

Why China Won't Condemn Hamas

By Micah McCartney On 10/19/23

As the Israel-Gaza conflict unfolds, China is positioning itself as a peace broker, but it has yet to condemn the Hamas militants who sparked the crisis.

Tuvia Gering, a researcher at the Tel Aviv University-affiliated Institute for National Security Studies, explained why in an interview with the Spectator-produced podcast Chinese Whispers.

Gering is one of 360,000 Israeli reservists who have been called up for military duty following the October 7 surprise attack by Gaza-based Hamas, which killed at least 1,400 Israelis. The Hamas-controlled health ministry has said at least 3,785 Palestinians have died in the Israeli air strikes that followed.

[...]

Gering shared what he believes drives these anti-Israel narratives, which he has made a yearslong pastime of following: "With one stone, you can kill six birds."

One of these "birds" can be traced back to China's early support for the Palestinian cause in the 1950s. Another is China's aspiration to be viewed as a leader on the world stage, Gering said, referring to China's calls for a united front in the Islamic world and moves to drum up support for it among developing countries.

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