

# PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL

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PNC



**US Administration Decision  
To stop Funding to UN's Palestinian  
Refugee Agency**

**Rejection  
Deal of the Century**

*Whoever Protects the Israeli Occupation  
from accountability is a Partner in its Crimes against our People*

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## Closure of PLO Diplomatic Mission is an Aggression against Peace Our People and their leadership will not Succumb to Blackmail

Closing down PLO diplomatic mission is a new American aggression against peace in the Middle East, a flagrant attack on international law and International Criminal Court (ICC), which our people turn to it to protect themselves from crimes of Israel's occupation.

"This decision comes under American escalating steps against our Palestinian people, who will never retreat from full adherence to their rights, foremost of which their rights to return and establish their independent state with Jerusalem as its capital." The National Council confirmed in a press statement issued by its chairman Saleem AL-Za'anoun.

The National Council stresses our people's right to defend themselves and move ahead with referring the files of the Israeli occupation crimes to the (ICC). This step was taken by Trump administration as a vain pretext to close PLO Office in Washington, stress-



ing that those who seek peace and stability ought not to defend criminals, occupiers or provide them with support and cover to commit more crimes, but help to achieve human justice by punishing the occupying state, its leaders, and settlers' gangs, who commit crimes against children, women, old people and Palestinian youth.

The Council stresses that our people and their leadership will never be subject to blackmail, threats and intimidation by the American administration, that doesn't abide by international law

, will not succeed in confiscating our rights, regardless of its hostile decisions from transferring its embassy to the occupied city of Jerusalem and later, its attempts to liquidate the Palestinian refugees' right to return to their homes, criminalize and distort the Palestinian people struggle, stigmatizing it as terrorism, ending with series of punitive decisions of financial and economic nature.



## Paraguay Decision On Withdrawing Its Embassy From Jerusalem Is Courageous Step In Right Direction

The PNC welcomed the Paraguay's government decision to withdraw its embassy of the occupied city of Jerusalem and return it to Tel-Aviv, describing it as courageous, bold and a step in the right direction.

The PNC Chairman praised this decision taken by the Paraguay as right and courageous to return to bosom of legitimacy and free it from the Israeli American blackmail, emanating from its respect for international law and UN resolutions.

The PNC Chairman said that this courageous step is a role model, calling on the countries that have moved their embassies from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem to follow the example of Paraguay.

The PNC considered the decision as a victory for justice of the Palestinian cause and Palestinian President's steadfast position ,rejecting Trump decision regarding Jerusalem, and for the political and diplomatic efforts exerted by the leadership and the Palestinian people.

All thanks and appreciation to the president, government and people of Paraguay for this noble and wise attitude.



## Irish Senate bill is a Prelude to Siege and Isolation of Israel Colonial Settlement in Palestine

The Palestine National Council Speaker Sal-eem Al- Za'noon praised the Irish Senate's vote on a bill that would punish anyone who imports or assists in importation, sale of goods or services of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.

In a letter addressed to Irish Senate Speaker Dennis O'Donovan, AL Za'noon praised the brave stance expressed by the Council members in support of rights of the Palestinian people and rejection of Israeli occupation and colonization, which is contrary to international law and relevant resolutions of international legitimacy.

Speaker AL Za'noon stressed the strength of bilateral relations between Palestine and its people with the Irish government, parliament and people. Ireland was one of the first countries in the European Union to call for the establishment of the state of Palestine and all Irish governments continued their unlimited support for the Palestinian people. AL Za'noon greatly appreciated these firm stances towards the Palestinian cause, which has a special place in the conscience of the Irish people.

Speaker AL Za'noon expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Irish senators who resisted pressure, sent a strong message

and a principled rejection of the colonial occupation policy in all its forms and shapes. The rest of world parliaments, especially the European ones, should follow the footsteps of the Irish Senate, which refuses to be a partner in crimes of occupation, siding, in deeds not in words, with the Irish people's values in defending the rights and rejecting continuation of injustice.



