Arab leaders attending a conference in Madrid, hosted by Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Moratinos, have expressed their optimism that they can continue the path to the recognition and normalization of relations with Israel. The meeting was attended by 19 members of the Arab League, including Syria, Yemen, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Tunisia. In a joint statement, the leaders of these countries said they were hopeful that the formation of a national unity government in the Palestinian territories could contribute to finding a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

**Quote:** *"At the start of the conference, Moratinos called for an end to negative perceptions diving the West and the Arab world and contributing to the creation of Islamaphobia and anti-Western feelings. He said that he wanted to work together with the European Union in order to enable a Palestinian government to be a partner for a dialogue with the international community.*

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is expected to visit Brussels today to meet with Javier Solana , the High Representative for the European Common, Foreign and Security Policy, to discuss how they should progress after the announcement of the Mecca agreement last week. So it seems that Europe is still spearheading efforts in the region, despite increased involvement in the process from the United States.

I think Europe will press for Abbas and Haniyeh to make some sort of public statement about Israel after the formation of the unity government. Possibly something along the lines of a announcing a long term truce and a promise to abide by previous agreements with Israel. Europe could press Israeli leaders to make a public statement committing to a full withdrawal to 1967 borders within a defined period of time, and call for Arab nations to normalize relations based on this promise. Perhaps then the economic boycott against the Palestinian Authority could be lifted. The result would be Israel would get a temporary peace from the Palestinian terrorist organizations, the Palestinians would get international aid and the Arab nations will get the promise of having "their" land back. Everyone wins. At least, for those who don't read their Bibles, it will appear so.

Friends, this conflict seems to be all about land, but it is not, and it will never be solved through land. Arab nations have not recognized Israel's right to exist at all, even before 1967. Israel's existence today is a modern miracle and proves the existence of God. Outnumbered and outgunned Israel has survived, not

because of the help of the US or any other country, but solely on God's promise to Abraham 4000 years ago. The promise that his seed would inherit the land from the river of Egypt to Hamath in modern Syria, from the river Euphrates to the Mediterranean. What we are seeing today is not a conflict over land, for Eretz Yisrael does not amount to a drop in a bucket compared to the land the Arabs control. It is a very spiritual conflict that is fought, not particularly between Arab and Jew, but between the "seed of promise" and the "seed of the bondwoman", and ultimately between God and Satan. When looking at this conflict, we need to be looking at it from God's perspective and not from man's, for it is God that has given this land to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and it will be God who will solve it. This is why as a Christian I support Israel, not because they are a righteous people for they are not, nor because they are better than every other people for they are not. But because God made a promise to Abraham, and through believing in the covenant of blood of Yeshua HaMashiach, I have been made a partaker in these eternal promises. God is sovereign and can chose whomsoever He will give His land to, it doesn't belong to the Jews or the Arabs, its His land (Leviticus 25:23).

Deuteronomy 9:4-5

Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee. Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee, and that he may perform the word which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Source YNet News , People's Daily