

Palestinians to Seek Security Council Deadline for End to Occupation



United Nations, September 5 (RHC)-- A top Palestinian lawmaker says Palestinians will ask the United Nations Security Council to impose a three-year deadline for Israel to end the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Speaking at the United Nations, Hanan Ashrawi said the Palestinian Authority will push for an end to the occupation as well as for International Criminal Court jurisdiction.

Ashwari dismissed the threat of losing U.S. government support, saying: "If the U.S. wants to isolate itself as a reaction to Palestinians joining the international community, then they are welcome to do that. American funding is not that essential to Palestinian survival. Quite often, joining the international community, having the protection of the law and so on is much more important than getting some funding from the U.S. Congress that is conditional. What has the U.S. done for us?"

Ashrawi's comments appear to mark the most forceful public repudiation to date of the Barack Obama administration's policy by a Palestinian leader tied to President Mahmoud Abbas.

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