bet on the division of Palestinian political forces. The treatment of the West Bank has not been the same as that of Gaza. Unequivocally, in statements that would have made Hitler himself blush, some Zionist leaders such as Prime Minister Netanyahu have said that a "total siege" of Gaza should be implemented, or at least that it should be "smaller when the war ends" as Minister [Gideon Saar](#) claimed. Thus, it can be observed that in today's world, genocides are reported in advance to public opinion and broadcast live and direct by the morbid international media.

On the other side, the State of Israel is trying to convey unity in the face of the "common enemy." In fact, the forces that have been on the streets for months protesting against

Netanyahu's authoritarianism have announced the cessation of their activities. This has been taken advantage of by the Zionist prime minister to call for the creation of a government of national unity. However, Yair Lapid, one of the leaders of the opposition, has refused to take part, arguing that he cannot be on the same side as the far right. Although it is difficult to understand, in Israel, Netanyahu is considered a moderate right-wing politician, who has been forced to make deals with far-right parties and the ultra-conservative religious Zionist party in order to build a governing alliance.

On another level, the media newspaper, [Haaretz](#), the fourth most important newspaper in the country, has issued editorials with strong criticism of Netanyahu, whom it holds responsible for the current events.



In the future, it remains to be seen what repercussions they will have inside Israel, the failure of its intelligence services, the embarrassment of its army unable to contain the Palestinian militias and the impact of thousands of young people who have left the country in recent years, many of whom did so to avoid serving in the army. The famous national unity has been called into question, giving the impression that it will be difficult to re-establish it.

Exactly one year ago, on October 19, in this very space I wrote an article that I titled "[Something Smells Bad in Israel.](#)" It referred to statements by Maj. Gen. Uri Gordin, the new head of the Israeli army's northern command, who a month earlier had warned "that Hezbollah could fire up to 4,000 missiles at Israel in the first days of a potential war that could break out. According to the senior military leader, this is about 10 times more than those used in the 2006 war and assured that the Lebanese organization could increase the figure at a rate of 1,500 to 2,000 per day.



Cartoon by Mohammed Rayes, Arab News, 2017

Trying to qualify the information, Gordin said that "the number of Hezbollah's high-precision missiles is relatively small, but they are enough for strategic civilian and military installations, as well as senior leaders of the country to be among the targets to attack." Adding concern to his analysis, he opined that "Israel is not prepared to intercept such a large number of missiles by which the number of casualties could be very high. He noted that the cities of Haifa and Tiberias would be among Hezbollah's targets."

That is the reality, Israel did not expect the blow from the south but from the north and although it foresaw the potential of the missile impact, what a year ago was a hypothesis, today became a reality with the observed results. The conclusion is clear: Israel does not have the capacity to simultaneously confront the Palestinian organizations, the Lebanese Hezbollah, the Syrian army, the more than 30,7 Iraqi resistance fighters who were put on combat alert on October 2, the great rocket capacity of Yemen, the gigantic military potential of Iran, and the Syrian army. not to mention the ∞ million Palestinians living in Jordan and the patriotic fervor of millions of Arabs and Palestinians in West Asia and around the world.

Even with the support of Europe and the United States, Israel will not be able to withstand an avalanche of that magnitude. That's what Biden wants to avoid. That is why he traveled to Israel today, after his Secretary of State Anthony Blinken traveled twice to Tel Aviv unsuccessfully last week. It is worth saying that Israel, like Ukraine, bases its capacity to

fight on the support of the West, particularly the United States. Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, Israel's army spokesman, said it bluntly: "If Hezbollah dares to test us, the response will be deadly. The United States gives us its full support." This was reiterated by President Joe Biden when he announced from Tel Aviv that Washington will support the Zionist entity "today, tomorrow and always". All this, a day after the attack on the hospital in Gaza that left hundreds dead.

That support has also led to three U.S. vetoes of U.N. Security Council resolutions. One of them, proposed by Brazil, although rather lukewarm, called for "humanitarian pauses" in the midst of the genocide in Gaza. The other two, in the form of amendments, were proposed by Russia. The first of these "condemned indiscriminate shelling" while the second called for "an immediate, stable and fully respected ceasefire". Once again, the U.S. favored terrorism, while the U.N. showed its inability to prevent it.

The second and third levels of analysis have to do precisely with the subregional and regional impact, which in this case seems to me to be decisive. A strategic definition of the conflict will depend on their involvement or not in the events. It is clear that the Palestinians alone do not have the capacity to establish a correlation of military forces that would break the balance in their favor. If anything has strengthened the struggle of the Palestinian people, it has been the strength and evolution of the fighting capacity of the axis of resistance led by Iran.

