



GROUP OF FRIENDS
IN DEFENSE OF THE
CHARTER OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY H.E. MR. HECTOR CONSTANT ROSALES, AMBASSADOR, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA, DURING THE DEBATE OF AGENDA ITEM 7, ENTITLED “HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES”, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 52nd SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Geneva, 28 March 2023

Mr. President,

1. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has the honor to take the floor on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations.
2. For many years, the countries of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations have maintained a firm position of solidarity with the Palestinian people and its just cause, and the condemnation of the massive, flagrant and systematic violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law committed by Israel.
3. The Group of Friends expresses its grave concern at the continuing Israeli settlement and related activities, including the expansion of settlements, the expropriation of land, the demolition of houses, and the confiscation and destruction of property, which changed the physical character and demographic composition of the occupied territories and the occupied Syrian Golan.
4. The Group of Friends also underscores the need to continue providing political, economic and humanitarian support to assist the Palestinian people and to bolster their resilience and efforts aimed at achieving their legitimate national aspirations, including their inalienable right to self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine.
5. The Group of Friends reaffirms the unwavering support and solidarity with the Syrian just demand and rights to restore the full sovereignty over the occupied Syrian Golan.

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6. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations seize this opportunity to reaffirm its longstanding solidarity with the Palestinian people and reiterate its support for the realization of their legitimate national aspirations and inalienable rights, including self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its Capital.

I thank you, Mr. President.