



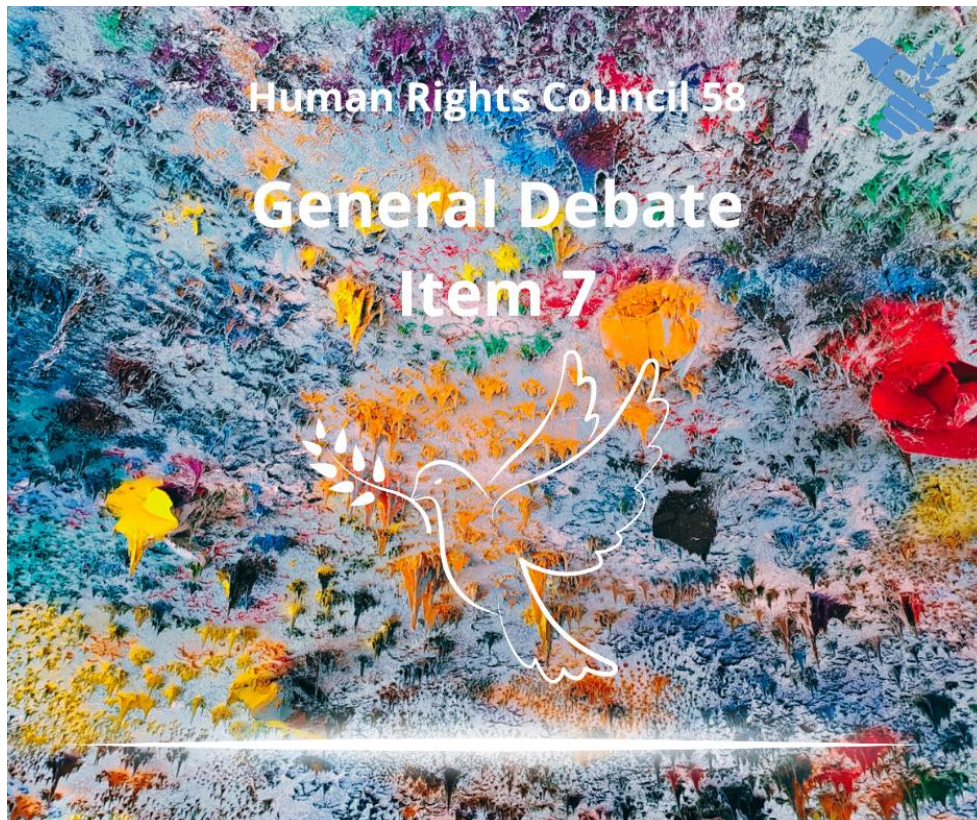
GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

General Debate on Agenda Item 7

Human Rights Situation in Palestine and in the Other Occupied Arab Territories

#HRC58 • 26 March 2025



PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT

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The Director of the Global Operations Division presents to the UNHRC two reports under agenda item 7. Submitted pursuant to UNHRC resolution 55/32, the High Commissioner's [report on Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory](#), including East Jerusalem and in the occupied Syrian Golan, covers the period between 1 November 2023 and 31 October 2024.

Last July, the International Court of Justice issued an advisory opinion stating that Israel's policies and practises in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the [maintenance and expansion of settlements](#), amount to the annexation of large parts of that territory. This undermines the territorial integrity essential to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and violates the prohibition against acquiring territory by force.



The ongoing transfer of powers over the occupied Palestinian territory from the Israeli military to the Israeli government is facilitating the **continued illegal advancement of Israeli settlements in the West Bank** and the steady integration of the occupied West Bank into the State of Israel. The transfer of governing powers also facilitates Israel's provision of services for settlers in settlements and outposts. This will further institutionalise long-standing patterns of systematic discrimination, segregation, oppression, domination, violence, and other inhumane acts against the Palestinian people. It will also further institutionalise control of the occupied Palestinian territory.

The August 2024 findings of the Ad Hoc Conciliation Commission for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination stated that the acts of segregation 'may amount to a situation of **apartheid** if no action is taken by Israel to effectively address the issues raised.' Israel took measures to transfer its civilian population to East Jerusalem and to forcibly transfer Palestinians within and from the occupied territory. There are now around **737,000 Israeli settlers in the West Bank** and almost a third of them in East Jerusalem alone. During the reporting period, steps were taken towards construction of 20,000 housing units in new or existing Israeli settlements in East Jerusalem, while 214 Palestinian properties and structures were demolished. Over 10,300 units within existing Israeli settlements in other parts of the West Bank were approved, and 49 new Israeli outposts were established.

Israel continued the legal appropriation of occupied land for Israeli settlements through declarations of state land and the establishment of military zones, nature reserves, and cultural and archaeological sites. An overarching institutional and legal regime of discrimination and oppression, including of forcible evictions and house demolitions, continues to secure the forcible transfer of the Palestinian population across the West Bank. During the reporting period, over **1,700 Palestinian-owned structures were demolished** in the West Bank, resulting in the forcible displacement of over 4,500 Palestinians, tripling the monthly average from the previous reporting period.

The majority were demolished for reasons of lacking building permits, which are almost impossible for Palestinians to obtain. The report documents how targeting of Palestinians' economic, social, and cultural rights forms part of the coercive environment that induces their departure and may amount to forcible transfer. Livelihoods centred around olive production were particularly targeted by Israeli state and settler violence, during which half of Palestinian farmers were reportedly unable to harvest their trees due to violence and movement restrictions, effectively destroying local Palestinian economies.

The line between settler and state violence has blurred. During the reporting period, 1,400 settler-related incidents resulted in casualties of property damage against Palestinians. By the end of October 2024, settler violence incidents had reached 118 per month on average, up from 108 in 2023. **Settler violence** killed 11 Palestinians and injured 500. Israel systematically fails to prevent or punish these attacks, leaving Palestinians bereft of any hope of obtaining justice and accountability. In a study of 174 incidents of settler violence, 65 complaints were lodged, and only one has led to the filing of an indictment.



