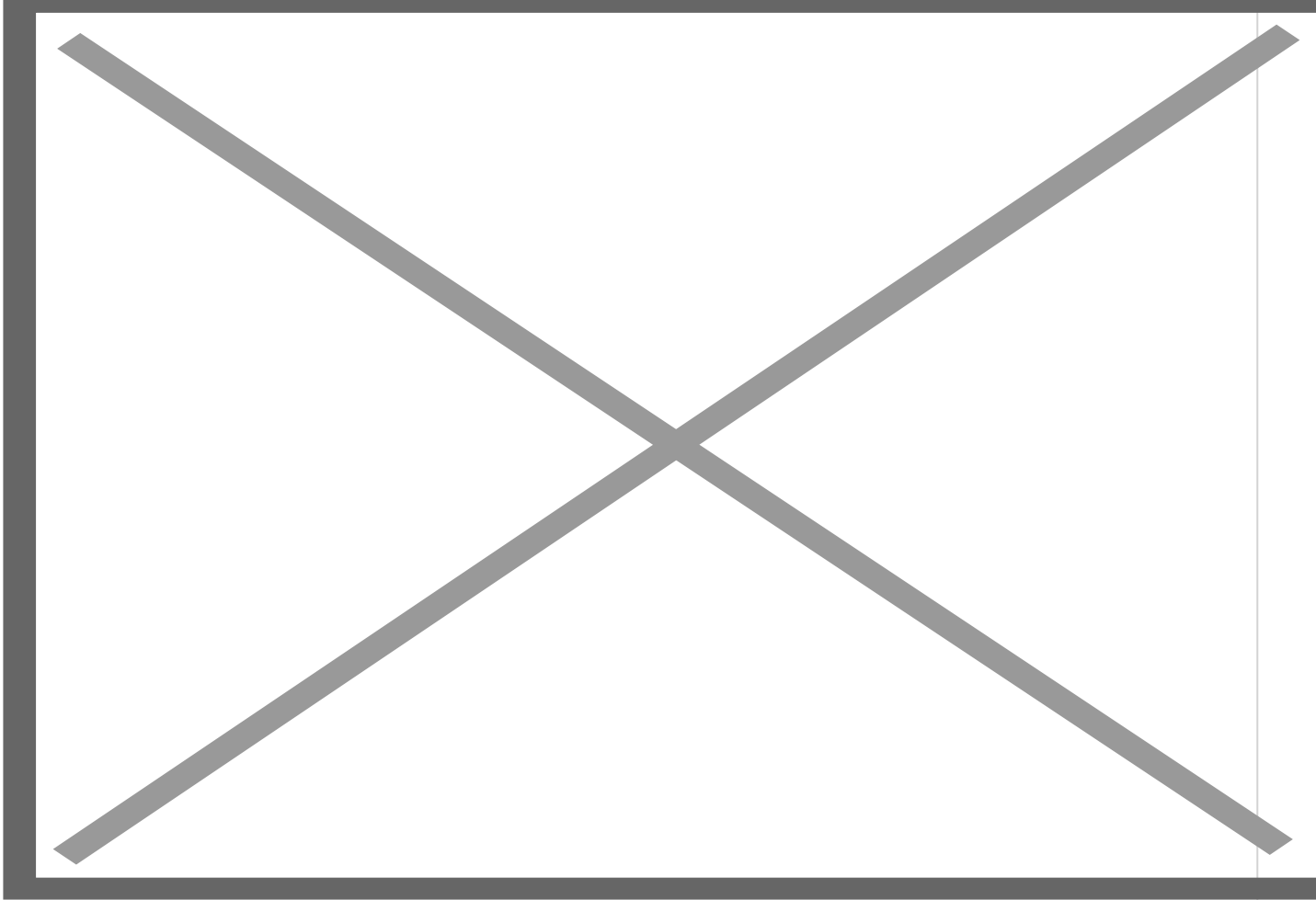


Hamas urges Washington to pressure Israel for permanent Gaza ceasefire

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A Palestinian walks among the rubble of damaged buildings in Beit Lahiya, in the northern Gaza Strip, on Wednesday [Mahmoud Issa/Reuters]

Beirut, June 13 (RHC)-- The Palestinian resistance movement Hamas said in a statement that it has shown "full positivity" in efforts to reach a ceasefire agreement with Israel, and called on the United States to "put pressure" on Israel to accept a permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Hamas said that while U.S. officials have said Israel has accepted a ceasefire proposal outlined by President Joe Biden on May 31st... "we have not heard any Israeli official confirm this acceptance."

"He continues to talk about Israel's agreement of the latest [ceasefire] proposal, but we have not heard any Israeli official speak out on this," Hamas said in the statement, which urged U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken to put "direct pressure" on Israel to agree to a permanent ceasefire.

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