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Thank you for the opportunity to share with you my remarks and thoughts on the present situation in the Middle East and the way it affects the State of Israel

Coming from a far away region of the world gives me a good perspective . Belonging to a small country gives me the experience on how hard that fact can be when you have to struggle for your independence among big neighbours.

Two critical issues appear on the horizon of Israel and the Jewish people : the latest events that have shaken the region and the bid of the Palestinian Authority to obtain an unilateral recognition as a state by the United Nations

By far , from my point of view , the first of these problems is the most complex and unknown in its final consequences . I dare say that the turmoil , the uprisings or revolutions we have witnessed in the Middle East countries are a novelty , do not have a precedent . This time it is not a Sadat to

Mubarak sucesión . This is no Assad to Assad transfer of power .
This is not a King Idris to Gadaffi process.

The forces unleashed by the social networks are mostly unknown to us , the world over . No scientific or scholar system of thought has yet arrived to at least a parcial explanation or a rational definition of this new kind of political power . We have seen , in modern times , the mobilisation of masses , we have seen upheavals of many kind promoted by carismatic leaders or well organizad political parties . We can say that those events were typical of the arab world . But what is afoot today is no kin of those past changes . Indeed the world has never before experienced = and on my opini3n will experience = something of this kind . The power unleashed by the cellphone and the million instant messages and connections it creates , is the dream of the radical anarchist and a nightmare to us all . ¿Where or when could we see a link of such force that unites human beings with a common thread that cannot be controlled by police , army , religious or secular power ? . No secret service can keep an eye of the coming and going messages that gather multitudes around a slogan . No riot police can club one and everyone to submission when everybody is on the march .

We are only at the beggining of a new type of political process that can = and we may say , will = reproduce in many

different parts of the world , specially where there are no democratic institutions to channel the hopes of the people . But what we must take care of today is how can this events affect the position of Israel , once again the only democratic country in the region. The outcome of this process is yet unknown . Lets hope that legitimate , law abiding governments come forth , but there is always the danger of them using the old trick of the anti Israel sentiment to become popular .

Gone are the certainties of yesterday , the known quantities of the international equation . Facing the need to sail in uncharted waters is not an easy task . Not knowing the way the dice will fall makes it even dramatic . In the face of these events we should go back to the basic principles on which the estate of Israel was recognized as a sovereign country . In that sense nothing new but standing fast by the essential affirmation of independence. No country , international organisation or political movement can question the right of Israel to exist . Moreover , no progress can be made in any negotiation , that is not preceded by the unilateral , conditional and unequivocal recognition that the independence , sovereignty and self determination of the Jewish people in the Jewish land is a final and definitive fact of international relationships .

As long as any dark force thinks , talks and acts otherwise , no better argument can be held on behalf of our stand with Israel and its people .

Let me share some remarks on the Palestinian State issue . Since the very moment of the UN resolution of 1947 , the two state solution has been in the center of the Middle East problems . Since then the obstacle to the arrival of a solution has been the Palestinian authority or the arab countries .

One permanent line of the diplomatic initiatives has been that the State of Israel and the Palestinin authorities are the only to reach a final undestanding through bilateral negotiations . All prior meetings , summits and agreements have had this condition at their center .

Now we see an international scheme taking place in a well orchestrated effort by leftist governments of many countries , including sadly enough , my own . Trying to circumvent the rules of the UN and having in sight the next september General Assembly , an intent is afoot to obtain an unlawful recognition of the Palestinian State by that body . Of course this is a road that leads nowhere and that even the sponsors know that will only eventually achieve a public relations goal.

Anyway and for good measure let us remind the world that , first , we dont find in the so called state all the characteritics of such ; second that trying to go it alone will not lead to anything but more difficulties and apease for a moment the radicals that do not really want a solution .

But foremost we repeat as the central argument shared by the civilized nations: as long as any country or political organisation denies the right af Israel to exist , we will stand by it , come rain or shine . The barbaric and autocratic intent of erasing from the face of the earth a sovereign country will not pass. It defies the imagination that after more than sixty years still some call for the throwing of the Jews to the sea ...So much for all the menaces , here stands Israel , free and strong as a beacon of civilazation and democracy . Ready to turn swords into ploghshares , but wielding , in the meantime the swords in strong hands.