During the reporting period, approximately 680 Palestinians were forcibly displaced by settler violence access restrictions, mainly in Bedouin and other herding communities in Area C. In many cases, this may amount to **forcible transfer**, which is a crime under international law that may give rise to individual criminal responsibility. The report also documents Israeli settlement expansion in the occupied Syrian Golan, which continued to proceed with the support of the Israeli Government in violation of its international legal obligations. Israeli authorities also continue to restrict the ability of the Syrian population to build or expand on their land, in particular in Majdal Shams, close to the demarcation line with the Syrian Arab Republic.

The report recalls resolution 497 of 1981, in which the Security Council decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction, and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and without international legal effect. Israeli settlement growth continues at an ever-increasing rate and, as found by the International Court of Justice, constitutes **ongoing internationally wrongful acts** by Israel. This represents a profound failure of the international community of states and its rules-based order, including in relation to the prohibitions on annexation and discrimination, as well as to the fulfilment of Palestinians' right to self-determination.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights recommends again that Israel seize immediately all new settlement activity, evacuate all settlers from the occupied Palestinian territory, and make reparations for the damage caused by decades of illegal settlement.

The second report presented today is a **report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the occupied Syrian Golan**, submitted pursuant to UNHRC resolution 55/31. Through this resolution, the UNHRC called upon Israel to cease changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure, and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan, to immediately seize all settlement-related plans and activities, and to comply with all relevant resolutions. It emphasised that the displaced population of occupied Syrian Golan must be allowed to return to their homes and to recover their property. The report summarises the responses received to requests for information about the implementation of the resolution.

STATEMENTS BY THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED

The delegation of **Israel** is not present.

The **State of Palestine** thanks the High Commissioner (HC) and his Office for having prepared this very important report which provides updated information regarding the expansion of the illegal settlements and their consequences on the rights of the Palestinian people. The HC's report contains conclusions and recommendations, and all states and institutions ought to respect them and implement them in order to put an end to the **colonial crimes** that are ongoing.

The latest chapter of this crime is the Knesset's agreement to separate 13 neighbourhoods and turn them into independent settlements, with a view of imposing Israeli sovereignty over the West Bank. This coincides with a brutal attack against the camps and villages and towns in the West Bank. For more than 60 days, Janin and Tukaram camps as well as others have been the target of demolition operations. Citizens are being targeted, and this is leading to the forcible displacement of more than 50 people. Moreover, there has been a **violent attack against UNRWA**, which is considered a terrorist organisation. UNRWA cannot supply humanitarian aid to



Palestinians in Gaza or the West Bank. UNRWA's Offices have been closed down, and this is undermining the right to return and the right to compensation set forth in international resolutions.

Over the last several months, the international community has witnessed a **genocidal war in Gaza** that has led to over 170,000 martyrs and injured, most of whom are women and children. Palestine has sent to OHCHR the list of 16,000 children who have been killed by the genocidal and criminal regime. Moreover, 70 per cent of buildings, in particular educational establishments, hospitals and places of worship, have been destroyed. According to UN reports, **50 million tonnes of rubble** lie there. There was a ceasefire agreement for two months, which revealed the extent of the destruction and the suffering.

However, the First Minister of the Occupying Power, a criminal who is the subject of an arrest warrant, ordered last Tuesday for the aggression in Gaza to resume in order to pursue his personal agenda. To this, you have to add the **power being cut off and land incursions**, the occupation of new areas of Gaza and the deprivation of all vital services. Moreover, **tax revenues are blocked**, there is a financial blockade and the authorities cannot deliver on their obligations. This is how the Government of the Occupying Power has established a special administration tasked with enabling Palestinians to voluntarily leave Gaza. This is a way of placing a **veneer on forced displacement**. There are people who are complicit in this attack against the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank.

For these reasons, everyone should take measures in order to put an end to this genocide and implement the **provisional measures ordered by the ICJ**. There must be a response following this catastrophic situation. It is well-known that Israel is one of the countries that most violates international law. There must be an **end to arms trade**. The international community shall review trade and other relations with Israel. There should be no cooperation with the settlers or the settlements. The use of international humanitarian law (IHL) must be respected. A **ceasefire** must be agreed upon and the **hostages and detainees must be released**. It is also important to ensure that the Palestinian people can exercise their rights in the context of their own State with Jerusalem as capital. This cannot be the subject of real estate agreements or politicisation or double standards.

Thanking the HC and his Office for the report, the **Syrian Arab Republic** takes note of the important conclusions and recommendations therein. The Occupying Power, Israel, has not adhered for decades to the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council and the UNHRC. Israel has never stopped its procedures and its illegal practises in the occupied Arab territories, despite the numerous international demands.

Instead, it has expanded its practises and its violations of international law and the rights of the peoples living in those territories against the backdrop of an unprecedented situation of impunity. Israel has continued its **colonial and settler policies entrenched with the illegal annexation**, thereby creating an enforced environment that allows it to confiscate land and to displace and scare its tenants, changing the demographics and the geographical constitution that prolongs the settler policies that have been executed for a long time. This includes the stated plans in 2021 to **increase the number of settlers in the occupied Syrian Golan in five years**, as part of what is known as 'the wind farms', along with other steps to expand the settlers and the relevant



infrastructure and to double the settler transfer operations into the occupied Syrian Golan, something that is prohibited by IHL and amounts to war crimes.

Israel still attempts, ever since the fall of the Ancien Régime, to exploit the new transitional phase in Syria in an attempt to instate a new status quo, perpetrating continued and repeated violations in the Syrian Arab Republic and its territories, violating its sovereignty and its territorial unity under various guises, including the recent escalation in western Daraa, with a village being under raid and its villages and farms were targeted, leading to the death of six and wounding of many. The Israeli forces conduct incursions inside the Syrian territories in flagrant violation of the disengagement agreement of 1974. The international community cannot tolerate that Israel continues to not adhere to international law and the UN resolutions and its continuation of destabilising the region through its **military actions and settler expansion**. The international community must undertake every measure to put pressure on Israel to have it adhere to international law and stop its violations and aggressions and end the occupation of the Golan and the Palestinian occupied territories and the immediate cessation of settler expansionism, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan, and the international community must not recognise any of those steps that entrench its occupation.