AL Za'noon stressed in his letter that this advanced and courageous step of the Irish Senate reflects the conscience of the Irish people and actual translation of their constant support and firm solidarity, considering it a prelude and practical action to besiege and isolate the colonial settlement and apartheid policy in Palestine on the road to ending the Israeli occupation and the Palestinian people gaining of freedom to establish their independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

## Administration Decision To stop Funding to UN's Palestinian Refugee Agency

The American Administration announced on August 31 that it is ending its funding to UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees. The State Department officially announced that the United

States will not make any additional contributions to UNRWA as a biased organization and is working to inflate the numbers of Palestinians who qualify for refugee status. By this decision, the US administration has reneged

on its international commitment and responsibility to UNRWA over the past 70 years.

The Palestine National Council (PNC) wishes to note that the UN agen-



cy provides services to about 5.9 million registered Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, including education, health care, relief, social services, infrastructure, camp improvement, community support, microcredits and emergency response, including in times of war, until their suffering is resolved by return to their

homes and compensation, in accordance with the principles and rules of international law and the UN Resolution 194, which has been confirmed by resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly more than 150 times.

The National Council stresses that UNRWA is the international witness on

the issue of Palestinian refugees and their right to return to their homes and property, that they had been displaced since 1948. UNRWA, therefore, became more than an agency. It is the title, sanctuary and the responsible body, as the international community had decided, as well as the international expression of the recognition of injustice



and oppression inflicted upon them by ethnic cleansing, transfer, Israeli robbery of their homeland and property and depriving them of all essentials of decent life.

Cutting the entire U.S. aid to the UN agency reveals the falsity and lying of American allegations, claiming that it cares about the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, where refugees constitute a majority of the population . The American decision, in fact, means expelling tens of thousands of employees from their jobs, leaving hundreds of thousands of pupils and students on the streets and depriving them of health and social care.

The National Council points out that the American decision is part of the series of American decisions and attitudes hostile to the Palestinian people, particularly, the American decision recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, its attempts to separate Gaza from the West Bank, and at last, its decision to cut off all aid to UNRWA. Thus the US is a partner and proxy of occupation in implementing its plans to destroy the basics of peace and stability by removing all permanent status issues off the table, including issues of the right to return of Palestinian refugees and occupied Jerusalem, which are the most important issues of the final settlement.

It should be pointed out that the US administration is exerting pressure and black-

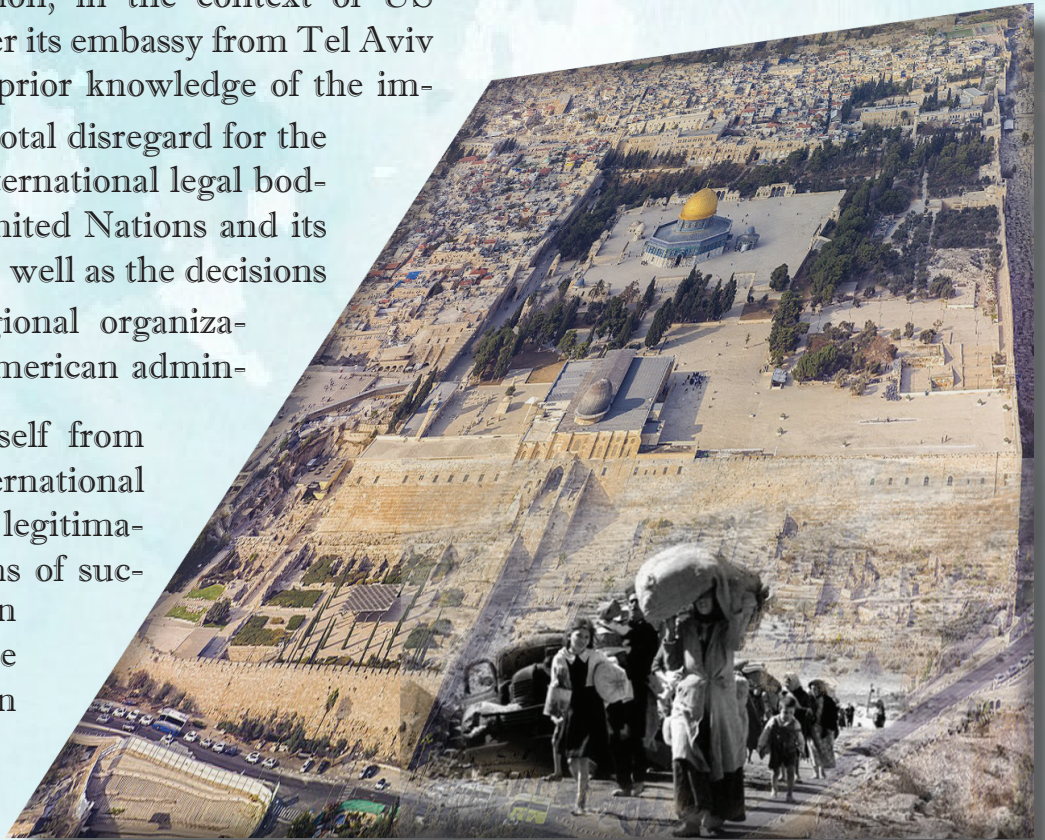
mail on states to prevent provision of material, moral, health and educational aid and assistance, and to stop all that contributes to the assistance of the Palestinian refugees. Thus the US administration is taking another step in undermining the legal regime of the international organization, violating provisions of international law and international legitimacy.

