

Peace between Palestinians and Israelis

December 29, 2022

We often hear: "I do not believe in a Palestinian State anymore". Here is my view:

1) A binational State is not possible for demographic reasons.

Palestinians of the West bank + Gaza + Jerusalem + Israel are about as **numerous** as Israeli Jews. They could have a majority in the case of a common election, which will not be accepted by Israeli Jews. That makes this solution impractical. Let's not talk about it anymore

2) Is a Palestinian State still possible?

The 6-day war of 1967 left 22% of the land to Palestinians whereas the UNO 1947 vote planned 47%. Today about 450.000 Jewish settlers live in the West Bank + about 300.000 in East Jerusalem. So, the land currently left for a Palestinian state seems small in a first approach.

3) Palestinian institutions exist and will not be suppressed

Today, Palestinian **police**, Palestinian **justice**, Palestinian **Finance Ministry** receiving international subsidies, etc. Palestinian administration exist and will not be suppressed. Palestinian elections are organized on a local level every 4 years and it works. So Palestinian cities, e.g. zones A and B (40% of the 22%), will not be part of Israel and will continue to be autonomous.

4) An Israel Palestine Federation giving rights to both people

A Palestinian State should be as big as possible, with the borders before 1967 as a basis

- With **East-Jerusalem** as the capital city
- As many illegal **settlements** as possible should be evacuated to become part of a Palestinian State. Settlers will be granted a compensation to leave.
- Other settlements would be **annexed** to Israel
- Additional land should be given to a Palestinian State as a **compensation** on a 1 km² to 1 km² basis, for instance along the border with Egypt, where there is a large area possible. Or in the North of Israel, provided the cities and villages with an Arabic population want to join the State of Palestine.

This is acceptable for Palestinians only if a federation giving them **rights** exist. These rights are fundamental for them:

- **Mobility**: full mobility to go to Jerusalem, to the sea, to Israel, and abroad with exceptions only (terrorism, threat for security, etc.), thanks to Palestinian ports and airports
- **Land and property**: no expropriation
- Access to **natural resources** like water
- **Citizenship** with elections
- Peace would boost prosperity and new jobs, which also fundamental

Will Palestinian leaders accept it?

Will Israeli leaders be courageous enough to stop new settlements, evacuate settlements which can be evacuated and allow a Palestinian State with the above rights granted to the Palestinian people?

Will Israel put Palestinians in front of the *fait accompli* as the solution to the conflict or will they want to negotiate?