

**Spokesman for the Secretary General of the League of Arab States criticizes the Turkish Foreign Minister's attempts to politically outbid the Secretary General's remarks during the Munich Security Conference.**

Mahmoud Afifi, the Official Spokesman for the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, expressed his surprise at the nervous and unjustified reaction of the Turkish Foreign Minister in response to the remarks of the Secretary General, Mr. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, on February 18 at the Munich Security Conference during the session that discussed the situation in the Middle East.

The Official Spokesman pointed out that Mr. Aboul Gheit had criticized the Turkish military intervention in the Syrian territories, and criticized all other regional and international interventions that came at the expense of the Syrian people. The Turkish Minister asked to comment just moments before the conclusion of the session and he responded to the Secretary General's remarks in an unjustified nervous manner. He also criticized the Secretary General's suggestion that new regional arrangements with an Arab core should be formulated.

The Official Spokesman stressed that the Turkish Minister's nervous intervention reflects only an attempt to politically outbid the remarks of the Secretary General, and that this intervention had an overcast approach quite well-known of the "Neo Ottoman" stream which everyone knows how it feels towards the Arab world. The Spokesman added that the Secretary General rejects any kind of military intervention in an Arab territory under any pretext, and that the Arab League cannot support the legitimization of such an intervention which is rejected and contradicts international legitimacy, and this has been confirmed in various resolutions adopted in this regard by both the Arab Summit and the Ministerial Council of the Arab League.

The Spokesman stressed that the Turkish Minister's remarks in his intervention concerning the Palestinian issue reflect only a desire for political grandstanding, as well as mocking Arab positions, adding that Arab peoples are no longer deceived by these "political acrobatics."

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