The Palestine National Council calls on you to address world parliament to reject and condemn US decision, and call for its continued support to UNRWA, to declare its rejection of US pressure that aims at ending UNRWA's financial contribution, and to back, support the approach to UN General Assembly and Security Council to confront the US decision on UNRWA, through taking all necessary and due decisions on this regard.

## On The Occasion Of The 70th Anniversary Of The Catastrophe (Nakba) And Transfer Of US Embassy To The Occupied City Of Jerusalem

The Trump administration, in the context of US clumsy policy, will transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, despite its prior knowledge of the implications of this step, of total disregard for the principles and rules of international legal bodies represented by the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, as well as the decisions and positions of all regional organiza-

tions. In this step the American administration is excluding itself from the framework of the international consensus, international legitimacy and even the positions of successive US administration in this regard to become a single, outcast and even rogue state.



The Palestine National Council recalls when Israel illegally declared the west part of Jerusalem its capital since 1950, then in August 1980, it annexed the eastern part of occupied Jerusalem, considering the two parts as its unified capital, the US administrations rejected these actions and did not recognize these unlawful measures regarding them null and void. Since Israel flagrantly violated Resolution 181 (2) of 29/11/1947, which provided for the conversion of Jerusalem and its environs, into an independent status as a separate entity (*corpus separatum*), as well as UN Security Council resolution 478 of 1980, which considered all administrative and legislative measures taken by Israel, which would lead to a change in the legal status of Jerusalem invalid procedures and of no legal validity.

This rogue step makes the US administration more biased towards the aggressor and the Israeli occupiers, while ignoring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people guaran-





teed, protected under the international law and successive resolutions of international legitimacy.

What is to be noted is the lack of recognition, arrogance and unilateralism by the US administration of the nature of the blow that was directed at it in late December 2017 by the countries of the world, including those known to be loyal to it. It was not only isolated in the Security Council but also in the General Assembly held on 21 December 2017, where 128 states voted in favor of resolution 22.1/10- A/ES. which decided that any change in the city of Jerusalem, its status or composition was null and void, had no legal effect whatsoever. The decision which considered a blow to the US President Donald Trump's declaration to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The National Council stresses that the insistence of Trump administration on the transfer of the American Embassy to Palestinian territories occupied by Israel represents a justification and legitimization of the gains of occupation, which are rejected by United Nations law, principles and rules of contemporary international relations, which affirm the principle of the obligation of all states not to recognize the occupation's gains of territory of others by force. Thus, Trump is a partner, protector and supporter of Israel, which remains and will continue to be an occupying power, contrary to international law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, in its settlement policy and to successive resolutions of international legitimacy including Security Council resolution 2334 of 23 December 2016.

