

Forum: 4th Committee: Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL)

Issue: The question of establishing peace in Israel-Palestine.

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Introduction

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is a territorial conflict, it is based on the dispute over the state (administrative) ownership of the territories, their administrative status, and the right of certain groups of people to reside on these territories, own and dispose of them.

As is known, the basis of the conflict is the claims of two nation - Arabs and Jews to the same territory - Palestine.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is a confrontation between Israel and some Arab states, nations and organizations, mainly located and operating in the Middle East region. The immediate participants in the conflict were, in addition to Israel - Egypt, Syria, Jordan, as well as Lebanon. On the Arab side, these are many Arab countries and a number of Muslim states. From Israel - France, Great Britain, Germany and some other states of the West.

The Israel-Palestine conflict is the longest and most acute of all the unresolved conflicts in the world. Its beginning dates to the 40s of the 20th century and is associated with the problem of the establishment of Jewish and Arab states in Palestine. Such a decision was adopted by the UN General Assembly on November 29, 1947. However, this decision was initially rejected by the neighboring Arab states, and by the Arab population of Palestine itself.

Definition of Key Terms

UN resolution of November 29, 1947- According to it, the territory of Palestine was divided into two independent states - the Arab (area of 11 thousand square kilometers) and the Jewish (area of 14 thousand square kilometers). Separately, as planned, an international zone was established in the territory of the city of Jerusalem. By early August 1948, the British colonists, according to plan, were to leave the territory of Palestine.

History

In 1947, the UN adopted a decision on the establishment on the previously mandated British territory of two independent states - Palestine and Israel. In response to this decision, several Arab countries - Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, began fighting against the Jews. The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia were on the side of Israel.

The attack of the Arab armies occurred on May 14, 1948. With considerable difficulty, having lost many people, the Israelis managed to defend their independence, while the territory of Palestine was occupied by them, on the one hand, Egypt and Jordan, on the other. The mass of refugees left the region, about 800 thousand Jews arrived in Israel, forced to leave the Arab countries.

In 1956, the Suez crisis took place, when Great Britain and France sent their troops to Egypt, the country in response to the nationalization of the Suez Canal.

In 1956, the Movement for the National Liberation of Palestine (Fatah) was founded, later transformed into the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). In 1967, Egypt, Syria and Jordan were preparing for a new war with Israel. But on June 5, 1967, the Israeli Air Force attacked the airfields of Egypt, and then the land battle began.

During the Six Day War, the armies of the Arab countries were defeated. A new outbreak of the conflict took place on October 6, 1973. The armies of Egypt and Syria simultaneously attacked Israel. After suffering significant losses, the Israelis won this battle. Realizing the impossibility of solving the problem exclusively by military methods, Egypt and Israel concluded a peace treaty at Camp David on March 26, 1979. The Egyptians recognized Israel, that returned them the Sinai Peninsula and pledged to start negotiations on the establishment of Palestinian autonomy. In 1982, Israel army entered the territory of neighboring Lebanon to stop shelling of its northern areas from its territory, undertaken by PLO militants. In 1993, negotiations were held in Oslo. Between the PLO and the State of Israel there was signed an agreement on the introduction of a system of local self-government in the Gaza Strip. On the basis of these agreements, in the following year, 1994, the Palestinian National Authority was founded, which in 2013 was officially renamed the State of Palestine. The creation of this state did not bring the long-awaited peace. The Israel-Palestine conflict still takes places and is one of the most acute international problems today.

Key Issues

After several wars between Israel and the Arab countries, many humanitarian problems appeared, the main of which are the following:

- the problem of the bases and Israeli settlers
- the problem of prisoners of war and political prisoners
- the problem of the daily bombing of Israel and the Palestinian Authority

Major parties involved

Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Egypt, Iraq and other Arab countries.

Timeline

1947 - the adoption of the UN plan for the partition of Palestine into the Arab and Jewish states.

After the establishment of the State of Israel (1948)

Relations with Arab countries

1948 - War of Independence

1948 - 1970s. - Mass exodus of Jews from Arab countries as a result of pogroms and harassment, the influx of people into Israel

1949-1955 - Support for "guerrilla war" against Israel from the territories occupied by Egypt and Jordan, and Syria.

1956 - The Suez Crisis

1967 - The Six Day War

1967-1970 - War of attrition

1973 - The Doomsday War

1979 - Camp David Agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty

1982 - The Lebanon War

1993, 1995 - Agreements in Oslo

1994 - Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty

2000 - Withdrawal of troops from southern Lebanon

2006 - The Second Lebanon War

Evaluation of Previous Attempts

UN resolution of November 29, 1947, was unsuccessful by the reason of being rejected by Arab states, and by the Arab population of Palestine.

On January 15, 2017, the International Conference on the Middle East Settlement was held in Paris. Representatives of 70 countries took part in the forum, whose goal was to contribute to the resumption of the deadlocked Palestinian-Israeli peace talks. Israel boycotted it, believing that it only distances the world, strengthening the intransigence of the positions of the Palestinians. The Palestinians welcomed the multilateral approach, noting that the years of negotiations with Israel did not bring the issue closer.

Possible solutions

- Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories of 1967, including Jerusalem and the land of Palestine;
- The status of Jerusalem (recognition of the Eastern part of Jerusalem as the capital of a Palestinian state);
- Resolving the problem of Palestinian refugees - the right to return about 4 million refugees to their former place of residence, that is, to Israel (the fact is that during the first war of 1948, some 700,000 Palestinians fled their lands and were placed in camps at territories of neighboring countries, now they are already two and a half million, they are descendants of those who fled, they live in Gaza and Jordan);
- The liquidation of Jewish settlements in the Palestinian territory (mainly in the eastern part of Jerusalem and the East Bank of the Jordan River).

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Appendices

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