

CADERNO A HABILIDADE ESPECÍFICA

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'Fear must be eclipsed by wisdom' to end violence between Israelis and Palestinians – UN rights chief

High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein (right) and Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, at a Special Meeting of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. UN Photo/Jean-Marc Ferré

28 October 2015 – At a special meeting of the United Nations Human Rights Council today, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights stressed that Israeli-Palestinian violence will draw "closer to a catastrophe" if not stopped immediately, while President Mahmoud Abbas called for creation of a "special protection" regime for the Palestinian people, amid roiling tensions in the region.

According to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the latest wave of violence resulted in 58 Palestinian deaths, with 2100 wounded, and 11 Israeli deaths, with 127 wounded.

"Some of these people were stabbed, shot, and even beaten to death by members of the public, both Israeli and Palestinian," High Commissioner Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein told President Abbas and members of the Council, which is based in Geneva, Switzerland. "In the context of suspected attacks, several Palestinians have been killed by Israeli security forces, sometimes allegedly acting with disproportionate force, to the extent that extra-judicial killings are strongly suspected," he continued at the special meeting convened on the occasion of the Palestinian President's visit.

"In other incidents, Palestinians involved in demonstrations in the West Bank and along the Gaza fence have been reportedly shot by security forces using live ammunition – raising strong concerns again about excessive use of force."

Mr. Zeid added that the stabbing and shooting and car attacks that have targeted Israelis are also "totally unjustifiable."

"No matter what the grievances on both sides, violence cannot be the answer," he insisted. "This crisis is dangerous in the extreme because it is a confrontation drawn in part from that most combustible of human emotional mechanisms: fear." The High Commissioner underlined that it is a "confrontation between peoples who fear each other, who fear the corresponding motives of each other, and so fear the future."

SOURCE: <u>http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52397#.Vje82StmoXk</u> (Extracted and adapted from United Nations Website)

Take into account some of the data mentioned in the text and dissertate about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, pointing out why the violence within the region has to stop immediately and in what ways it is possible to solve the problem there:



Respostas deverão ser transferidas para o caderno-resposta A

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