

The crises of the conflict in the Middle East, especially the situation of creating a sovereign free state “ Palestine“ out of the Palestinian areas, is one of the most important issues in this region.

At a summit about the future of the Near and Middle East, His Majesty King Abdullah II stressed out the origins that led to the decline of the situation. A main reason was the lack of international support from the foreign nations as well as the devastating economic situation of the region.

Furthermore, the question of leadership will be dominating the domestic Israeli and Palestinian and US policies especially because of the wide gaps remaining between the parties regarding the core issues like the age-old dispute over Jerusalem, the refugees issue and the settlements case. In order to overcome these wide gaps, an effective Arab unity is a precondition for substantive peace negotiations with Israel. Therefore, we pled to follow a path drawn by the Arab Peace Initiative of 2002, in which a suitable proposal has been presented for both parties. On the contrary, Israel itself should demonstrate its willingness for setting a two state solution as its primary goal.

From our perspective, we want to take part in this initiative and play a key role to achieve a satisfactory agreement for both parts of the conflict. Our goal and hope is to achieve a long lasting and maintaining peace relationship between two free and sovereign states. Therefore we suggest establishing two recognized states with a divided Jerusalem as a capital of both as well as the return of Israel to 1967 borders. Both parties should overcome their differences by deliberating concrete offers for the presence to oversee the implementation of a final status agreement.

From our point of view, the achievement of the following goals is necessary for sustainable peace in the whole region:

- 1) The eastern border and territory issues must be resolved by both authorities.
- 2) We insist that the agreement between Israel and Jordan about water resources that was reached in the peace accord in 1994 will not be violated.
- 3) The Palestinian refugees in Jordan and the West Bank issue must definitely be an important point to discuss in the negotiations.
- 4) A point that must not be forgotten is the importance of the security of all religious places in Jerusalem in case of the division of the City. Both parties must commit to secure the holy sites and secure them!

Our hope is to stop disillusioning Palestinians with immediate and unrealistic prospects for peace but instead to take small steps towards sustainable peace.