The National Council reaffirms that the transfer of the US embassy to Jerusalem is further evidence that the US administration is a state that violates international law governing relations between states. It acts inspired by the illusion of hegemony and dictate on peoples and countries of the world. It does not hesitate or refrain from using the policies of intimidation and exerting pressure even using coercion with states and international organizations, by financial extortion, as if the world and the nations a commodity for sale and purchase, Thus the practices of the American administration are now a serious threat to international peace and security.



## PNC Calls Upon World Parliament To Reject American Decision Continue Their Support to UNRWA

The Palestine National Council (PNC) called upon world parliament to reject and condemn US decision, and call for its continued support to UNRWA, to declare its rejection of US pressure that aims at ending UNRWA's financial contribution, and to back, support the orientation to UN General Assembly and Security Council to confront the US decision on UNRWA, through taking all necessary and due decisions on this regard. The demand came in identical letters sent by PNC Speaker Saleem Za'anoun to more than ten regional and international unions and associations. PNC stresses that UNRWA is the international witness on the issue of Palestinian refugees and their right to return to their homes and property, that they had been displaced since 1948. UNRWA, therefore, became more than an agency. It is the title, sanctuary and the responsible body, as the international community had decided, as well as the international expression of the recognition of injustice and oppression inflicted upon them by ethnic cleansing, transfer, Israeli robbery of their homeland and property and depriving them of all essentials of decent life. PNC pointed out that the UN agency provides services to about 5.9 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, including education, health care, relief, social services, infrastructure, camp improvement, community support, microcredits and emergency response, including in times of war, until their suffering is resolved by return to their homes and compensation, in accordance with the principles and rules of international law and the UN Resolution 194, which has been confirmed by resolutions of the Security Council and General Assembly more than 150 times.

PNC clarified, in its letter, that the US administration is exerting pressure and blackmail on states to prevent provision of material, moral, health and educational aid and assistance and to stop all that contributes to the assistance of the Palestinian refugees. Thus the US administration is taking another step in undermining the legal regime of the international organization, violating provisions of international law and international legitimacy. PNC stressed that cutting the entire U.S. aid to the UN agency reveals the falsity and lying of American allegations, claiming that it cares about the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, where refugees constitute a majority of the population. The American decision, in fact, means expelling tens of thousands of employees from their jobs, leaving hundreds of thousands of pupils and students on the streets and depriving them of health and social care. By this decision, the US administration has reneged on its international commitment and responsibility to UNRWA over the past 70 years.

PNC pointed out that the American decision is part of the series of American decisions and attitudes hostile to the Palestinian people, particularly, the American decision recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, its attempts to separate Gaza from the West Bank, and at last, its decision to cut off all aid to UNRWA. Thus the US is a partner and proxy of occupation in implementing its plans to destroy the basics of peace and stability by removing all permanent status issues off the table, including issues of the right to return of Palestinian refugees and occupied Jerusalem, which are the most important issues of the final settlement.

## Whoever Protects the Israeli Occupation from accountability is a Partner in its Crimes against our People

The Palestine National Council confirmed that the United States has become a partner to the Israeli occupation in its crimes against our people, especially after its protection yesterday in the UN security Council.

The Council considered, in a press statement issued by the Speaker, Salim Al-Za'noun, that those who



obstruct the provision of international protection to our Palestinian people which demanded by the Kuwait-drafted resolution , is a full partner to this terrorist occupation in all its killings, colonialism, aggression against holy sites, confiscation of land and siege of our people in the Gaza Strip.

The National Council stressed that the protection by the US of the Israeli occupation from accountability, Washington unlimited support emboldens and encourages Israel's deliberate massacres and willful killings in its campaigns of shooting and killing peaceful protesters, and even shooting to dead the medical staff, the last assassination of the paramedic Razan Najjar, who was carrying out her humanitarian duty to aid the wounded east of Khan Yunis who is supposed to be protected by virtue of her function and the nature of her work.

The National Council called on to transfer the request for international protection to the Palestinian people to the UN General Assembly under (( United for Peace, )) as Israel's brutal occupation against our defenseless people is a continuous threat to international peace and security and threatens to blow up the situation in the whole region.

