

## Peres defends actions against Gaza

*by UPI*

JERUSALEM -- Israeli President Shimon Peres on Monday urged the European Union to prevent Iran from developing its uranium enrichment program. Peres called on the EU to act against Iran when he met with EU External Relations Commissioner Benito Ferrero-Waldner, Ynetnews.com reported. The meeting covered a range of topics, including Israel's threat to cut power to Gaza, Ynetnews.com reported. Ferrero-Waldner warned cutting power to Gaza would escalate violence between Israel and the Palestinians. Peres, however, said Israel wouldn't ignore missiles and mortar shells being fired from Gaza by Palestinian members of the militant group Hamas. "Europe must understand that the sanctions imposed on Gaza are a direct result of Hamas' acts of murder and terror," Peres said. Peres assured Ferrero-Waldner he remained committed to a Palestinian independent state but cannot support any plan that risks the destruction of Israel, Ynetnews.com reported.

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