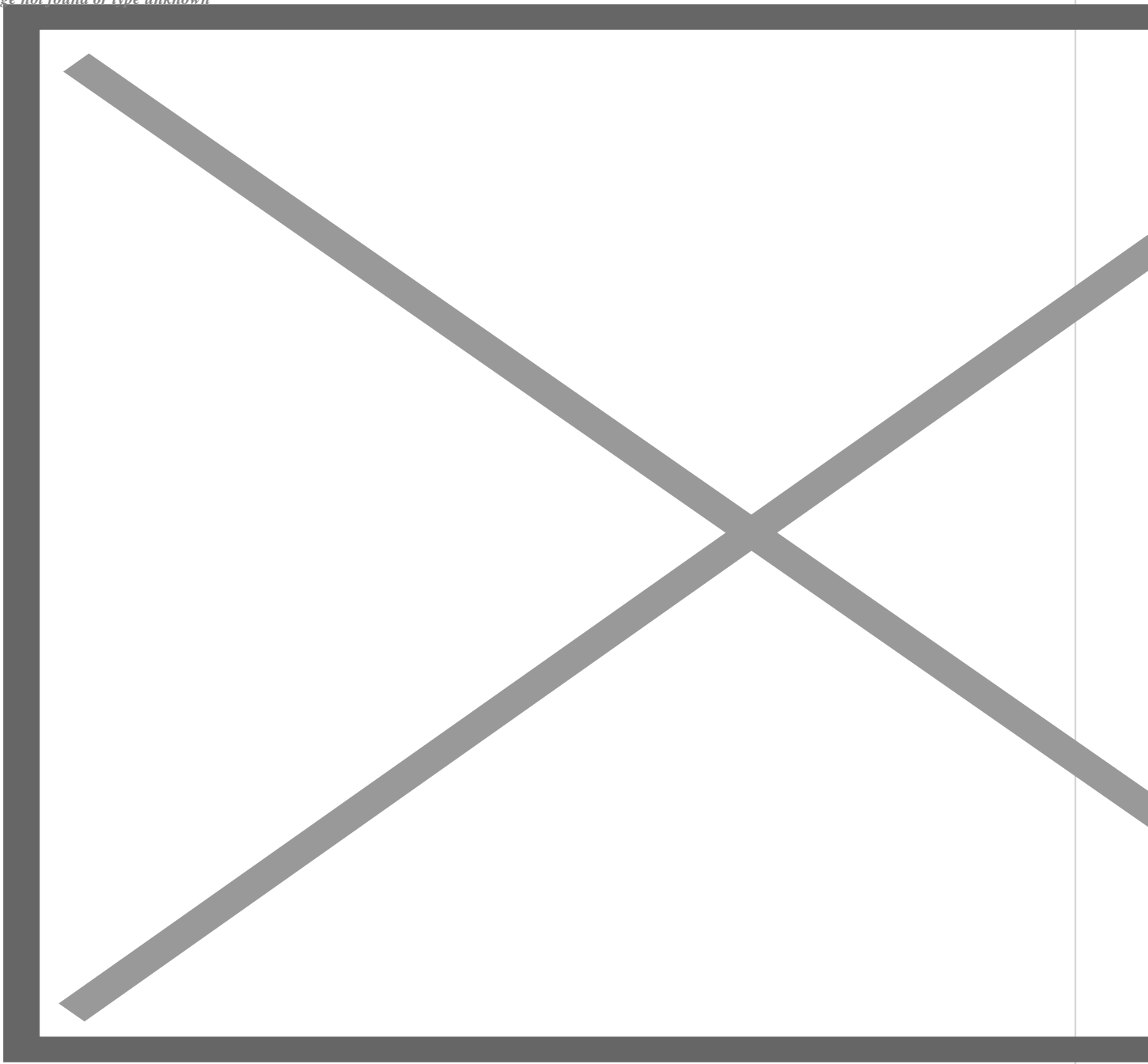


Cuba issues urgent UN Security Council call for ceasefire in Gaza

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United Nations, October 16 (RHC) -- The Cuban government reiterated Monday its urgent call for a ceasefire in Gaza and to allow the entry of humanitarian aid during the debate promoted by the General Assembly on the sovereignty of Palestine.

Our country's First Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Peñalver reaffirmed solidarity with the Palestinian people and concern over the current escalation.

"Violence will only contribute to exacerbate tensions and aggravate the humanitarian impact on civilians. The current scenario must stop; if it continues, the international community will look on inertly at the extermination of the Palestinian people," he warned.

The context, he added, is the result of decades of Israeli practices of illegal occupation and colonization, in flagrant violation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in their own territory.

The permanent representative of Cuba to the UN rejected the death of civilians and innocent people of all parties involved, regardless of ethnicity, nationality or religious faith.

At the same time, he condemned the killing of civilians, especially women, children and humanitarian workers of the United Nations system and the indiscriminate bombing of Gaza.

The diplomat considered regrettable the destruction of homes, hospitals and civilian infrastructure, as well as the deprivation of water, electricity and fuel services, actions that constitute serious violations of International Humanitarian Law.

At the same time, he supported the Syrian Government's demand to recover the Golan Heights, seized by Israel in 1967, and demanded the total and unconditional withdrawal from the area and from all occupied Arab territories (Source: Prensa Latina).

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