The **occupied Syrian Golan** is part and parcel of the Arab Syrian Republic, and recovering it with every mean possible that are granted by international law is an eternal right that will never be negotiated, that will never be yielded, and will never be prescribed. Syria insists on the importance of undertaking **measures to dismantle the settler architecture**, and this should include stopping any trade or finance operations with the entities or institutions that participate in occupation or that exploit the natural resources in the Golan. Syria further reaffirms the everlasting right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish its independent state with Al-Quds as its capital. Syria condemns the crimes of the Israeli occupation, including its systematic and continuing aggressions against the Palestinian people.

GENERAL DEBATE

Views Expressed by UNHRC Member States

Jordan on behalf of the Arab Group expresses its gratitude to OHCHR for the reports which lay bare the serious human rights violations being committed in the occupied Palestinian territory and the occupied Syrian Golan. They also shed light on the illegal colonial expansion happening without any accountability. The reports mention that the settlement expansion is an obstacle to the enjoyment of Palestinian people's rights, including the right to self-determination. The Arab Group calls on the international community to take immediate measures to put an end to the illegal occupation in accordance with the ICJ's advisory opinion. The Group condemns the fact that the Occupying Power is violating the ceasefire agreement. The intensification of barbaric bombardments and massacres against Palestinian civilians have been happening for more than 17 months. This aggression has cost the lives of 150,000 martyrs and caused multiple wounds. There has been forcible destruction of infrastructure and an obstruction of humanitarian aid. Power has been cut, and UN staff have been targeted. The Arab Group sends out a message for peace and security, in particular the one that was adopted by the Arab Summit on 4 March. The Arab Group condemns the annexation plans, the forced displacement plans, and the geographical disfiguration of the occupied Palestinian territory. All of this amounts to ethnic



cleansing policies and crimes against humanity. Similarly, the Arab Group condemns the inhumane practises applied against Palestinian prisoners. There have been reports of \$75 billion worth of losses since 2022, and the Arab Group believes there must be accountability and an end to human rights violations and to the unlawful occupation of the occupied Palestinian territory and other Arab territories.

Kuwait on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) voices the latter's concern with regard to the resumption of military operations by the army of the Occupying Power in the Gaza Strip, and condemns the direct bombardment and raids in civilian populated areas, leading to the displacement and starvation of thousands, and the murder and injury of hundreds of Palestinians, bringing the total number to about 50,000 martyrs since the beginning of the aggression. The GCC stresses the dire need for an immediate and sustainable ceasefire and condemns the continuing attacks by the Occupying Power in the West Bank and its systematic destruction of infrastructure. The GCC calls upon the international community to put an end to the continuing murder and to make sure there is no escalation in the OPT. The GCC urges the acceptance of the Arab-Egyptian plan that emanated from the recent Extraordinary Arab Summit held on 4 March 2025, and reaffirms that the future of the Gaza Strip must be part of a context where the independent and unified Palestinian state on the borders of 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, all of which must be guaranteed. The GCC condemns the repeated Israeli attacks on the brotherly Syrian Arab Republic, including the occupation of the buffer zone along the Syrian borders, as well as the Occupier's decisions to expand its settlements in the occupied Golan in a flagrant breach of the international UN Charter and international law principles.

Taking the floor on behalf of a **Group of 35 like-minded countries, Cuba** condemns the resumed attacks by Israeli occupation forces against the defenceless Palestinian population in the Gaza Strip in flagrant violation of the ceasefire, and deplores the forcible displacement of the Palestinian people in their homeland. As a result of the cruel bombings, hundreds more Palestinians have been killed, including entire families. The Group demands the immediate restoration of the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip. Those actions add to the total blockade that in recent weeks has prevented the entry of food, fuel, and medical supplies into the Gaza Strip. 1.8 million people, over half of whom are children, are in desperate need of water and sanitation. Those working to assist the Palestinian people are also being targeted. The Group underlines the urgency of allowing the immediate and unrestricted entry of humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip. The magnitude of the suffering and pain endured by the Palestinian people is beyond words. The Palestinian people are deprived of the most basic human rights, including the right to life. The Group reiterates its strong condemnation of the gross and systematic human rights violations committed by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory. The UNHRC must do more to bring this tragic situation to an end and ensure accountability. The Group demands an end to Israel's illegal occupation and that the creation of an independent Palestinian State is ensured, based on the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. The Group stresses that recovery and reconstruction plans must aim at achieving the legitimate aspiration of the Palestinian people and ensure their right to return and right to self-determination.

Ghana on behalf of the African Group states that the Israeli military occupation of Arab territories is a situation of retracted conflict that has taken and continues to take a heavy toll on the realisation of human rights and fundamental freedom of the people of the occupied



Palestinian and Arab territories. The African Group condemns Israel's outliers against the Palestinian people as reflected by its renewed ongoing and massive airstrikes on Gaza, commencing on 18 March, in flagrant violation of the ceasefire. The African Group expresses its great concern over the violation of IHL and international human rights law (IHRL) committed against the Palestinian people and its exacerbation in light of the tragic development and the humanitarian catastrophe caused by the brutal aggression launched by Israel against the Gaza Strip, the obstruction of the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as well as the exacerbation of violations committed by Israel's forces in the West Bank. The African Group calls on Israel to fully comply with the provisional orders issued by the International Court of Justice and reiterates its unflinching support for relevant UNGA resolutions on Palestine and declared position of the UN Secretary-General in ongoing atrocities committed in Gaza despite the recently signed peace agreement, which can inevitably lead to serious repercussions on the state of peace and security in the Middle East. The African Group underscores the necessity of resolving the Palestinian issue to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East region on the basis of the two-state solution. The African Group opposes the continuation of Israeli settlement activities as well as the violations committed against Palestinians in the West Bank, which undermines the settlement of the ongoing conflicts and furthers the suffering of the Palestinian people living under occupation. In closing, the African Group reiterates that the UNHRC has an ethical and legal obligation to act effectively to protect the Palestinian people and support their inalienable rights, especially their right to self-determination, and bears its responsibility by taking urgent action to address this situation.

