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زبانهای اروپایی

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## South Africa's challenge (+Video)

It will be very difficult for the UN tribunal not to recognize the facts and demand that Israel stop the massacre immediately... What will happen to the European lapdogs complicit in the blockade of Gaza, especially Germany, France and the Netherlands, who have glossed over Israel's "right to defend itself"? "Will Germany be placed on the wrong side of history for the second time"?



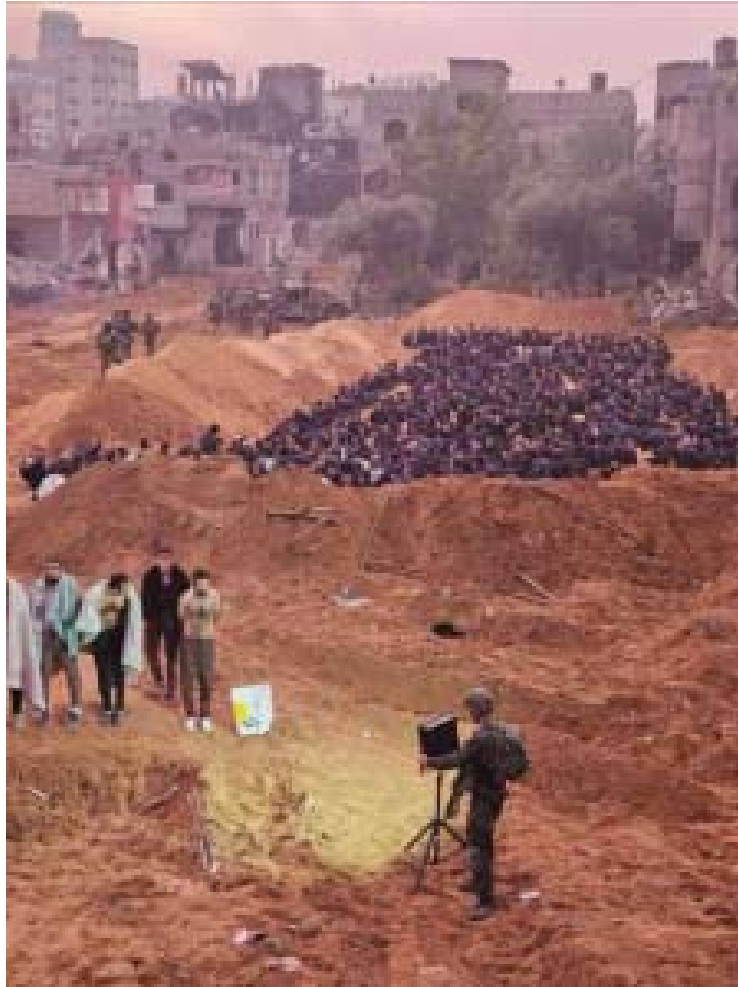
Gazans are detained by the Israeli army at the Al-Yarmouk stadium in Gaza City on 25  
"International law is neither truly international nor genuinely law," but ideology: an ideological force in the service of hegemonism and its allies and a formidable instrument of power, [says Perry Anderson](#). Fundamentally, "international justice" is a spectacle.

Since the end of World War II, no U.S. war has merited the attention of the International Court of Justice, the U.N.'s top judicial body. Invasions and occupations of one's own or friends have been blessed or silenced, while those of adversaries have been condemned, if not the object of military intervention. We already knew all that.

We have also known, since the Romans, that it is better to have a world with certain rules, even if they are fraudulent or not followed, or only to be observed by some but not by others, than by the complete absence of them. After all, since law is the dictate of the powerful, it is better than its absence. Sometimes there are cracks in the wall of the powerful through which certain opportunities for justice slip through.

South Africa's denunciation of Israel's genocide in Gaza is more than one of those opportunities. [Formally impeccable](#), it is an open challenge to the United States, the power that has protected and blessed the massacre of Palestinians for decades. The South African team, led by [John Dugard](#), who was a defender of Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu and UN rapporteur on human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories, highlights the Arab regimes, which have been unable to take such a step.

The evidence for the South African complaint is not Palestinian, but from sources within the UN itself, the institution for which the International Court of Justice works. Not only has this massacre been broadcast live around the world, but its genocidal intent is corroborated by [a multitude of statements by Israeli authorities](#).



It will be very difficult for the court not to recognize the facts and demand certain preliminary precautionary measures that must be complied with immediately and immediately.

In that case, what will become of all those countries, including our own, that supply arms and political support to Israel? What will happen to the European lapdogs complicit in the blockade of Gaza, especially Germany, France and the Netherlands, who have glossed over Israel's "right to defend itself"? "Will Germany be placed on the wrong side of history for the second time?" Belgian Development Aid Minister Caroline Gennez asked on Wednesday.

On Thursday, neither the main German nor French newscasts, let alone the Americans, mentioned the first session of the hearing in The Hague. The France 24 news programme mentioned the "internal political motivations" that would explain the South African complaint. What will the media say if the action of the Hague Tribunal is moderately decent, for example; if it accepts the demand that Israel "immediately cease its military

operations in and against Gaza", cease and desist from killing and causing serious physical or mental harm to Palestinians, from inflicting on them living conditions aimed at destroying them in whole or in part, and from imposing measures to prevent Palestinian births, as demanded by the South Africans?

But what if the opposite is true, if the court acts in accordance with the function for which it was designed and refuses to take precautionary measures, which amounts to a green light to "continue to slaughter"? What we will witness in that case will be one more chapter in the "[infamous epilogue of the West](#)", one more step in the debacle of Western prestige and its institutions in the world, the symptoms of which we are witnessing in a dizzying series of events.

*Rafael Poch de Feliu, for La Pluma*

*Edited by [María Piedad Ossaba](#)*

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Read in the pen:

- [Palestine hurts us because the world](#)

hurts us Conference: "The origin of the violence in Gaza is in the [racist ideology of the elimination of the native](#)"

[Israel is committing genocide in Palestine](#)

[GUSTAVO PETRO: For whom do the bell toll? The bells toll for you](#)

[Israel-Palestine War: How Hamas Views the Gaza Conflict and Why It Thinks It Can Win](#)

La Pluma. Net 12.01.2024