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### Trump and Bibi Are Cut from the Same Cloth

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"While I absolutely respect the independence of the Israeli judicial system, I believe this case against Bibi is an unjustified political persecution," wrote the US leader in a letter addressed to the President of Israel, Isaac Herzog.

The letter came to light through statements by Herzog himself, broadcast in several media outlets, in which he announced that Donald Trump had interceded on behalf of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is under investigation for corruption.

The document describes Netanyahu as a formidable and indispensable prime minister in times of war and alludes to the supposed peace in Gaza, which it describes as an agreement longed for over three thousand years.

And truly, nothing else could be expected from Trump, who apparently admires Bibi so much that he decided—as Israel did in 2013, when Netanyahu was also prime minister—to absent himself from the Universal Periodic Review on Human Rights, making the United States the second country to do so, preceded only by the nation he is now addressing in a letter. Last October, he also addressed its parliament, where he suggested that this pardon should be granted.

Clearly, Trump and Netanyahu share common tastes and objectives: to make people believe the genocide in Gaza has ended, to use force to materialize their interests, and, apparently, to share an extensive history with the courts.

We will have to wait for the effects of the strong actions the White House occupant is taking in defense of his Israeli ally. But the truth is that, so far, Netanyahu and his wife face accusations such as accepting \$260,000 in gifts of luxury items from millionaires in exchange for political favors.

Another accusation against the prime minister is that he attempted to negotiate favorable media coverage.

According to media reports, the statement from the Israeli president's office highlights the high esteem he holds for Trump and his deep gratitude for the unwavering support for Israel.

"Additionally, and without prejudice to the above, any person seeking a presidential pardon must submit a formal request in accordance with established procedures," the statement concludes.

**Translated by Sergio A. Paneque Díaz / CubaSí Translation Staff**

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