On behalf of the **Group of Friends in Defence of the UN Charter, Venezuela** states that eighteen months on since the most recent and deeply regrettable escalation of genocidal acts and international crimes, which was unleashed on illegally occupied Palestine and which has already cost 41,000 lives of innocent civilians according to official statistics, in particular women and children. This figure, though, could perhaps be just a fraction of the real number. We condemn Israel's violation of the ceasefire at the start of last week, which has already caused the loss of hundreds of lives, including those of women and girls. The Group of Friends underscores the urgent need for the international community to step up efforts to work effectively towards a most necessary process of accountability for Israel's having committed terrible crimes. The illegal Occupying Power has done this against the Palestinian people. The Group hopes that all relevant mechanisms of international justice will play a responsible role. It further underscores the need for the ICJ advisory opinion on the illegal Israeli presence in Palestinian territory to be implemented. The Group of Friends calls for an immediate cessation of the occupation in line with the latest ICJ advisory opinion. It also expresses its concern at the continuing policy of Israeli settlement in occupied territory, the expropriation of land and houses, their demolition, which has changed the physical nature and demographic composition of the occupied territories and Syrian Golan.

On behalf of the **movement of non-aligned countries (NAM), Uganda** states that for many years, the NAM has maintained a firm position of solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just cause under condemnation of massive flagrant and systematic violations of human rights and of IHL committed by Israeli illegal Occupying Power. The NAM condemns in the strongest terms the acts of aggression and collective punishment by Israel, the Occupying Power, against the Palestinian people in grave breach of international law, including IHL and IHRL, including inter



alia the killing and injury of tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including many children and women in the Israeli military aggression that began in October 2023 against the besieged Gaza Strip. The NAM demands an end to the illegal occupation and siege and calls for humanitarian aid at scale to meet the dramatic needs of the population as well as an immediate halt to the forced displacement of Palestinian civilians, including any attempts to expel or deport them from their homeland and a halt to all illegal occupying power policies and practises. The NAM strongly condemns Israel's violation of the ceasefire agreement last week, which has led to devastating tragedies and the loss of hundreds of lives, including children and women. The NAM calls upon all states, the UN and its specialised agencies and funds, as well as regional organisations, to respect the ICJ advisory opinion on Israel's illegal occupation of Palestine. The NAM also condemns the complicity of businesses that indirectly contribute to the illegal occupation and settler colonialism and demand broader accountability of all atrocities. It reaffirms the need to take active steps to ensure the full implementation of the advisory opinion of the ICJ, including an immediate end of the Israeli occupation, and calls upon all states to comply with their obligations under international law as reflected in the advisory opinion. The NAM recognises and commends the efforts of the United Nations and its agencies, and particularly UNRWA, and encourage continuation of their support. The NAM expresses its grave concern at the continuing Israeli settlement policy and related activities, including the expansion of settlements, the expropriation of land, the demolition of houses, and the confiscation and destruction of property, which has changed the physical character and demographic composition of the occupied territories.

Pakistan on behalf of the **Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** condemns in the strongest terms the renewed Israeli onslaught against the Palestinian people in Gaza. The 18-month-long assault has now killed more than 50,000 Palestinians, two-thirds of them women and children. Instead of good-faith negotiations towards the next phase of the ceasefire and the release of captives, the occupying powers' return to brute force belies its intentions. Throughout the OPT, the Palestinian people are being alienated from their own land. In the West Bank, the rampant theft of Palestinian land and calls for annexation are matched only by the escalation of organised terrorism by extremist settlers. Talk of voluntary departures is ludicrous while bombs continue to be dropped. This is forcible displacement of the Palestinian people, which the OIC strongly rejects in any form under any circumstance or justification. It is ethnic cleansing, a grave violation of international law, and a crime against humanity. The OIC likewise rejects any attempt to change the demographic composition of the OPT. the international community is bearing witness in the OPT to one of the most heinous crimes broadcast live on television and social media. The commission of genocide in Gaza is closely linked to the provision of military support, weapons, ammunition, and related equipment to the illegal occupation regime. In the force of the Occupying Power's latest return to unbridled aggression, the OIC renews its call on countries providing weapons and ammunition to ban such exports or transfers. While commending states that have recognised the State of Palestine, the OIC reiterates its call for it to obtain full membership in the United Nations and treat with other states as an equal. The past 18 months have once again demonstrated the relevance of Item 7 of the UNHRC's agenda. The OIC hopes certain states shying away on pretext would instead demonstrate good faith and help address human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories, where our collective humanity itself is at stake.



Kuwait applauds the High Commissioner's efforts and welcomes his report containing relevant conclusions and recommendations. Kuwait strongly condemns the illegal Occupying Power's continuing settlements and building projects in occupied territory. It is also causing forcible displacement and has officialised 13 neighbourhoods in the West Bank, which is a frequent violation of relevant Security Council resolutions. It also condemns last week's violation of the ceasefire. This has caused tragedies and the deaths above all of women and children. Kuwait calls upon the international community to assume its ethical and legal responsibilities and to take effective measures to bring an end to settlement and to oblige the Occupying Power to respect international legal decisions. It also deplores recent attacks on Syrian territory. In conclusion, Kuwait calls for stronger political, economic and humanitarian support for the Palestinian people. It also calls for the implementation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, notably the right to a self-determined, independent state with its capital in East Jerusalem based on the 1967 internationally recognised borders.

