Beat: Politics

Escalation of violence: Israel turns UN

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USPA NEWS - Israel responded with air strikes on Palestinian attacks - peace activist calls for settlement freeze. 21 dead and dozens injured - that is the outcome of the Israeli air strikes on the Gaza Strip since last Friday, the violence in the region has escalated recently.

Radical Palestinians shoot rockets into Israeli territory since then - at least 130 bullets smashed by Monday. Both sides accuse each other, to have been the trigger for the bloodshed. Israel has called the UN Security Council to stop the attacks on Israeli civilians. Simultaneously threatened Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, you will take action against all those "attack us". "Compared to the Gaza Strip, the situation in the West Bank better", the Israeli artist and peace activist Michael Zupraner says the COURIER, "but again, there are tensions." One of the biggest problems was that the Palestinians would be given the opportunity to govern themselves.

At best, in small regional "pockets" there is an autonomy in management approaches, the 31-year-old, who is staying at the invitation of the Kreisky Forum and the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.

One of the key obstacles to the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue was the "unrestrained settlement activity." Only one stop could contribute to relaxation. Zupraner and knows whereof he speaks: As part of a project (see below), he spent two years in Hebron, where slightly more than 500 Jewish settlers live protected by the army under 170,000 Palestinians. "The city is, if you like, an extreme laboratory.

Here you can focus all your problems in the region: Religious (there are sites that are the Jewish, Muslim and Christian holy) and politically, because the Jewish enclave, as it symbolically represents the Israeli in the Arab world."

The settlers of Hebron are particularly ideological and radical, which he felt while working on his own body: "I lived in a Palestinian neighborhood, the settlers looked upon me as a traitor." They are therefore also particularly suspicious because the Palestinian environment is a "hostile".

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