French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner and his Spanish counterpart Miguel Moratinos have revealed that the European Union is now considering a proposal which would offer international recognition to a Palestinian state, even before a final peace agreement is reached by Israel and the Palestinian Authority. The comments came as PA President Abbas arrived in France ahead of a meeting with the French government tomorrow. In an interview with the French newspaper, Journal du Dimanche,
Kouchner indicated that he felt 'tempted' by prospect of recognizing a Palestinian state before permanent borders had been agreed. It is hoped that official recognition of a Palestinian state might act as an incentive for the Palestinians to reach a quick agreement with Israel, while encouraging the Israelis to withdraw from 'Palestinian territory' as soon as possible. But the EU proposal has angered Israeli officials, who believe it will further undermine the credibility of the peace process by offering the Palestinians yet another reason not to recommence the talks. As we have seen recently, US President Obama's demand that Israel cease all settlement activity in Judea, Samaria and east Jerusalem helped to harden the Palestinian position and prevent their return to the negotiating table. And now the EU's proposal of recognizing a Palestinian state, whether Israel likes it or not, will provide yet another excuse for the Palestinians not to negotiate in good faith. After all, if the international community does not recognize Israel's annexation of east Jerusalem, the Palestinians may feel they will get a better deal from the EU by sitting tight than they ever would by directly negotiating with Israel. It's a recipe for disaster.

The Spanish government , which currently holds the rotating presidency of the European Union, announced at the beginning of the year that they would make the establishment of a Palestinian state their number one priority. Javier Solana , the former High Representative for the European Common, Foreign and Security Policy, was one of the first to suggest a unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state if a negotiated settlement was not forthcoming. That proposal was later echoed by President Obama , and has now been officially adopted by the Palestinian Authority . Last year, during the Swedish presidency of the European Union, we had the proposal to legally recognize Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state. And although that proposal was watered down, it reflects a growing impatience in the EU with the Middle East peace process, and brings us ever closer to the fulfilment of Zechariah 12:2-3.

Quote: *""The issue before us at the moment is the building of a reality," Kouchner told the Journal du Dimanche in an interview published yesterday. "France is training Palestinian police, businesses are being created in the West Bank... It follows that one can envision the proclamation soon of a Palestinian state, and its immediate recognition by the international community, even before negotiating its borders." "If by mid-2011, the political process has not ended the [Israeli] occupation, I would bet that the developed state of*

Palestinian infrastructure and institutions will be such that the pressure will force Israel to give up its occupation," he added.

What the world does not understand is that the goal of establishing a Palestinian state is not the creation of a homeland for the Palestinian people. There is no Palestinian national identity. At no time in history has Jerusalem been the capital of an Arab state. And while the Palestinian Authority recognizes Israel because it is required to do so by the Oslo Accords, Fatah and Hamas do not and never will recognize Israel's right to exist. It is foolish to think that those who have been at war with the Jews for the 60 years of Israel's history will suddenly lay down their arms once a Palestinian state is declared. Peace will not be forthcoming when the EU recognizes 'Palestine'. In reality the purpose of establishing a Palestinian state is to undermine Israel's sovereignty in the land and hasten the demise of the Jewish state. The Bible seems to indicate that this peace process is set to continue well into Daniel's seventieth week, the final seven years of man's rule on this earth. During this time, a world leader will arise out of the revived Roman Empire, who will attempt to force an agreement on Israel and its neighbours by dividing God's land for gain (Daniel 9:27, 11:39). Israel's enemies shall be in siege against Judah and Jerusalem (also known as the West Bank), and the eastern half of the city will fall to the Gentiles for a three and a half year period (Zechariah 12:2, 14:2, Revelation 11:2). Thus will commence the time known as Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7). And Israel as a nation will suffer for their rejection of the Messiah at His first advent. Only when they turn to Him in their distress, will He deliver them out of all their troubles (Zechariah 12:10). As you can see, that is day is fast approaching. The Lord Jesus Christ is coming back. He promised in John 14:3, " if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also ". Have you had your sins forgiven through trusting in Him for salvation:? Is He coming again to receive you unto Himself? He bore the punishment for your sins when He died upon the cross. Why not trust in Him for salvation today.

Luke 19:9-10
And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Source Haaretz