

Beat: Politics

## **PRES. MACRON CALLS FOR INTERNATIONAL COALITION AGAINST HAMAS & PROTECTING PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS**

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**USPA NEWS** - The President of the French Republic undertook a trip to the Middle East, going primarily to Israel, where he met both PM Benjamin Netanyahu and the President of the State of Israel Herzog, on Tuesday October 24, 2023, to express its support and solidarity since the brutal and cruel Hamas attack on October 7 in the south of Israel (near Gaza), during a music festival last year and which caused the death of more than two thousand deaths (Exact number unavailable) and the kidnapping of more than two hundred international hostages (Exact number unavailable). After successive visits to Israel by Western leaders, US President Joe Biden, UK's PM Rishi Sunak, German Chancellor Olaf Shultz, Italian PM Giorgia Meloni, President Macron is the first Western leader to have visited the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority since the start of the war. "There will be no lasting peace if there is no recognition of the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to have a territory and a state," added President Macron. This is not a report but an article written from French media sources who made the presidential trip. Our correspondent was unable to cover this trip, for reasons of inclusion denial

### **PRES. MACRON CALLS FOR INTERNATIONAL COALITION AGAINST HAMAS & PROTECTING PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS OVER HIS MIDDLE EASTERN TRIP, 24 October 23**

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President Macron also recognized that "the future" of the Palestinians would necessarily involve a "merciless and unambiguous" fight against terrorism, calling for a coalition to fight against Hamas in "the same logic" as that chosen to fight against the Islamic State group

### **TIMETABLE PRESIDENT MACRON, OCTOBER 20, 2023**

10:00 am Telephone interview with Isaac Herzog, President of the State of Israel.  
10:30 am Telephone interview with Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of the State of Israel.  
11:00 am Telephone interview with Nguyen Phú Trọng, Secretary General of the Vietnamese Communist Party.  
12:00 am Discussions with the families of the French hostages.  
3:30 pm Telephone interview with Luiz Inácio Lula, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil.  
4:00 pm Telephone interview with Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia.  
4:30 pm Telephone interview with Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nayan, President of the United Arab Emirates.  
5:00 pm Telephone interview with Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar.  
6:30 pm Telephone interview with Abdel Fattah Al-Sissi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt.  
7:30 Telephone interview with Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the Palestinian Authority.

After a joint statement alongside Israeli PM Netanyahu, President Macron who was able to meet as soon as he left his presidential plane, around thirty family members of Hamas victims in a lounge at Tel Aviv airport. These Franco-Israeli families, directly affected by the massacre of October 7 and some of whom viscerally hope that the French head of state, will be able to negotiate the release of 7 to 9 (Exact number unavailable) French hostages still held by Hamas.

The French head of state was then in Jerusalem, where he spoke with Benjamin Netanyahu, opposition leader Yair Lapid and his Israeli counterpart Isaac Herzog. President Macron's trip continued towards Ramallah towards West Jordan where he met the

President of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmood Abbas. He delivered a brief and balanced statement, on both Israeli and Palestinian sides, calling for "creating an international coalition" to fight against Hamas, which he compared to ISIS and AL Qaeda, without hesitating to call them "terrorists." while recalling that Nothing can justify the "suffering" of civilians in Gaza. He insisted on the priority of facilitating humanitarian corridors to come to the aid of civilian victims of missile fire in Gaza, since the strikes have intensified , in response to the massacre attack of October 7, 2023.

President Emmanuel Macron then flew to Jordan, where he met the next day, Wednesday October 25, HM King Abdullah II before completing his trip to Egypt where he spoke with his counterpart El Sissi.

President Macron's agenda, for October 20, 2023, a few days preceding his trip to the Middle East, indicates the great preparation for the numerous exchanges carried out on the telephone, with leaders of this region, before meeting them.

The day before his departure, the President had expressed his intention to initiate "the resumption of a genuine peace process" while aligning with the United Nations resolution to establish a two-state solution, a Palestinian state. alongside that of Israel. " he even boldly mentioned "stopping the settlements" in Palestine.

#### PRESIDENT MACRON RENEWS HIS SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY FOR ISRAEL WHILE REMEMBERING NOT TO CONFUSE HAMS AND PALESTINIAN POPULATION

President Macron recalled to what extent the massacre of October 7 perpetrated by Hamas was "an immense shock for the entire planet, particularly in France." "I share your point of view according to which the first objective that we must have today is the release of all hostages, without any distinction." He reinforced Israel's right to defend itself "Israel's security, the common fight against terrorism, respect for humanitarian law, the opening of a horizon political, all these elements are inseparable."

At the end of his Remark, Macron nevertheless brought a strong nuance towards Palestine, while evoking the role of politics and therefore of diplomacy, for a return to normal and inviting a dosage in the response from Israel, while dissociating the civilian Palestinian population from the terrorist group Hamas, the Palestinian cause [is] rightly heard." "The stability of the region, the return to normalization will only be guaranteed if Israel's response to the violence is relentless, but also political, accepting the legitimate right of Palestinians to have a state.

#### PM NETANYAHU REPEATED HIS FIRM AND WARRIOROUS POSITION TO DESTROY HAMAS WHICH THREATENS CIVILIZATION

Faced with his Israeli counterpart, Emmanuel Macron renewed France's "solidarity" with Israel, "today and tomorrow", ensuring that the attacks of October 7 were a , also launched the French head of state.

Facing him, the Israeli PM Netanyahu, (Right/far-right party), recalled his extra firm position and a very warlike dialectic naming Hamas as barbarians and a threat to "civilization". a battle of his country against "the axis of evil, represented by Iran, Hamas and the Houthis". "If Hamas emerges victorious, everyone will lose. You will be in danger, civilization will be in danger. This battle is not only ours, it is also that of Europe, of humanity."

#### "THE ONLY WAY TO BE USEFUL IS THROUGH STOPPING COLONIZATION IN CIS JORDAN" EXPLAINED PRESIDENT MACRON

President Macron explained that "The only way to be useful" is through "stopping colonization" in the West Bank (Source Elysee). According to President Macron it is "one, to bring solidarity to Israel, two, to make very clear commitments against terrorist groups and three, to reopen a political perspective". Regarding humanitarian aid to Palestinians, the French head of state reminded PM Netanyahu that France supports Israel while demanding measures to protect civilians in Gaza, insisting that "Nothing can justify the suffering" of civilians in Gaza.

PRESIDENT MACRON DECLARES THAT "THE HAMAS ATTACK IS ALSO A CATASTROPHE FOR THE PALESTINIANS, French President Emmanuel Macron, during his statement alongside Palestinian Leader Mahmood Abbas, insisted during his trip to Ramallah, in the occupied West Bank, on the distinction to be made between Hamas and the Palestinian population, because it "does not represent not the Palestinians," and declared that "nothing can justify the suffering" of civilians in Gaza.

He also balanced his statement, recalling that Hamas' attack on Israel was "also a catastrophe for the Palestinians", tempering "A Palestinian life is worth a French life which is worth an Israeli life".

**PALESTINIAN LEADER MAHMOOD ABBAS SAYS HE IS IN FAVOR OF HOLDING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PEACE**

The Palestinian leader, Mahmood Abbas, asked President Macron in return to work for an end to Israel's "aggression" against Gaza, denouncing in very harsh terms the Israeli bombings on Gaza, "which are killing innocent civilians in a barbaric manner" and blamed Israel for the conflict. He said he was in favor of the establishment of "an international coalition for peace" and the holding of an "international peace conference".

Source: Various French Media (france 24, RFI, Cnews TV, LCI TV), from France

**Article online:**

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