

BRICS Joint Condemnation of Israel's War on Gaza: India's "Double Talk" on Israel-USA

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India is the important thing to observe in the BRICS joint condemnation of Israel's war in Gaza.

"Leaders of major emerging economies <u>called</u> for an end to Israel's war on Gaza on Tuesday, and for a cessation of hostilities on both sides to ease the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip.

In a virtual summit chaired by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, the BRICS grouping denounced attacks on civilians in Palestine and Israel, with many leaders calling the forced displacement of Palestinians, within Gaza or outside the territory, "war crimes."

"We condemned any kind of individual or mass forcible transfer and deportation of Palestinians from their own land," a chair's summary read. The group, which did not issue a joint declaration, also "reiterated that the forced transfer and deportation of Palestinians, whether inside Gaza or to neighbouring countries, constitute grave breaches of the Geneva conventions and war crimes and violations under International Humanitarian Law." (Al Jazeera, November 21, 2023)

India has so far sided with Israel and its anti-Muslim war and deadly policies against occupied Palestinians. This way, India has alienated itself from Africa, most of Latin America, much of Asia, Russia, and the Global South.

It seems like even India itself has discovered that its position supporting Israel-USA makes it impossible for India to claim that India "represents" the Global South.

Note, however, that the joint BRICS condemnation of Israel's war was only a summary by

the South African chairmanship. No joint declaration was agreed upon by BRICS to condemn Israel, a sign that India is not really behind it and that India tries to talk a double-talk on Israel.

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Featured image: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (L) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) seen in January 2018 [Narendra Modi/Facebook]

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