On the other hand, the unrestricted support of Israel by the United States and Europe defines with crystal clarity that this fact, added to the anti-colonial resistance that the peoples of Africa are manifesting and the events in Ukraine, allows us to affirm without any doubt that what the "collective West" today configures is a Nazi-Zionist, imperialist and colonialist bloc. This is the enemy of humanity today.

The construction of correlations of forces to confront the conflicts of the present and the future must place this bloc as the main enemy of the peoples, the enemy of humanity.

In this situation, the breakdown of the strategic balance will only occur in favor of the Palestinian people, if the involvement of the axis of resistance is achieved in the first instance and in the background of the entire Arab and Muslim world. That has not yet been achieved.

On the contrary, the United States had achieved some successes in this regard by pushing for recognition of Israel by some Arab countries following the signing in September 2020 of the Abraham Accords" between Tel Aviv and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, which Sudan and Morocco later joined.

Likewise, negotiations between Saudi Arabia and Israel for the establishment of relations were well advanced. Operation "Al Aqsa Deluge" paralyzed these agreements. Now it is a question of whether it will be transitory or permanent.



The Iron Dome and the Flood of Al Aqsa, by Sanouni Imad, Morocco, 2023

The entire development of this equation will influence the future path of the Palestinian people. However, it should be borne in mind that the definition will not be unaware of the far-reaching changes that are taking place on the international scene. That is why they will have to be analysed in their relationship with Palestine. (To be continued)

Sergio Rodríguez Gelfenstein for La Pluma

Edited by [Maria Piedad Ossaba](#)

The Four Levels of Analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (III and Final)

19 days of Nazi-Zionist bestiality in Palestine and the world watches impassively as a genocide is committed without the mechanisms of the international system being able to prevent such barbarism. This event has made clear and reiterated the inoperability of the regime as it exists and the need to change it.



The COVID-19 pandemic showed the world the inability of the international system to act together against a common enemy. This was not possible because the capitalist logic of the market and the greater value of the economy were imposed, seen as the need for profit and profit of companies over the defense of the health and life of human beings. The UN showed total ineffectiveness when it came to confronting the pandemic.

Two years later, Russia's military operation in Ukraine prolonged and deepened the terminal cancer afflicting the world government. Atlanticism as a doctrine and the Atlantic as a space where the most important decisions in the political future of the planet were made, is being surpassed by a network of alliances and organizations that are developing in the Eurasian territory where the United States does not have much to say given its shameful flight from Afghanistan and the failure of the coups d'état it attempted in Kyrgyzstan (2020) and Kazakhstan (2022).

Now it is Russia and China that have built a web of political, economic, financial and security agreements around the great alliance that these two powers have created. An expression of this are the BRICS 11, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), the International North-South Transport Corridor (INTSC) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), among others.

All this must be measured temporally within a strategic framework that was clearly delimited by Chinese President Xi Jinping when he told his Russian colleague Vladimir Putin last March during his visit to Moscow that "changes not seen in 100 years were taking place and [we are the ones who] are leading them." In fact, in recent weeks it has

contracted that while the United States makes agreements to sow terror and death, China is concerned about development, peace and international cooperation under the win-win principle.

The inability of the West to successfully confront the conflict in Ukraine in favor of its interests has set off alarm bells to the point that the anxieties and tribulations that could have been hidden at first, today come to light with extravagant expressions of a pleiad of ignorant and mediocre leaders such as they have never been able to meet before.

The economy does not work, the sanctions against Russia have been reversed, affecting a Europe that by its own decision – and following the dictates of Washington – gave up on continuing to consume the cheap and safe energy provided by Moscow, which was a fundamental pillar for its industrial development and to sustain its high standard of living.

On the other hand, NATO has shown total inability to confront Russia, its war economy is not up to the task. Ben Wallace, a former UK defence secretary himself, said last July that the organisation could not continue to supply munitions to the extent of Ukraine's needs because "the alliance did not adequately prepare for the possibility of a protracted land war in Europe after decades of relative peace".

The failure of the sanctions policy against Russia has also become evident. An investigation by the New York Times in September found that trade restrictions by Washington and its allies have not been entirely effective as "Russia has not only managed to circumvent Western sanctions aimed at its military, but is taking the production of shells and vehicles to higher levels."

