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By Adrián Melo 16.11.2023

Interview with Jorge Elbaum, Argentina's ambassador to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance between 2012 and 2016

"The U.S. is largely responsible for this crisis because it empowered the most fascist sectors of Israel"



Sources: Faces & Masks

Due to his training and experience as ambassador of the Argentine Foreign Ministry to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance during the period 2012-2016, Jorge Elbaum is a reference figure for analyzing the Israel-Palestine conflict.

What are the main causes of the war?

There is only one cause: the fact that, in 1948, at the United Nations the partition of Palestine and the formation of two countries were decided. One was formed on or after May 14, 1948 and another was never formed by various circumstances that can be historicized. At that time, the territories of Palestine disposed of by partition were invaded: Jordan invaded the West Bank and Egypt invaded Gaza, and they called for the independence of Palestine. That was between 1948 and 1967, the Egyptians subjugating the Gazans and the West Bankers subjecting the West Bankers to the until the Six-Day War. From that moment on, Israel did the same, exactly as Egypt did before it. Jordan. That remains to this day in a double format: Israel occupying and putting the Israeli population in the West Bank, which are the settlers, and besieging Gaza in a quasi-double siege, because Gaza has a border to the south with Egypt and Rafah. There is a pass there of approximately 40 kilometers of extension, which is on the border with Israel. It's a place where many Palestinians from Gaza come in to work on a daily basis, although in this Stage No. Something similar happens in the south with Egypt, but it is something that does not happen. It is known that Egypt strongly restricts entry, because Gaza is controlled by Hamas.

How do you analyze the positions that characterize the bombing and attack of October 7 as an anti-Semitic act and even comparable to the Holocaust?

I believe that these tragedies must be addressed with tools social sciences and not allow themselves to be operated by propaganda of any kind. We must try not to fall into the propaganda that what we what it does is throw gasoline on the fire. The easiest thing to do is to say, "They're the We're the bad guys, they're the good guys, they're doing terrorism, we're not." That doesn't really add up to what one needs: for there to be peace and for all of us to be able to do so, people are dignified before and protected by the law international. Obviously, what happened on October 7 is a pogrom. There is a burden on Hamas's discursivity linked not only to what is Israeli, but even Jewish. That's a problem, because I eat As a Jew, I have nothing to do with what Israel does, I am Argentinian. And the the same happens with Chomsky, for example, among others. I disagree with the This is a logic that many collectives and collectives are implementing, which It is to deepen the wound, to cause more death, and above all, what I feel the most The concern is to spread the conflict to different countries, generating conflict where there is none. For example, in Argentina, between the Islamic community and the Jewish community. Israel is an occupying country that has tied the population down with apartheid policies towards the Palestinians and Jordan. And Gaza is absolutely dependent on Israel for all its money.

energy terms, i.e. Gaza's electricity assistance they are produced by Israel and so there is a terrible dependence. The The military action taken by Hamas on October 7 is an action absolutely terrorist because it targets civilians. They are actions forbidden by the Geneva Convention, and there is no war that enables abducting children or executing non-uniformed civilians. By Of course, it is also terrorism to bomb civilians in Gaza or elsewhere by Israel. Here's a feature between two fundamentalist right-wingers: the ultraright of the Israeli settlers and, from my point of view, the fundamentalist right wing of Hamas, heir to the Muslim Brotherhood, which articulates religion and politics.

How should the international community react to these events?

As American Jewish groups did at the Capitol: demanding an immediate ceasefire, the return of the hostages and a immediate peace conference for the Constitution of Palestine free. The Palestinian Authority is globally recognized as the representative of the Palestinian people. It is made up of sectors some Islamic, some secular, some progressive, some of which are of the left, the Palestine Liberation Organization, Fatah. These groups have been persecuted in Gaza and killed by Hamas since 2006. This complicates a situation that, on the one hand, is characteristic . colonial and neocolonial and, on the other hand, and inserted within the framework of a between two traditions. A fundamentalist nun who He refuses any peace talk. The same goes for the settlers 600,000 of the right-wing extremists are occupying land in the West Bank.

How do the policies of the United States and the United Kingdom influence it?

The United States is undoubtedly largely responsible for this crisis because it empowered the most fascist sectors of Israel, because it has endorsed and protected expansionist policies. He's given them a letter free. If it had not done so, there would have already been a Palestinian country, which is The Palestinian emancipatory project systematically supported by the Soviet Union at the time, for Russia today, for China. United States has been the only one that has prevented the United Nations from that there should be an international conference in the sense of forming Free Palestine. Of course, always accompanied by the United Kingdom, which is the foreign policy vassal of the United States. Yes the five members of the Security Council to say: "Starting tomorrow We're going to a conference to end this once and for all." It solves the most important problem, because the reality is that if then some actors, either within Israel or within the United States. Palestinians, would like to continue with the conflict, that would be a conflict of other features

What are the ways to resolve the conflict?

"There are two solutions. The democratic sectors of Israel and the Palestinian National Authority welcome an international conference that resolves the problem once and for all with the consolidation of a sovereign, unoccupied country of free Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital and with some reparation for so many years suffered not only by Israel but also by Egypt and Jordan. I subscribe to this position and it seems to me to be more feasible. There is another that is very difficult to realize, that perhaps will be in 200 years, which is the formation of a single multicultural, multiethnic country where identities, religions, traditions and language should not be a problem. All countries are multi-ethnic, including Argentina. In the style of the plurinationality that exists in Bolivia and that is decreed in its new Constitution with the name of the Plurinational Republic of Bolivia. It could be, but I don't see it feasible at the moment, after so much heartbreaking and so much hatred built up in twenty years.

Source: https://carasycaretas.org.ar/2023/11/13/estados-unidos-es-el-gran-responsable-de-esta-crisis-porque-empodero-a-los-sectores-mas-fascistas-de-israel/

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