Daily Press Briefing by the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General

January 27, 2016

[http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/db160127.doc.htm](https://mail.hrvoices.org/OWA/redir.aspx?REF=nd7ovFaBRMEA6OQqQZgfsJMg1U8QdFbZrJfCYjjiGLOUW920ZifTCAFodHRwOi8vd3d3LnVuLm9yZy9wcmVzcy9lbi8yMDE2L2RiMTYwMTI2LmRvYy5odG0.)

 Noon Briefings

"...Also I wanted to come back to yesterday’s statement by the Secretary General on the Middle East peace process. I think it has provoked a lot of reaction, some of it negative. Just to underscore that the Secretary General stands by every word that he used in the Security Council. Some have accused the Secretary General of ‘justifying terrorism.’ Nothing could be further from the truth. The Secretary General has repeatedly said that nothing, absolutely nothing justifies terrorism. We have to work together to fight the sources and the causes that fuel that terrorism. To echo what the Secretary General said yesterday in the Security Council. He condemns the stabbings, vehicle attacks and shootings by Palestinians targeting Israeli civilians. Again, nothing excuses terror. The Secretary General rejects the language that accused him of ‘giving terror a tailwind.’ Anyone is free to pick and choose from what they like and dislike from the Secretary General’s speeches, words can continue to be twisted but the grave reality cannot be obstructed. At the same time, if we want to see an end to this violence security measures will not be enough, we must address the root causes, the underlying frustrations and failure to achieve a political solution. After nearly 50 years of occupation, decades after Oslo, Palestinians, especially young Palestinians are losing hope. Israelis and Palestinians and the international community need to read the writing on the wall. The status quo is untenable. It undermines the security of Israelis and the future of Palestinians. And also just to note that the Secretary General will be speaking at the Opening Session of the Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and that is I believe at about 3 PM."