In another strategic scenario of the global conflict, China continues to increase its successes in its environment despite all the efforts made by the United States to use Taiwan and those countries that have maritime border disputes with China as an instrument of intervention to maintain a situation of permanent tension that justifies their military and, above all, naval presence in the region in order to induce the countries of the Asia-Pacific and the United States to Oceania to increase arms purchases in the United States as a way to overcome its economic crisis through the reactivation of its military industry.

But given the situation in Ukraine, the U.S. Department of Defense reported that it has already been forced to delay the resupply of its own troops, since not doing so in time could harm the readiness of its army.

The Pentagon has warned the U.S. Congress that it is running out of funds to replace weapons it has sent to Ukraine and has already been forced to delay resupplying its own troops.

It is in this context that the war in Palestine takes place. This is the 4th. Level of analysis that we must study: the impact of this conflict on the global stage because in today's world it is impossible to suppose that anything happens on the planet that does not have an impact at this level.

As we said in the first article of this issue, the decision to carry out the actions of October 7 corresponded solely and exclusively to Hamas and is part of the intention of this organization to turn the world's gaze to the perpetual genocide that has been waged against the Palestinian people since 1948. I'm not going to stop here to make value judgments about the ethics of actions. I don't believe in the two-demon theory. Those who know me and read me know what I think about it. War is perhaps the most despicable of all actions linked to politics and in this I adhere to the judgment of our Liberator Simón Bolívar who taught us that: "War must be waged as civilized peoples do." Let everyone draw their own conclusions.

Returning to the subject, I want to reiterate that I have no doubt that the action of October 7 was nothing more than a dress rehearsal to measure the enemy's strength, quantity, quality and location. But also to auscultate the probable repercussions that these actions may have in the immediate environment, in the Arab and Muslim universe and throughout the world.

In any case, what has happened so far is a turning point in the long conflict generated in 1948 by the UN, which, created for peace, was inaugurated by establishing a situation of war. On 7 October, the relative peace that Israel had established for its settlers over the blood of the Palestinians came to an end. Nothing will ever be the same again. The policy of illegal colonization has signed its death certificate. Even UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, usually faint-hearted and fearful of Western power, had to acknowledge it as the cause of the conflict, which led to the Israeli ambassador to the United Nations calling for his resignation.

At the international level, it is not possible to remain on the sidelines: organizations and countries will have to define themselves. What the United States has called the "international community" that is made up of Washington and its 53 allies, once again,

just as in Ukraine where they sided with the Nazis, in Palestine they have placed themselves in the trenches of Zionism.

This is just the beginning. Today we are waiting to find out if Israel will carry out its announced ground offensive in Gaza, which could unleash a war of incalculable dimensions that would leave the conflict in Ukraine as a weekend walk in the face of the magnitude and impact of the events that would ensue. The powers that be know this. Already, the United States, Europe and their acolytes have assumed a position of unrestricted support for Israel. What's more, Biden clearly defined it as a "smart investment" that, in his words, will pay "dividends." His opinion implies that the role of Ukraine and Israel is to put the dead so that the United States can achieve its objectives in exchange for a few crumbs.

Hence, Israel has agreed to delay its invasion of the Gaza Strip so that the United States can bring defense systems to the region. It has been reported that the Pentagon is rushing to deploy nearly a dozen air defense systems as early as this week, including those intended for U.S. troops serving in several countries in the region, to protect them from missiles and rockets.

The main concern for the United States now is that in the event of an Israeli ground invasion of Gaza, the situation could escalate given that Washington has about 40,000 troops in West Asia at bases located in Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey and Oman.

In particular, the situation of the 5th. U.S. Navy fleet made up of a Battle Group made up of an aircraft carrier, its escort ships, an Air Wing, an Amphibious Group and various auxiliary ships to complete 20 ships with a total of 16 thousand troops. This fleet, located in Bahrain approximately 280 km from the Iranian coast and less than a minute's flight from the Fattah hypersonic missiles that can travel at up to 15 times the speed of sound, have a range of up to 1,400 km and against which the United States has no technology to intercept or destroy them, it would be easy prey for the Iranian response to the ground aggression against Gaza.

Similarly, the Straits of Hormuz and Bab el Mandeb would be covered by Iranian missiles and, in the latter case, also by those of Yemen, which would close the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea to the supertankers that carry 40% of the oil consumed on the planet. The debacle of the world economy would be immediate, since the prices of crude oil would rise to prices unaffordable for the vast majority of the world's countries

Hence, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken traveled to Israel twice, almost simultaneously with Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and President Joe Biden himself, all in less than a week. The urgency of the event is accentuated by the fact that the president of the United States was forced to travel a long way to be in Tel Aviv for only 6 hours.