Morocco is deeply concerned and stands in full solidarity with our brotherly Palestinian people following the tragic incidents and terrible crimes which has led to thousands of civilian deaths in Gaza and the West Bank with flagrant violations of IHL and IHRL. Morocco deplores the attacks on civilians in Gaza and calls upon all parties to consolidate the ceasefire and move to phases two and three of the ceasefire agreement and to allow humanitarian aid to enter Gaza. The situation in Gaza should trouble everyone. Morocco believes that Gaza and West Bank are integral parts of Palestinian territory. Therefore, the Palestinian people are the only ones who are in a position to determine their fate. Morocco calls for the ceasefire to be consolidated and for us to move into phase two and three of the agreement. There must also be unfettered access of humanitarian aid in sufficient quantities. There must end attacks and allow for reconstruction to start. The rebuilding process should include participation of regional partners as well as the Palestinian people themselves. Furthermore, there must be an end to hate speech intolerance as well as acts of violence. To conclude, Morocco insists on the need of the unity of Palestinian stakeholders in order to move to a brighter future with the two-state solutions with the state based on 1967 internationally recognised borders and a capital in East Jerusalem.

Mexico is deeply concerned at the devastating consequences for the people of Gaza following the escalation which was launched on 7 October 2023 as the result of Hamas and other armed groups attacks against Israel. Deaths of civilians, torture and sexual violence and the taking of hostages by these groups are dreadful and unjustifiable acts. Nevertheless, using hunger as a weapon of war as well as the systematic blockade of humanitarian aid entering Gaza is also unacceptable. Israel as the Occupying Power has the obligation to show access to basic goods. The displacement of 90% of the population, the death of over 50,000 people, most of them women and children, are unacceptable consequences. Mexico condemns the mass destruction of civilian infrastructure in Gaza as well as attacks on humanitarian areas and hospitals which could be tantamount to war crimes. Mexico is also concerned that the same tactics used in Gaza are now being applied in West Bank. The excessive use of force, bombing refugee camps and destroying homes which has caused thousands to be displaced. This could be collective punishment without mentioning the very worrying increase in new settlements and outposts which could change the demographic makeup. Mexico is alarmed at the documented use of torture, ill treatment, sexual violence against Palestinians detained in Israeli facilities. The death of at least 60 people in custody requires exhaustive independent investigation. Deeply concerned



at the violation of the ceasefire, Mexico urges the parties to restart the dialogue. Protecting civilians must be a priority and hostage-taking attacks on civilian targets and use of indiscriminate force must stop immediately. Mexico reiterates the urgent need for accountability and access to justice through impartial investigations. The international community must act in order to prevent new atrocities and support the rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination.

Spain thanks OHCHR for the reports which describe a terrible situation which grows worse on a daily basis following the terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023 which Spain has condemned on a number of occasions. Like previous speakers such as Ghana on behalf of the African group and Kuwait on behalf of the GCC and Cuba's statement, Spain reject systematic violence and segregation affecting thousands of innocent civilians in the occupied territories. This is a violation of international law, IHL, international justice and human rights. There has been indiscriminate bombing once again in Gaza over the past few days and even before that the toll had already surpassed 50,000 victims, most of them women and children. There is internal and continuous forced displacements of over two million Palestinians that cannot be ignored and there's an unprecedented humanitarian crisis facing the population which is getting worse as electricity is being cut off and humanitarian aid has been systematically blockaded by the Israeli authorities. Spain is worried about the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank which are all illegal according to international law and this is being exacerbated by violence, detention, arbitrary controls and roadblocks. Over 2,000 Palestinian buildings have been demolished in the West Bank including dozens which were devoted to distributing humanitarian aid. Thousands have been displaced and many more in East Jerusalem are facing eviction. Spain calls for strict compliance with international law and respect for UN resolutions and supreme international legal bodies including the ICJ advisory opinion from last year. We cannot have further impunity. We must support the ICJ and the only viable solution is one which involves two states living together. We all know that.

Algeria is increasingly convinced Item 7 must be strengthened because the occupation continues, the violations of the Palestinian people's rights and their suffering continues too. This is a suffering which has been going on for many decades and if we were to remove item 7 from the agenda this would only increase impunity undermine international law. Algeria condemns the violation of the ceasefire last week by Israel and renewed violence in Gaza which has caused hundreds of deaths and injuries. It also condemns the settler policy which strives to wipe out the Palestinian people and also the collective punishment and confiscation of land. Algeria rejects the Judaization of East Jerusalem and all the practises to try and set up an apartheid system. It also denounces violations of international law of all types, most notably the aggression on Gaza. We must bring an end to Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory in line with the ICJ advisory opinion and general assembly resolution. The international community must assume its responsibilities and ensure that UN resolutions are implemented along with the ICJ advisory opinion. Israel must be held accountable for its acts. The international community must provide appropriate financial and material support for Gaza so that life can once again be possible in this area following the massive destruction. All support plans for the Gaza Strip must include retaining population in that area and ensure the right of return as well. Lasting fair peace requires an end to the legal occupation of the occupied Palestinian territory and the Syrian Golan. The right to self-determination must also be respected.



South Africa condemns the deplorable military onslaught on Gaza by Israel marking an end to the ceasefire. The unimaginable suffering of the Palestinians knows no bounds as Israel continues to block aid and cut off energy supplies. These actions run contrary to the ICJ provisional orders which oblige Israel to take all measures to prevent acts of genocide by among others ensuring the unhindered flow of humanitarian assistance. South Africa too is alarmed by the horrific findings in the recent report of the COI. The report demonstrates how Israel is increasingly employing sexual reproductive and other forms of gender-based violence against the Palestinians to undermine their right to self-determination including by imposing measures intended to prevent births which constitute a genocidal act. Indeed, over the past 78 years of occupation, the Palestinians' human rights, notably the right to self-determination, have been systematically violated by Israel. In so doing, Israel has shown an abject disregard for the universality of human rights as enshrined in IHL and IHRL. Any initiative that seeks to forcibly displace the Palestinians from their homeland cannot be countenanced as it amounts to ethnic cleansing. For this reason, Item 7 remains imperative. The UN has a standing responsibility towards the question of Palestine until it is resolved in all its aspects. Yet, despite the numerous UN reports about Israel's flagrant violations and abuses it continues to deny access to ensure independent verification undermining the mandate of this council and indeed the ICJ provisional orders. It must be ensured that Israel is held accountable as it is the impunity accorded to Israel which lies at the core of its genocidal actions today. It is for this reason that as part of the Hague Group, South Africa committed to taking effective measures to support the realisation of the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination. Much like the international community stood united against apartheid, we now need to display the very same solidarity with the Palestinians.

