

USFMEP President call on Israel and Hamas to stop the war in Gaza



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The US Federation for Middle East Peace (USFMEP)

Appeal to United Nations, the international community and all morally driven people to put extreme pressure.

- 1. On Israel to stop immediately the excessive force it is using by killing innocent civilians, and**
- 2. On Hamas to stop firing the rockets at the Israeli civilians.**

The USFMEP implores the international community to do all it can to help the Israelis and Palestinians **not** to give in to the perverse logic of confrontation and violence but rather to favor the path of dialogue and negotiations.

The recent occurrences of mass killings due to continued terrorist activity cannot be the model of justifiable reaction or self defense as the world shakes and trembles with the hypocrisy of what we are labeling "The Culture of Peace". Are we hearing the cries of the women and children wet with tears and calling crossfire "a deterrent; a solution" in the holy land.

Disgrace on any politician who openly supports killing as a deterrent and on any peace organization who does not openly and loudly denounce the outlandish abhorrent retaliation by each side in the Middle East with bloody reaction upon bloody reaction resulting in the misery of the innocents. All it takes for evil to prevail is for good men to say or do nothing.

Years of negotiations and dialoguing, although slow in progress, should not be all negated with long sought after peace agreements lying wasted under the bloodshed of those who wished for a better ending or, at least, for the promise of a better future for their children,

The solution to the Middle East Land War can only reside at the table and not after all sides lie massacred, ironically, on the soil that they so long have desired to keep because of its religious significance. The refusal to enter into dialogue leads to a situation of inexplicable suffering for the population, once again victims of the hatred of war.

The USFMEP is in total agreement that, as stated by Mr. Brockmann, "the Israeli airstrikes on the Gaza Strip represent severe and massive **violations** of international humanitarian law as defined in the Geneva Convention, both in regard to the obligations of an occupying power and in the requirements of the laws of war. We encourage all to pray for an immediate ceasefire and urge that people of conscience be vocal on this moral matter of utmost urgency.