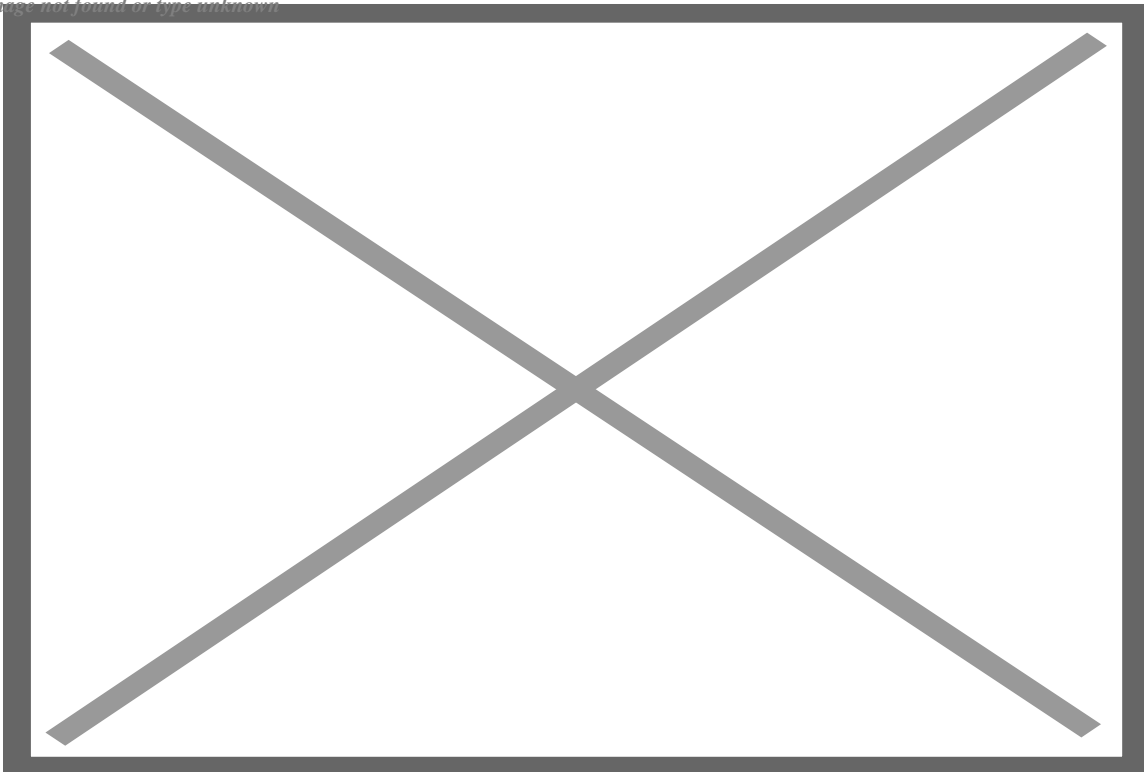


Palestinian cause is key to future of the Middle East

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Palestinian issue is considered key to the future of the Middle East

Havana, April 21 (RHC) - The Palestinian Foreign Ministry said today that the only way to achieve security and stability in the Middle East is to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

"Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's attempts to postpone resolving the Palestinian issue or to replace it with partial settlements are failed attempts that will only deepen and aggravate the situation", the Foreign and Expatriates Ministry said in a statement.

"Netanyahu deliberately and systematically ignores the Palestinian issue and the strategic advantages whose solution will have on the security and stability of the region and the world," he

stressed.

The note accused the Israeli head of government of trying to change priorities in the area to serve the interests of the colonial occupation. It warned that the goal is to buy more time to complete the Judaization of Jerusalem and the annexation of the West Bank.

The Foreign Ministry condemned yesterday in another statement the systematic expansion and construction of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, which violates various UN Security Council resolutions. The ministry also criticized the escalation of settler attacks against Palestinians, their land, livestock, property and holy sites in the West Bank, including the eastern part of the city of Jerusalem. (Source: Prensa Latina)

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