According to the **Maldives**, for decades Israel has been a destabilising force in the Middle East attacking its neighbours, seizing land and expanding illegal settlements. Despite the support and crimes against humanity, some UNHRC members continue to afford its preferential treatment only emboldening its brutality. The situation in Gaza has reached a breaking point. Israel has shown complete and blatant disregard for the ceasefire agreement launching deadly airstrikes across the Gaza Strip even in this holy month of Ramadan resulting in the deaths of over 400 Palestinian last week alone including many innocent children. Israeli occupation forces are collectively punishing over 2 million Palestinians by blocking humanitarian aid and deliberately worsening already unlivable conditions. These are serious violations of IHL and IHRL and war crimes and crimes against humanity under Rome Statute. Despite the High Commissioner's urgent appeal for food, water, medicine, shelter and protection, the Maldives is deeply alarmed that some states have suspended funding to UNRWA, a vital lifeline for Palestinians. The Maldives urges these countries to immediately reverse their decision and uphold their humanitarian obligations. The latest report from the UNHCR Commission of Enquiry paints an even grimmer picture. Israel is using starvation as a weapon of war. Widespread sexual violence, rape and public shaming of Palestinian women have become tools of oppression. Harrowing testimonies describe women forced to give birth in schools with no electricity or water while others are filmed as they are violated. The Occupying Power must immediately grant access to the Commission of Enquiry, the Special Rapporteur on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, other mandate holders and the OHCHR to assess human rights violations to ensure accountability. The root cause of this crisis is the prolonged occupation. Only through honest recognition of this reality and the rejection of double standards can we begin to find a meaningful solution to this crisis. How much



longer will the international community stand idle by? Member states must act by complying with the ICJ advisory opinion and enforcing accountability.

Indonesia is appalled by the deepening humanitarian and human rights catastrophe in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. It strongly condemns Israel's continued military aggression, including the recent strikes on 18 March. Over 50,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza, nearly 2 million displaced. The objective is clear, ethnic cleansing. Israel's conduct amounts to a genocidal campaign, a campaign to erase Palestinians as a people. In the West Bank, thousands more have been forced from their homes. Entire villages have been wiped off the map. Israel's denial of the Palestinian people's fundamental right to return is fuelled by the ongoing forcibly displacement and the systemic destruction of homes and vital infrastructure. Indonesia firmly rejects these actions. This ongoing nightmare is exacerbated by unchecked impunity and reinforced by the continued provision of weapons and ammunition. Indonesia urges all states to immediately halt such arms transfer to Israel. The war the world witnessed for over 18 months is a war on existence. Israel's systematic attempts and calculated plan to erase the Palestinian people from their homeland must be stopped. Indonesia calls on the international community to enforce the ICJ advisory opinion, which demands an end to Israel's unlawful occupation and urges measures to prevent genocide in Gaza. Indonesia reaffirms its unwavering support for the realisation of a two-state solution based on international law and relevant UN resolutions. It fully supports the Gaza reconstruction plan led by Arab leaders to help restore life and dignity for the Palestinian people. The Government of Indonesia, together with national humanitarian organisations and civil societies, is committed to support reconstruction efforts, including hospitals, livelihoods, and essential services. Indonesia has also contributed to the work of international organisations such as the ILO, UNRWA, and ICRC in support of relief and rebuilding initiatives. Indonesia renews its call for Palestine's full UN membership and equal treatment as a sovereign state.

Brazil appreciates the reports presented under Item 7 and highlights the disturbing findings of the Commission of Enquiry concerning Israel's systematic use of sexual, reproductive, and other forms of gender-based violence. Since October 7th, 2023, Brazil has consistently condemned Israel's disproportionate response to Hamas' shocking attacks. Such response has caused an appalling number of civilian casualties, particularly among women and girls. Many of these deaths resulted from pregnancy complications caused by the destruction of medical facilities and restrictions on humanitarian aid, which might constitute war crimes. All parties to the conflict must respect international human rights and humanitarian law, and Israel must abide by ICJ advisory opinion concerning the illegality of the occupation. All human rights violations must be thoroughly investigated, including from a gender-based perspective, and all perpetrators must be held accountable. The Brazilian Government deplores the new Israeli attacks against Gaza. Brazil calls on all parties to abide by the terms of the ceasefire agreement and to urgently resume negotiations with a view to the permanent cessation of hostilities. Brazil remains committed to a two-state solution with an independent and viable state of Palestine living side by side with Israel in peace and security within the 1967 borders, which includes the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Colombia welcomes the presentation of the reports of the High Commissioner on Palestine and the other occupied territories, and reaffirms its commitment to international law. Colombia is



deeply concerned by the ongoing occupation of the Palestinian Territory and the Syrian Golan, which is contrary to international law, and supports the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions in this regard. The occupation must cease. Colombia urges Israel to cease any alteration of the demographic makeup or geography of the occupied territories, including through the expansion of settlements. On 28 February, Colombia submitted its comments to the International Court of Justice in the context of the advisory proceedings on Israel's obligations in the occupied Palestinian Territory. Colombia reiterates the need to respect IHL and to ensure the humanitarian work of UNRWA and other agencies for protecting and assisting the civilian Palestinian population. Colombia deplores the breakdown of the ceasefire and condemn the unilateral actions that are worsening the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the West Bank. Colombia supports the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, and international investigative mechanisms. It urges the ceasefire to be re-established and dialogue to resume in order to reach a negotiated and political solution that turns a two-state solution into reality, two states coexisting in peace and security.

