Written by Chris Perver Tuesday, 03 May 2011 14:07

The Palestinian Authority delegation to the United Kingdom, which has been afforded Diplomatic Mission status in many countries of the European Union, has launched a new website as part of the latest drive towards international recognition of a Palestinian state. Despite the fact that the Palestinian delegation has not yet been afforded Full General Delegation status by the British government, the website's logo boldly proclaims that it is the 'Palestinian Embassy' of the UK. That may be forgiveable considering the approaching deadline set by the <u>EU</u>, the <u>US</u>, and the <u>Palestinian Authority</u> for the establishment of a Palestinian state of September of this year.

Perhaps they are anticipating that the United Nations will indeed vote in favour of recognizing a Palestinian state, and that Palestine is effectively a state in all but name. And reading the welcome message, one could be forgiven for thinking that all the Palestinian Authority wants is for there to be two states, living side by side in peace and security. They nobly proclaim

in their welcome message that they

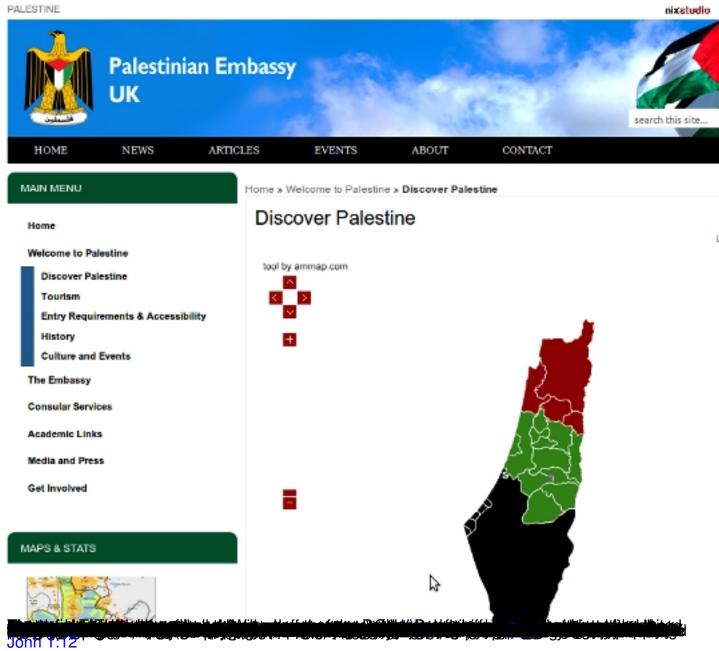
"advocate a peaceful Palestinian state with secure and internationally recognised borders encompassing the West Bank and Gaza with East Jerusalem as the Capital of Palestine. We believe that through international support, recognition and advocacy of a self-governing and viable Palestinian state we can help to facilitate peace in the region"

- . Noble aspirations indeed. And they say that
- "in order to establish the foundations of the state-building process it is necessary for Israel to end its Occupation over the Palestinian Territories, and return to the borders of 1967"
- . That is what the international community wants. But something is missing from that statement which only really becomes noticeable when you view some of the other pages on the website. There is no recognition of Israel's right to exist. Of course the Palestinian leadership talk of 1967 borders because that is what the international community recognizes. But the establishment of a Palestinian state on these borders does not automatically imply Palestinian recognition of Israel's right to exist. They recognize Israel's existence, very much so, but not it's right to exist. There is a crucial difference. That is why a negotiated agreement is so important, and that is one of the reasons why the Palestinian Authority is so keen on achieving international recognition of a Palestinian state without making peace with the Jews. Have a look at this screenshot of the

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page on the Palestine Embassy UK website. No prizes for guessing what is missing...

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But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name

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