

Chilean Lawmakers Urge Stronger Stance Against Israel's Bombing in Gaza



Santiago de Chile, July 15 (Xinhua-RHC) -- A group of Chilean opposition legislators Monday called on the government to take a stronger stand against Israel's bombing in Gaza.

"We can't continue to maintain ties with a state that violates human rights and does not fulfill any of the United Nations resolutions," said senator Eugenio Tuma, a member of the Social Democratic Party, after a meeting with Foreign Affairs Minister Heraldo Munoz.

He also asked the Chilean government to take steps at the United Nations to demand the fulfillment of UN resolutions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, have Chile's ambassador in Israel explain what is happening and distance itself from Israel in certain foreign affairs.

A legislative petition to President Michelle Bachelet was signed by legislators from the conservative opposition and the Communist Party. The Foreign Ministry, according to Tuma, was taking steps to present such a petition to the UN Security Council so it could try to stop the killing of civilians in Gaza.

Chile currently holds a temporary seat on the UN Security Council. It is home to the largest Palestinian community outside the Middle East, numbering between 450,000 to 500,000 people.

Israel has been carrying out a massive military operation against the Palestinian Gaza Strip since last Tuesday to end Gaza rocket fire into its territories, killing at least 185 Palestinians and injuring about 1,400 others so far.

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