Chile expresses its deep concern at the serious humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian Territory. Since the breakdown of the ceasefire agreement on 18 March, Israel's new offensive in Gaza has caused at least 56,560 dead, including women and children. This is a major violation of the ceasefire agreement, of the most fundamental rules of IHL. Moreover, the situation in the West Bank has continued to worsen. Since January, more than 90 Palestinians have been killed in the context of Israeli military operations. Arbitrary detentions continue, as does the deliberate destruction of infrastructure and violence by settlers. It is urgent to re-establish the ceasefire in order to move towards a new phase with a view to rebuilding Gaza. Chile strongly rejects any measure that would imply the forced displacement of the Palestinian people, as this would amount to a gross violation of international law and of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and to create their own state. Chile also aligns itself with the condemnation issued by the Secretary-General of the hostage-taking, and urges Hamas to release the hostages as soon as possible. We would like to reiterate our support for UNRWA, and Chile therefore participated in the advisory proceedings before the ICJ on humanitarian assistance in Palestine, and we call for all legal and political measures that restrict the functioning of UNRWA to be lifted. For a lasting solution, any process must take place in good faith, with the direct participation of both parties, without foreign or external pressure or pre-defined results. Chile reaffirms that the two-state solution remains the only sustainable and legitimate solution for achieving full, just and lasting peace. It finally urges the international community to act with a sense of urgency and coherence in order to protect the civilian population, ensure respect for human rights and contribute to stability and lasting peace in the region.

China is deeply concerned about the current situation between Palestine and Israel, and condemns the recent large-scale airstrikes on Gaza that have resulted in hundreds of civilian casualties, and we deeply deplore the collapse of the ceasefire. The immediate priority is to avoid any actions that risk further escalation and avoid broader human rights and humanitarian catastrophe. The Occupying Power must earnestly fulfil its international law obligations by immediately and fully restoring humanitarian access to Gaza and respecting and protecting the basic human rights of the Palestinian people. Gaza is an integral part of the Palestinian territory. Any forced change to its status will not bring peace. Instead, it will only fuel renewed unrest.



China firmly opposes the forced transfer of the Gazan population. The international community must contribute to a comprehensive and lasting ceasefire in Gaza while scaling up humanitarian assistance. China supports the Gaza peace plan jointly initiated by Egypt and other Arab countries. China supports the early start of reconstruction under the principle of Palestinians governing Palestine. The ultimate solution or resolution of the Palestinian question requires the return to the correct path of the two-state solution. Only genuine, peaceful co-existence between Palestine and Israel can guarantee that the two peoples enjoy human rights equally. China supports the just cause of the Palestinian people of restoring their legitimate rights and stands ready to work with the international community for an early, comprehensive, just, and lasting solution to the Palestinian question in pursuit of the two-state solution.

Bangladesh condemns in the strongest possible terms the renewed brutal aggression, violence and atrocities of Israel in the holy month of Ramadan, killing hundreds of Palestinian people in Gaza, most of whom are children. The registered record of the death toll of the Palestinian people surpassed the horrendous milestone of 50,000, while leaving more than 130,000 wounded since the Israeli attack began in October 2023. A whole generation of Palestine has been wiped out as more than 17,000 children have been killed. Instead of engaging in negotiations towards the second phase of the ceasefire and the release of captives, the commissioning of another new episode of indiscriminate military attacks last week targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure revealed the true intention of the occupying forces. Bangladesh strongly condemns all egregious and illegal acts of Israel to unlawfully deny and trample the legitimate rights of Palestinian people to self-determination. The present acts of aggression and deliberate human rights violations by the occupying Israeli forces are blatant disregard to international law. Bangladesh deplores that in all its malicious acts, Israel continues to receive unconditional and unchecked support from its allies. The cycle of impunity, coupled with the indifferent attitude of the international community, has only encouraged the occupying forces to commit repeated violations of human rights. Bangladesh urges the international community to end double standards, cease the culture of impunity, and hold Israel accountable to international law. It requests OHCHR to update the database of all business enterprises involved in the illegal settlements in the OPT on an annual basis, as mandated by UNHRC resolution 31/36. Bangladesh believes that ending the occupation is essential for the realisation of peace, stability, and development in the region. The international community should take every possible measure to immediately end this illegal occupation. Finally, Bangladesh reaffirms its unwavering support to the Palestinian people's legitimate struggle for self-determination till the establishment of a sovereign State of Palestine, based on the two-state solution and pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Cuba states Israel is threatening with exterminating the Palestinian people, as the international community looks on idly. Not only are they grossly violating the rights of the Palestinian people and all of the relevant UN documents, but the Palestinian people is also facing an existential threat. The genocide is the continuation of more than seven decades of illegal occupation, abuse and occupation. How much more destruction is necessary for, instead of speeches, real action to be taken to stop the massacres? Every minute of a peaceful pacific will lead to more deaths and displacement. The UNHRC cannot continue to fail Palestine. The continuity of Israel's actions is only possible because of the complicity of the US Government, which is providing all of its support to the Occupying Power. Also guilty are those that remain silent or whose attempt to justify what is happening. History will not forgive those who remain indifferent, and Cuba will



never be one of those indifferent ones. The ICJ has called on all states to refrain from providing assistance to Israel. However, there are very few voices calling on the US to cease their supply of weapons and humanitarian and other equipment to kill civilians. The Palestinian people is facing a humanitarian disaster of catastrophic proportions. Hunger is being used as a weapon and we call for the ceasefire to be re-established and for humanitarian aid to access Gaza unhindered. We must have a lasting and just solution to the Palestinian question. There can be no peace in the Middle East without that, and we cannot achieve lasting peace without Palestine occupying its due position as a full-fledged member of the United Nations. The brotherly people of Palestine will always be able to count on Cuba's firm support and solidarity.