The Council appeals to all international institutions and parliaments to break their silence, to boycott the Israeli occupation, besiege it, isolate it, condemn its crimes, work to hold it accountable and ensure that its crimes against the Palestinian people are not repeated, aiming to end the occupation and grant our people full rights to freedom, independence and living in their independent state with Jerusalem as its capital, on the fourth June 1967 borders.

## PLO Central Council Declared Its Strong Rejection of the So-Called “Deal of the Century”



The Palestine liberation Organization’s Central Council held its 29th ordinary session, under the name “ Martyr Razan Al-Najjar and the Transition from Authority to State “, between 15-17 Aug.2018 at the presidential headquarters in Ramallah City, in the presence of President Mahmoud Abbas.

After concluding its session, the PCC issued the following statement:-

First : Stressing the continued position of rejection the so-called “ Deal of the Century “ confronting it with all available means, labeling the American administration as a partner

to the Israeli occupation government and part of the problem rather than the solution, emphasizing the continuation of severing of political relations with the US Trump administration until it retracts its illegal decision on recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, Palestinian refugees, and illegal Israeli settlement.

Adhering to the call for an international conference with full powers under collective international auspices, including the five permanent members of the Security Council on the basis of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, adhering to the 2002 Arab peace initiative in Beirut, the

vision of president Mahmoud Abbas which was presented to the Security Council on February 20,2018, and rejection of transitional solutions, especially in the context of proposing suspicious schemes aimed at separating the Gaza Strip.

Second: Restructuring the relationship with the Israeli occupation government.

- The Central Council affirms that the relationship between Palestine and Israel is a relationship based on the conflict between the Palestinian people and their occupied state and the occupying power.



The Central Council stresses that the direct goal is the independence of the State of Palestine, which requires transition from self-governing to the stage of a state that is struggling for independence, with East Jerusalem as its capital and on the borders of 4 June 1967, in implementation of the resolutions of the National Council including the Declaration of Independence in 1988, and relevant UN resolutions, including the General Assembly resolution 67/19 of 29/11/2012, as the political and legal basis for Palestinians reality, and the affirmation of adherence to the territorial unity of the State of Palestine, and the rejection of any divisions or facts imposed contrary to that;

- The PCC approved the recommendations submitted by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization to implement the decisions of the National Council, “ including the suspension of recognition of the State of Israel until it recognizes the State of Palestine according to the June 4, 1967 borders, with its capital in East Jerusalem, the cessation of security coordination in all its forms, economic separation on the grounds that the transitional phase, including the Paris Protocols, no longer exist, and on the basis of identifying

the pillars and steps to start the process of transition from the phase of authority to embodying the independence of the sovereign State”.

Third: The PCC approved the PLO Executive Committee on Jerusalem, including the issuance of a presidential decree endorsing the new structure of the Supreme National Committee for Jerusalem, emphasizing that it is the only reference to the Palestinian national action in all its forms in Jerusalem and restricting of the capital’s secretariat.

Fourth: The Central Council approved decisions submitted by the Executive Committee to represent women by at least 30% in all institutions of the PLO, the State of Palestine and the Palestine Authority in order to achieve full equality in accordance with National Council decisions.

Fifth: The Central Council ratified the Executive Committee decision to form a higher committee to activate and develop the PLO departments, and maintenance of their independence.

Sixth: The Central Council approved the estab-

lishing of a higher committee for the preservation of UNRWA, continuation of exerting every effort to provide the necessary funds so that it can fulfill its responsibilities towards the Palestinian refugees until the refugee issue is resolved in all its aspects.

Seventh : The Central Council approved the Gaza Committee’s working plan on the Gaza Strip situation, demanding its full implementation with the aim of achieving political partnership, ending division, enabling the government of national reconciliation to exercise its responsibilities and powers according to basic law.

- The Council rejected all suspicious schemes aimed at separating the Gaza Strip from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the eternal capital of Palestine, as part of the deal of the century.