In the midst of this unbridled diplomatic activity of the United States trying to put out fires with gasoline, China held the third forum of the New Silk Road with the attendance of delegations from more than 140 countries, several of them chaired by heads of state and/or government who debated on the basis that "China will be better off if the rest of the world does well, and the rest of the world will do better as long as China does well," President Xi Jinping said during the event's opening speech.

On the conflict in West Asia, Beijing has long taken a position: "China firmly supports the establishment of an independent state of Palestine, enjoying full sovereignty on the basis of the 1967 borders and with East Jerusalem as its capital. China supports Palestine to become a full member of the United Nations."

In turn, Russia has expressed grave concern over the escalation of violence between Palestinians and Israelis. Their position, which they define as "principal and coherent", is that this conflict "which has lasted for 75 years, cannot be resolved by force and can only be solved by political-diplomatic means through the establishment of a process of full-format negotiations on the known basis of international law that stipulates the creation of the independent Palestinian State on the borders of 1967. with East Jerusalem as its capital, which lives in peace and security with Israel."

In this context, as Brazilian international analyst Pepe Escobar has said: "After his surprising attack [...] a clever Hamas has already gained more negotiating leverage than the Palestinian Authority has for decades. It is significant that while the peace talks are supported by China, Russia, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, Tel Aviv refuses. Netanyahu is obsessed with razing Gaza, but if that happens, a wider regional war is almost inevitable."

It should also be considered that as of January 1, three of the most important Muslim countries, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Iran, will begin to be part of the BRICS 11 group, as well as the United Arab Emirates, creating a very positive correlation of forces in support of the struggle of the Palestinian people.

The situation created has led to unforeseeable consequences just a few weeks ago. In this sense, despite the fact that talks between Saudi Arabia and Israel to establish relations were quite advanced, they seem to have been "frozen" after the actions of October 7. A

Saudi diplomatic official reported that his country "has decided to suspend discussion on possible normalization [with Israel] and has briefed U.S. officials." It is worth mentioning that despite Washington's pressure on Riyadh to condemn the Hamas attack, the Wahhabi monarchy refused to do so.

On October 13, the Qatari government announced that it was ready to cut off natural gas exports to the rest of the world in support of Palestine. Emir Sheikh Tamim ibn Hamad Al Thani, Qatar's head of state, was blunt and direct in saying that: "If the bombardment of Gaza does not stop, we will cut off gas supplies to the world," adding further uncertainty to the planet's economic future. In other words, Qatar is the sixth largest producer in the world and has the third largest gas reserves.

In this context, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian's tour of the region cannot be ignored in the analysis. At the end of the meeting, he reported that there was a possibility that other fronts could be opened against Israel in the midst of its ongoing conflict with Palestine. In any case, the Persian minister made it clear that it would be the Resistance that would make the final decision on what he called "the zero hour" for any action in the event of a continuation of Israel's aggression against Gaza.

Amir warned that if there is "delay" on the part of the international community, the United Nations and the activists who support the warmongering of the Zionist regime "the response will be given at the opportune and appropriate time for the Resistance. It was decisive in "changing the current map of the occupied territories".

This idea was ratified by Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Hosseini Khomeini, who warned on October 17 that if [Israel's] crimes continue, "Muslims and resistance forces will lose patience and no one will be able to stop them



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In this context, on October 19, a Hezbollah spokesman said that his organization will be at the center of the ongoing battle. In addition to the 12 operations carried out against Israeli border positions with occupied Palestine since the launch of the Israeli offensive against the Gaza Strip, Hezbollah participates in the joint operations room of the Palestinian resistance factions that are working "together continuously and intensively and coordinating with each other" after agreeing on the steps to be taken to confront the Zionist enemy on the two Palestinian and Palestinian fronts. Lebanese, for which they are exchanging information. They also announced that all actions on the ground are decided in this operations room taking into account facts and political approaches. It remains to be seen whether Israel finally launches its ground offensive on Gaza, and what will be the response of the Axis of Resistance and the Muslim world in support of the Palestinian people. This will point to the course of this conflict and the future of the planet, given the total ineffectiveness of the UN, which has been marginalized from its responsibility to make decisions that will lead to preventing and preventing this genocide from continuing to occur.

Sergio Rodríguez Gelfenstein for La Pluma, October 26, 2023

Edited by [Maria Piedad Ossaba](#)

Read in The Pen: [The Four Levels of Analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict \(I\)](#)

La Pluma. net 26.10.2023