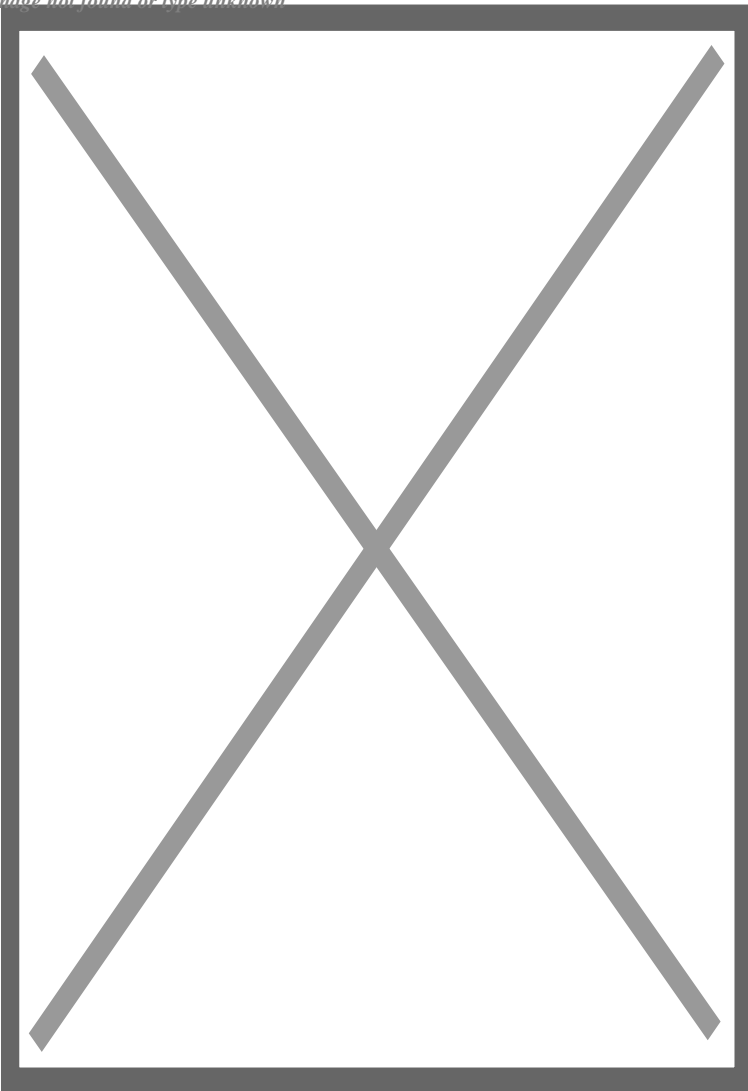


Bolivia severs diplomatic ties with Israel over crimes against humanity

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La Paz, November 1 (RHC)--- Bolivia has cut official ties with Israel over the war in Gaza as two other Latin American countries recalled their ambassadors in Tel Aviv for consultations.

Bolivia “decided to break diplomatic relations with the Israeli state in repudiation and condemnation of the aggressive and disproportionate Israeli military offensive taking place in the Gaza Strip,” Deputy Foreign Minister Freddy Mamani said at a press conference on Tuesday night.

Minister of the Presidency Maria Nela Prada also announced the country would send humanitarian aid to Gaza. “We demand an end to the attacks” in the Gaza Strip “which have so far caused thousands of civilian deaths and the forced displacement of Palestinians,” she said at the same press conference.

Neighbors Colombia and Chile also recalled their ambassadors for consultations condemning the deaths of civilians in Gaza and calling for a ceasefire.

Writing on social media site X, Chilean President Gabriel Boric accused Israel of “unacceptable violations of International Humanitarian Law” and following a policy of “collective punishment” of the people of Gaza, as he announced the recall of Ambassador Jorge Carvajal. Chile has the largest, and one of the oldest, Palestinian communities outside the Arab world.

Also writing on X, Colombian President Gustavo Petro called the attacks a “massacre of the Palestinian people.”

Other Latin American countries, including Mexico and Brazil, have also called for a ceasefire.

Bolivia is among the first nations to announce the end of diplomatic relations with Israel over its war in Gaza. At least 8,525 Palestinians have now been killed in Israel’s current war in Gaza.

Bolivia previously cut diplomatic ties with Israel in 2009, also in protest against Israel’s actions in Gaza. Relations were only restored in 2020.

About 2.3 million people live in Gaza and United Nations officials say more than 1.4 million of them have been made homeless by Israel’s relentless bombardment.

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