

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Dear Mr. Secretary of State:

On behalf of the Government of Argentina I will like to convey to you the following thoughts.

Argentina is concerned about the differences between your government and the State of Israel on the negotiations to conclude an agreement to reduce tensions over nuclear issues between the permanent members of the Security Council plus Germany and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

On this subject I can only reiterate the position of my government to support the peaceful resolution of conflicts based on negotiations between the involved parties.

Argentina, it should be recalled, regrets that your government has not accepted our request that the cause of the terrorist attack on the headquarters of the Mutual Jewish Community Center (AMIA) be included in the negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, as we have requested in writing the same day that the negotiations, until then secret, became public. Today, I am asking you again that the AMIA issue be included in the negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As for the terrible attack on AMIA, that happened almost 21 years ago and took the lives of 85 people, most of them Argentines we continue trusting that the Argentine Judiciary, responsible for its clarification under the division of powers, will apply the law on perpetrators of such heinous criminal act, however the judiciary has not being able to detain, judge or condemn the perpetrators of such frightening act.

It is also important to remember the first international terrorism attack conducted in the Republic Argentina, the explosion of the Embassy of Israel in which 29 people were assassinated. In this case, by diplomatic laws in force, the Supreme Court is responsible for the investigation, and for years it has not made public any report on any action or progress in the investigation.

On several occasions we have expressed that Argentina has no strategic, no military, no intelligence and no espionage interest in the Middle East. We oppose, on political and moral grounds, any act that promotes violence or violation of sovereignty both in an open or covert way. Argentina feels obliged to reiterate that our territory should not be used for purposes of geopolitical and military interests of third countries.

The Argentine people suffered State terrorism between 1976 and 1983. Thousands of Argentines were persecuted, tortured, murdered and disappeared. Even today we don't know the whereabouts of more than 400 children born in captivity and appropriated by the dictators and their cronies. However, there was no single case of revenge. The Government, together with the Legislature, made if possible for the Judicial Power to work through judges and the laws of our Constitution, enjoying fully all rights and guarantees enshrined therein, in particular the due process and the fundamental principle of right of defense. No repressor died in Argentina or in another country because of a bomb under his car, or by a missile aimed at his home or by military intervention, in any

action decided by the state. The Argentine government does not kidnap people and moves them to secret prisons or detention camps, either. Simply, we stuck to comply with the laws of our country and with international laws on human rights.

Argentina is greatly concerned about the increasing frequency with which many countries are used as scenarios in which other states get involved to define disputes according to their own geopolitical interests. We are also concerned to see how propaganda mechanisms are used overtly or covertly for such purposes. My country rejects such acts and we don't want them to happen in our territory.

Argentina has been and will remain a land of redemption for millions of people who were persecuted in their home countries. Everyone who came to our country during all democratic governments got the opportunity to integrate and to progress. More importantly, they had the ability to live freely without being persecuted by their origin, ethnicity or religion. In my meetings with the leaders of these communities, I always reiterated them the firm position of my government to prevent that historical clashes that take place in their country of origin be settled in Argentina . The Argentine people does not have to tolerate, much less to suffer that our country become a theater of political operations, intelligence , or worse , a theater of events and more severe actions, conflicts that are completely unrelated to our history, our idiosyncrasy and our way of life.

As Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina I believe it is important to request that the diplomatic staff accredited in our country observe the rules stipulated by the Vienna Convention and our local laws in cases not governed by the said international agreement, in particular on non-interference in the internal affairs in the jurisdictions they serve.

Mr. Secretary,

It is my hope that we continue discussing these issues at every opportunity we meet and that we use those opportunities to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our countries.

Yours Faithfully,

Héctor Timerman

Minister of Foreign Affairs