

Parliamentary Assembly  
Assemblée parlementaire



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## n in the Middle East

Report  
Political Affairs Committee  
Rapporteur: Mr Mikhail Margelov, Russian Federation, European Democrat Group

### Summary

The report takes note of the results of the recent Palestinian Legislative Council reaffirms that the political dialogue aimed at the peaceful settlement of the Palestinian issue should be continued. The international community has an important role to play in the process of the political dialogue. At the same time, the Assembly stresses the incompatibility of the political process with armed or terrorist activities. It strongly urges the leaders of Hamas to renounce violence, recognise the state of Israel and express support for the process as outlined in the Oslo accords.

The Rapporteur proposes concrete ways in which the Parliamentary Assembly could contribute to the positive climate leading to the resumption of dialogue between conflicting parties.

**A. Draft Resolution**

1. The Parliamentary Assembly welcomes the fact that the elections held in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on 25 January 2006, despite some shortcomings, were held in a well organised and democratic fashion and can be considered as fair and free.

2. The elections showed the commitment of the Palestinian people to democracy and constituted an important step forward in the creation of democratic institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

3. The Assembly takes note of the choice of the Palestinian people to elect Hamas as the winner of the parliamentary elections.

4. At the same time, the Assembly underlines that the participation of the Palestinian parties in the political process is incompatible with involvement in armed or terrorist activities. Use of violence and terrorism cannot be accepted as a measure to achieve political goals.

5. In this regard, it is a matter of priority that Hamas, the winner of the parliamentary elections, renounces violence, disarms and recognises Israel's right to exist. Similarly, a newly appointed Palestinian Government has to take a clear stand on the peace negotiations and respect previous agreements.

The result of the parliamentary elections held in Israel on 28 March 2006 creates a new opportunity for the resumption of the political dialogue and this opportunity must not be wasted. Kadima, the party which won the elections, and its partners in a future government have a great responsibility to seek a sustainable settlement of the conflict and should not be undertaken. The Assembly reaffirms its conviction that the Roadmap continues to be a valid reference for the negotiations and a two-state solution. In the framework of this respect for the Roadmap, the Assembly calls on the Palestinian authorities to dismantle the terrorist groups and their infrastructures.

The Assembly calls on the international community, and in particular the Quartet (the European Union, the United States) should actively contribute to the creation of a peaceful settlement of the conflict, while ensuring the resumption of contacts between both parties to the conflict, while meeting their requirements from the new Palestinian Authority Government to commit to the renunciation of violence, recognition of Israel and acceptance of previous agreements and a two-state solution.

The Assembly strongly urges the leaders of Hamas to:  
- renounce violence, recognise the state of Israel within its internationally recognised borders, and express support for the Middle East peace process as a democratic process in the Palestinian Authority;  
- renounce the state of Israel within its internationally recognised borders, and express support for the Middle East peace process as a democratic process in the Palestinian Authority;  
- renounce the state of Israel within its internationally recognised borders, and express support for the Middle East peace process as a democratic process in the Palestinian Authority;

The Assembly also calls on the Government of Israel to:  
- renounce the state of Israel within its internationally recognised borders, and express support for the Middle East peace process as a democratic process in the Palestinian Authority;  
- renounce the state of Israel within its internationally recognised borders, and express support for the Middle East peace process as a democratic process in the Palestinian Authority;