Palestinian foreign minister urges EU to find multilateral peace-sponsoring mechanism

Ramallah, March 27 (RHC) -- Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Malki urged Monday the European Union to take an active role in finding an international multilateral mechanism to sponsor the peace process between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Malki spoke at a joint press conference with his visiting German counterpart Heiko Maas after his meeting with the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas at the Ramallah headquarters.

He reiterated the Palestinian position that the U.S. administration "is not an acceptable mediator between Palestine and Israel," after its recent unilateral decision, recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

Malki highlighted that Palestine is committed to the two-state solution and all the UN and international legitimacy resolutions, and that the Palestinians call for "an international peace conference to form an international multilateral group committed to the international legitimacy to overlook the peace process between us and Israel."

Meanwhile, also on Monday, the Israelis inaugurated a new government-sponsored settlement in the occupied West Bank.

The establishment of the settlement, known as Amichai, would be home to about 40 families.

Israel occupied the West Bank in the 1967 Middle East war and has kept its control over the territories, despite international criticism.

The settlements are illegal under international law and constitute the main obstacle to peace.

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