

France supports a two state solution, but Palestinians don't (Jean-Noel Barrot, Wall Street Journal, 15 Sep)

On: "France Supports a Two-State Solution" (by Jean-Noel Barrot, French foreign minister, Sept. 15, WSJ, page A13)

Dear Editor,

French foreign minister Jean-Noel Barrot writes that France supports a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. When have the Palestinians ever accepted one? Every Palestinian faction has rejected numerous offers of statehood, predating even 1948. The core goal of the Palestinian cause has always been Israel's destruction. Yasser Arafat famously said "we will drown them in our own blood".

Jordan is already the first Palestinian state, containing over three quarters of Balfour Mandate Palestine, and with a Palestinian majority. It could have set up a second state in the West Bank, which it controlled until 1967. Likewise, Egypt could have set up a third in the Gaza strip. Instead all those territories were used only to attack Israel.

Barrot writes of Palestinian democracy. Yet he ignores that Mahmoud Abbas is in the 21st year of a four year term, while Hamas' rule in Gaza has been enforced through execution of its opponents. Hamas and the PLO can agree only on Israel's demise. Barrot omits the 50 000 + missiles fired at Israel from multiple countries, the thousands of terror attacks from the West Bank aimed at Israelis, and Hamas' refusal to disarm.

Another Palestinian state will not bring peace to the Middle East, where there are still unresolved, and more deadly wars in Yemen, Sudan, Syria, Libya. Instead, it will be used only for more attacks on Israel, just as was Hamas ruled Gaza. There cannot be peace in the Holy Land until the Palestinians and their backers end their obsession with dismantling Israel.

Doron Lubinsky