

Marc Otte was appointed EU Special Representative for the **Middle East peace process** on 14 July 2003. His current mandate runs until 28 February 2011 and is based on the EU's policy objectives for the Middle East peace process. These objectives include a two-state solution with a democratic, viable, peaceful and sovereign Palestinian state living side-by-side with Israel within secure and recognised borders enjoying normal relations with their neighbours. This aim should be reached in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 1397 and 1402 and the principles of the Madrid conference.

1. Marc Otte, EU special representative for the Middle East peace process



Mr Marc Otte

Mission statement of Marc Otte

My role as the EU's Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process is to give presence, visibility and political impetus in the region to the EU's efforts to help bring about a final settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This has been a strategic priority and a key foreign and security policy goal of the European Union since the post of Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process was created in 1996.

Our objective for the Middle East is clear and well established: a two-state solution, with Israel and a democratic, viable, peaceful and sovereign Palestinian state living side by side within secure and recognised borders, as well as a solution to the Israeli-Syrian and Israeli-Lebanese conflicts. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict lies at the heart of the problems in the region as a whole and must be resolved in order to bring about a comprehensive Middle East



peace. This is vital not only for the region but also for us. We, in the European Union, are close neighbours, on the doorstep of the Middle East.

The current climate provides an opportunity for a renewed diplomatic push to revive and take forward the peace process. The forum for this is the International Quartet and as EUSR I maintain close contacts between the EU and the Quartet's other members, the UN, the United States and the Russian Federation. Of course, it is also very important to keep regular and close contacts with all the players on the ground and in other relevant international fora.

The European Union's presence on the ground is also crucial in contributing to crisis management and prevention. We have two European Security and Defence (ESDP) operations in the Palestinian Territories, the EU Border Assistance Mission at the Rafah Crossing Point (EU BAM Rafah), where we monitor border crossings, and the EU Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS), where we help with police reform. It is an important part of my mandate to keep in contact with them, giving political guidance to the heads of mission.

Marc Otte's appointment and mandate are set out in Joint Actions [2003/537/CFSP](#), [2004/534/CFSP](#), [2005/99/CFSP](#), [2006/119/CFSP](#), [2008/133/CFSP](#), [2009/136/CFSP](#) and Council Decisions [2010/107/CFSP](#) and [2010/447/CFSP](#)

[EU BAM Rafah](#) and [EUPOL COPPS](#)

- ▶ [Interview to EU SR Marc Otte published by Al-Quds Newspaper, 15 October 2009](#)
- ▶ [Statement by EUSR Marc Otte in Bethlehem Palestinian Civil Police \(PCP\) HQ, Ramallah, 10 October 2009](#)

2. Curriculum Vitae

Marc Otte
EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process

PLACE AND Date of birth: Brussels, 26 April 1947

Nationality: Belgian

Education

MA in Political and Social Sciences, University of Louvain, 1969

Post graduate degree of the Institute for Developing Countries, University of Louvain, 1970

Language fluency: French (mother tongue), English, Dutch, Spanish

Professional Experience



Since 21 July 2003

EU Special Representative for the Middle East Peace Process

October 1999 – 2003

Advisor on defence and security policy to the High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy - Head of ESDP Task Force (European Security and Defence Policy), EU Policy Planning and Early Warning Unit, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, Brussels

1997 – 1999

Director for Security Policy and Disarmament, General Directorate for Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium

1992 – 1996

Ambassador of Belgium to Israel

1988 – 1992

Consul General of Belgium in Los Angeles

1984 – 1988

Counsellor, Head of the Economic Department of the Embassy of Belgium Kinshasa, Zaire

1980 – 1984

First Secretary, Economic, Trade and Technology Affairs, Embassy of Belgium in Washington, DC

1978 – 1980

Head of Division, Interministerial Co-ordination, Department of European Affairs, Foreign Ministry, Brussels, Belgium

1976 – 1977

Economic Attaché, Belgian Embassy, Washington DC

1973 – 1975

Deputy to the Technical Manager, Kloeckner Bamaco SA, Nossegem, Belgium

1970 – 1972

Teacher at the Teacher Training School of Bokakata, Democratic Republic of Congo

3. Staff of Marc Otte

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