

# During the latest escalation by Hamas, European leaders stood by Israel and its right to self-defense in an unprecedented manner



## AUSTRIA



## Iran's foreign minister cancels Austria visit over Israeli flag display

Javad Zarif was meant to meet with his Austrian counterpart on Saturday.

“

Austria stands  
behind Israel (...)  
There should never  
be neutrality in the  
face of terror.

Austrian  
Chancellor  
Sebastian  
Kurz



## CZECHIA

### NEWS

## Czech Republic Flies Israeli Flag Over Prague Castle In Support of Nation Amid Palestinian Clashes



## Czech FM shows solidarity with Israel





## GERMANY

### Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany



### German Foreign Minister Maas slams 'massive' attacks on Israel

Heiko Maas said that Israel had the right to defend itself against "this massive and unacceptable attack." He is visiting Israel and calling for a cease-fire.

### 'Showing friendship': European ministers visit in act of solidarity with Israel

German, Czech, and Slovak envoys stress Israel's right to self-defense as they tour rocket-devastated building in Petah Tikva

By LAZAR BERMAN  
20 May 2021, 4:14 pm



NEWS

### German politicians sound unprecedented pro-Israel rhetoric at Berlin rally

“

**It is right that Israel strikes back...and strikes back hard. (...) I reaffirm Israel's right to defend itself against the attacks.**

**German Chancellor Angela Merkel**



## SLOVAKIA

### German, Czech, Slovakian FMs to visit Israel Thursday amid Gaza fighting

Ashkenazi says trips by top European diplomats are 'further proof of the broad support and legitimacy Israel has from the nations of the world'

### Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia







## THE UK

**'You can always count on us': UK top diplomat visits Israel after Gaza fighting**

### UK Foreign Secretary



### Minister for Middle East in the UK Foreign Office



### Ambassador of the UK in Israel



## THE EU / EUROPE

### President of the EU Commission



## How Europe Became Pro-Israel

The most recent fighting with Palestinians has revealed a radical change in European foreign policy that's been years in the making.



## On Israel-Palestine, Americans and Europeans swap scripts

National discussions about racism, immigration and terrorism have recast the debate on both sides of the Atlantic.

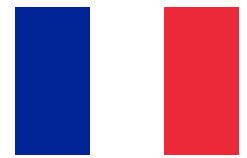
## Israel says US, Europe allies supportive on Gaza conflict; not so the Arab world

Netanyahu, Ashkenazi thank Western counterparts; Arab states express criticism – often highlighting Jerusalem more than Gaza

### None of the European countries members of the UN Human Rights Council voted in favor of an investigation into Israel's actions in Gaza







## FRANCE

President of France



“

Israel has the right to defend itself.

French President Emmanuel Macron



## SLOVENIA

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia



### Austria, Slovenia fly Israeli flags in show of support

'Nothing justifies terrorist rocket fire from Gaza,' top Vienna diplomat says as EU countries take stand for security of Jewish state amid conflict with Hamas



## CROATIA

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia



## GREECE

Greek Foreign Minister arrives to express solidarity with Israel



“

I condemn in the clearest way the firing of thousands of rockets by Hamas against Israel. Israel has the right to self-defence.

Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Dendias







# LITHUANIA

## Lithuanian Parliament

Lithuanian parliament condemned the "terrorist organization Hamas, backed by the Iranian ayatollah regime" for "deliberately targeting Israeli civilians."

Foreign Affairs committee also noted that Israel, a democracy, "has the right to defend itself".

expresses its concern over the ominous escalation of the situation between Israelis and Palestinians as since 10 May 2021 the terrorist organisation Hamas, backed by the Iranian ayatollah regime, has launched hundreds of rockets from the Gaza Strip, which is only 70 kilometres away from Tel Aviv, into almost every Israeli city;

condemns the rocket attacks deliberately targeted by the terrorist organisation Hamas against the civilian population of Israel;

notes that the State of Israel, where various nationalities live in democracy, has the right to defend itself against any attack or terror aimed exclusively at the civilian population;

calls on the international community to exercise its political leverage to force the terrorist organisation Hamas to cease the violence and killings of Israeli civilians;

