

The Second San Remo 1920 Conference



San Remo Conference in 1920

"Second San Remo conference" reaffirms Israel's legal right to exist as a Jewish homeland

San Remo, 26 April, 2010 - Invited guests from three continents, among them the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset MK **Danny Danon**, commemorated on Sunday 25 April the 90th Anniversary of the signing of the San Remo resolution of 1920 at a gathering at the actual site of the original conference, the historical Villa Devachan in San Remo, Italy. At the event Deputy Speaker Danon spoke about "the importance of raising awareness of the reconstitution of the Jewish state 90 years ago in San Remo which has since been forgotten and ignored by a large part of the international community, including the media. However, in recent years several respected international lawyers and scholars, among them **Jacques Gauthier** and **Howard Grief**, have helped raise awareness of the legal foundation of the modern state of Israel which came into effect when the Balfour declaration was incorporated into international law by the Supreme Council of the Allied Powers in San Remo in 1920 and later approved unanimously by the League of Nations at the Peace Conference in Lausanne in July 1922.

"- At a time when even the core existence of Israel as a Jewish state is being challenged by its enemies it is of vital importance that we take a closer look at international law," said conference organizer **Tomas Sandell** from the European Coalition for Israel. He then reminded the audience that "the San Remo Resolution of 1920 recognized the national Jewish sovereignty on the land of Israel under international law, on the strength of the historical connection of the Jewish people to the territory previously known as Palestine."

"- This marked the end of the longest colonization in history," noted **Salomon Benzimra** from Toronto. "Palestine has been occupied and colonized by a succession

of foreign powers for about 1,900 years (Romans, Byzantines, Sassanid Persians, Arabs, Crusaders, Mameluks, and Ottoman Turks). This early episode of liberation, which preceded the global decolonization process by more than thirty years, should be welcome by all progressive minds."

The primary objective of the commemoration event was to raise awareness of the historical facts about the legal foundation of the Jewish state which dates back to the San Remo conference of 1920 and precedes the Israeli declaration of Independence by 28 years.

The 90th Anniversary was initiated and hosted by the European Coalition for Israel, a non-Jewish grass roots movement based in Brussels which promotes EU-Israeli relations, and with the support of Canadian Supporters for Israel's Legal Rights based in Toronto. The event was sponsored by the City of San Remo and supported by Members of Parliament. Among personal greetings which were sent to the solemn event on Sunday were those of **Robert Lloyd George**, whose great grandfather, British Prime Minister **David Lloyd George**, was one of the original signatories of the San Remo resolution.

At the stairs of the historical Villa Devachan the pledge of 1920 was symbolically re-affirmed by representatives from the original signatory countries, including the United States, who signed a "Second San Remo resolution" which reaffirms the non-revocable rights of Israel which were enshrined in international law 90 years ago and are still valid to this day.