- It said that truce with the Israeli occupation power is national responsibility of the Palestine liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and not an action for the factions, as was the case in the Palestinian-Israeli indirect

negotiations in 2014 that were based on the Egyptian initiative to stop that Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, or to propose humanitarian projects, airports and seaports outside the borders of the State of Palestine in order to destroy the national project and the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, it asserted that there will be no state in the Gaza Strip or a state without the Gaza Strip.

- It also called for the immediate cancellation of the measures taken on the salaries and benefits of Gaza Strip employees and their equal treatment with the rest of the Palestinian Authority employees.

Eighth : The Central Council appreciated steps taken by the State of Palestine led by President Mahmoud Abbas at the regional and international levels, especially in the UN General Assembly, after the use of veto by US president in the Security Council, Human Rights Council, the official referral to the International Criminal Court on war crimes committed against our Palestinian people in the occupied State of Palestine ( the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip), and filing a formal complaint with the UN Committee on Elimination of racial

Discrimination.

Ninth: The Central Council decided to work to provide international protection to the Palestinian people, achieve full membership of the State of Palestine in the United Nations, the recognition of the State of Palestine by states that have not yet recognized it on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The Central Council called for activating the resolutions of the



1980 Amman Summit, which obliges the Arab states to sever all ties with any state that recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel or transfers its embassy to it.

Tenth: The Central Council approved the comprehensive plan submitted by the PLO Executive Committee concerning popular resistance in cooperation with all concerned parties, including the National Council's Popular Resistance Committee.

The Central Council affirmed adherence to our right to resist the occupation by all means, in accordance with the international law.

The Council highly appreciated heroic return marches in the



Gaza Strip, and steadfastness of Al-Khan AlAhmer local Council calling for its continuation throughout the occupied Palestinian state, especially in places threatened with ethnic cleansing and demolition.

The Central Council called upon all national forces and factions to put all their energies and powers into the mobilization of the popular resistance and to expand its circle of participation to represent the broadest sectors of our people and their political and social components. It also paid tribute to the martyrs and their families, the wounded and the prisoners.

Eleventh: The Central Council reiterated its call to world countries to implement Security Council resolution 2334 (2016), paragraph 5, adopt the Danish Parliament's and the Irish Senate's resolutions as examples and expand the boycott of Israeli products by providing national, Arab and friendly countries' alternatives.

Twelfth: The Central Council emphasized the need to support and back BDS movement and called on world countries to impose sanctions on Israel, especially in light of the racist

law recently adopted by the Israeli Knesset.

The Council designated 19 of July (the adoption day of the racist law) by Israel's Knesset as an international day to fight and topple the Israeli apartheid regime.

Thirteenth: The Central Council salutes the struggle and steadfastness of the prisoners in the Israeli jails and calls on national and international institutions to bring up their cases in all forums until their release.

The Council condemns the arrest and intimidation of children, deliberate killings and field executions, detention of the bodies of Martyrs, denying the return of the deportees from the Church of the Nativity. The Council absolutely rejects the American decision ( the Tolyor-force Act), and the Israeli government's decision to deduct the allowances of the martyrs' families, prisoners and wounded from the Palestinian clearing in flagrant violation to international law.

Fourteenth : The Central Council salutes the masses of Palestinians in refugee camps and exile camps in Syria, Lebanon and the Diaspora who affirm their adherence to the right of return, appreciated president Mahmoud Abbas decision on starting reconstruction of the Yarmouk camp and the Palestinian revolution's martyrs' cemetery in coordination with Syrian brothers, and continuing the reconstruction of Nahr-el-Bared Camp.

Fifteenth: The Central Council affirms the need to preserve the freedom of expression, publication, assembly, demonstration, and other rights of citizens guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and Basic law, in harmony with the State of Palestine accession to various contractual agreements, protection of the independence of judiciary and the rule of law.

Sixteenth: The Central Council instructs the PLO Executive Committee to continue working to remove differences between PLO factions, in order to affirm their national partnership within the framework of the PLO, its departments and institutions and resolve their differences within these institutions.



# PNC Bulletin

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