## President of Lithuania



Gitanas Nausėda  
@GitanasNauseda

Lithuania condemns rocket attacks from #Gaza and urges de-escalation. #Israel has an inherent right to self-defense, at the same time, all civilian lives must be protected. Violence is not a solution. @PresidentRuvi

## Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania



Gabrielius Landsbergis  
@GLandsbergis

My heart goes out to the people of Ashkelon & other #Israel cities on whose houses & lives rockets rained last few days. Violence is unacceptable. Both sides should work to deescalate tensions in East Jerusalem and strive for a peaceful solution.



# BULGARIA

## Bulgaria condemns rocket attacks on Israel

"We strongly condemn the ongoing rocket attacks and attacks on the civilian population, which are absolutely unacceptable and must be stopped immediately," said the joint statement, read out by Stoev at a handover ceremony at the Foreign Ministry.

The provocative rocket fire from Gaza was terrorising the Israeli and Arab populations in and around Jerusalem and must be stopped immediately, the statement said.

Non of EU countries supported the measure. Austria, **Bulgaria**, Cameroon, Czech Rep, Germany, Malawi, Marshall Islands, UK & Uruguay opposed



UN opens Israeli war crimes probe following Gaza war, calls for embargo  
Following Operation Guardian of the Walls against Gaza terrorist groups, for the first time ever the UNHRC has created a permanent fact-finding...  
jpost.com

## Bulgaria Strongly Condemns Hamas Rocket Attacks on Israel



# ITALY

(ANSA) - ROME, MAY 18 - Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio told an extraordinary EU meeting on the Middle East conflict Tuesday that "we condemn the indiscriminate launch of rockets from Gaza: it is unacceptable and must cease, just as calling into question Israel's right to exist is unacceptable. We recognise Israel's legitimate right to protect its population but the Israeli military response must be proportionate and aimed at preventing further civilian victims".



# THE NETHERLANDS

## German, Dutch leaders express strong support for Israel's right to defend itself

## Prime Minister of the Netherlands



Mark Rutte  
@MinPres

Very concerned about ongoing violence in Israel and Gaza. Hamas firing rockets indiscriminately at civilians is unacceptable. The Netherlands respects Israel's right to proportionate self-defence, within the limits of international law.





## HUNGARY

### Hungary FM slams EU's 'one-sided' statements on Israel

Peter Szijjarto urges bloc to engage in 'less judgement, less lecturing, less criticism, less interference and more pragmatic cooperation'



Hungary has been among very few countries that were vocal in giving support to Israel during the recent two weeks of Hamas rockets.



## CYPRUS



Deeply concerned by latest escalation of violence and by barrage of rockets fired indiscriminately from [#Gaza](#) against civilian population in [#Israel](#). This is totally unacceptable and must end now. We urge restraint on all sides, calling on them to engage in de-escalatory efforts.



## MOLDOVA



FM [@AureliuCiocoi](#): [#Moldova](#) strongly condemns violence & terror - firing rockets on civilians is not justifiable. We stand by [@IsraelMFA](#) & call on all sides to engage in de-escalatory efforts, as well as intl community to work on [#peace](#) talks according to relevant [#UN](#) resolutions



## UKRAINE



Ukraine condemns the escalation in East Jerusalem, in & around Gaza & West Bank, leading to multiple casualties. Rocket attacks at Israel from Gaza must stop immediately. Recognizing the right of Israel to self-defense, we call upon all parties to refrain from escalating violence



## KOSOVO



As every state [#Israel](#) has the right and the obligation to defend its people against 2000+ rockets fired at civilians only by Hamas, who is holding Palestinian civilians hostage in its war. We mourn all victims. We urge for refrain, stop of violence & seeking peaceful solutions.



## POLAND

Ambassador of Poland in Israel



Replying to [@mmagierowski](#)

I strongly condemn Hamas' strikes against civilians in Israel. Terror is always a dead end. My condolences to the families of all victims.