Viet Nam is seriously concerned over the ongoing hostilities, the loss of life, destruction of civilian infrastructure, and numerous sufferings that Palestinians living in Gaza are facing. While parties to the conflict continue to search for a durable solution, it is critical that the provision of food, medical supplies, shelter, and humanitarian aid for the population of Gaza be properly addressed. Viet Nam reiterates that all parties in this conflict must take all feasible precautions to protect the civilian population and civilian objects and respect the principles of distinction, proportionality, and precautions. Viet Nam reaffirms its strong support for the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable right and their pursuit for a true state solution in line with the relevant UN resolution, international law, with the pre-1967 border, and with Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, living side by side with the state of Israel in peaceful coexistence, security, and mutual recognition. After decades, peace and a final settlement to the Israel-Palestine conflict remain elusive. Viet Nam therefore calls on and support the relevant parties to strive for a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace settlement through dialogue and negotiations on the basis of respect for international law, the Charter, and relevant resolution of the United Nations. Viet Nam is convinced that such a peace settlement could only be reached through exercising restraint, avoiding actions that may further complicate the situation, and maintaining direct dialogue in a constructive manner. Viet Nam stands ready to make positive contributions to and work with all relevant parties within the UN and beyond towards that end.

Qatar stresses that today, the brotherly Palestinian people, in full view of the entire world, are going through a critical moment in their history, facing a veritable existential threat due to the genocidal war and ethnic cleansing perpetrated by Israel, the Occupying Power. This is in addition to the exposure of the Palestinian people to forced displacement, settlement policies, racism, collective punishment, starvation, and denial of humanitarian aid, and complete destruction of infrastructure and all conditions for a dignified life, as would be needed by any people around the world. Qatar strongly condemns the oppressive Israeli aggression on Gaza Strip and the deliberate targeting of civilians and civilian facilities, including hospitals, as well as the announcement by the occupying government of the creation of a new agency dedicated to displacing Palestinians under the guise of so-called voluntary departure. Qatar condemns the adoption of a law that allows the settlers to own land and property in the Western Bank, and the adoption of a plan to separate 13 settlement neighbourhoods that are illegal in the West Bank, paving the way for colonial settlement expansion. Qatar calls upon the international community to shoulder legal and moral responsibilities and undertake every measure to obligate the Israeli occupation to stop the aggression on the Palestinians immediately, and to ensure that the ceasefire is adhered to with all its phases and details, and to ensure the necessary protections to Palestinian civilians under international law and the international resolutions of relevance, and



to ensure that all those responsible are held to account for the grave violations against the rights of the Palestinian people. In conclusion, Qatar reiterates its firm position in favour of the justice of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially the right to self-determination, and continues to be eager to play our role in the joint mediation to end the war in Gaza, and to ensure non-repetition all the way to reconstruction and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on the 1967 border with East Jerusalem as its capital as part of the two-state solution.

Bolivia reaffirms its deep concern and its strong condemnation of the indescribable human rights violations committed in the occupied Palestinian territory and the crimes perpetrated by the Occupying Power. One cannot accept neo-colonial policies that seek to modify the physical demographic nature of the territory and the geographic composition of the Syrian Golan as well. This is a violation of international law that is taking place for all the international community to see. Decades of unlawful settlement by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the occupied Syrian Golan, as well as the forced displacement and the eviction of residents from their land, all run counter to the basic principles of coexistence. Bolivia aligns itself with the call from the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to focus the attention of all relevant UN bodies, special procedures, intergovernmental organisations and humanitarian organisations to step up their efforts in order to shed as much light as possible on this illegal advance of the Israeli forces in the West Bank and other territories, and the repercussions this is having on the rights of Palestinian people. Bolivia advocates for a solution that will create a free, sovereign and independent Palestinian state within the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as capital, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

Sudan is deeply concerned by the violations mentioned in the reports, and in particular, collective punishment and the targeting of civilian objects and infrastructure, such as hospitals, and this without mentioning the restrictions on movement of civilians and obstruction of humanitarian aid, to which you have to add other human rights violations in the occupied Palestinian territory and the occupied Syrian Golan. Sudan stands in solidarity with the Palestinian people, which has been suffering for decades, suffering violations of its rights, and this has resulted in deaths and displacement. Sudan reaffirms its position, which is one of respect for the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people, including through the establishment of a Palestinian state within the internationally recognised borders. An end must also be brought to the cycle of violence, and we must find a solution to the crisis through a two-state solution. The Occupying Power should respect its obligations under international law and international resolutions, as well as the principles of IHRL and IHL. Sudan is convinced that there must be an end to the occupation of the Palestinian territory and the occupied Syrian Golan. There must be an end to aggression. There must be an end to the occupation of the occupied Syrian Golan.

Views Expressed by UNHRC Observer States

Saudi Arabia condemns and deeply deplores the continuation of violations and aggressions by Israel against the brotherly people of Palestine and the targeting of civilians and the creation of a new to displace Palestinians and the approval of a plan to separate 13 settlement neighbourhoods in the West Bank is a clear violation of international law and IHL. It deplores the raids by the Israeli occupation on Syrian territories, which is another flagrant violation of



international law and a threat to security and stability in Syria and the region. The international community must shoulder its responsibility to bring to an end these violations and to stop all Israeli military operations, whether in Palestinian territories or Syrian territories. Saudi Arabia reaffirms that achieving peace cannot happen without Palestinians achieving their legitimate rights, most importantly the establishment of an independent state on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. Saudi Arabia reiterates its solidarity with the Government and people of Syria, and calls upon respecting the sovereignty of Syria and putting an end to all violations that threaten its stability.

Türkiye is deeply alarmed by the findings of the High Commissioner's report, which reaffirmed that Israeli settlement policy and its acts of annexation in West Bank are a breach of international law. The transfer of Israeli civilians into occupied territory, along with systematic displacement of Palestinians, are war crimes, as stated by the report. Settlement activities, forceful transfer of the Palestinian population, attacks by security forces and settlers must cease immediately. The unprecedented scale of systematic violations of international law in Gaza has led to the death of more than 50,000 Palestinians, most of them women and children. Türkiye strongly condemns Israel's destruction of the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital, which is a cancer treatment facility. The deliberate targeting of a hospital providing healthcare services to civilians in Gaza constitutes part of Israel's policy aimed at rendering Gaza uninhabitable and forcibly displacing the Palestinian people, which is prohibited under international law. Israel clearly rejected to uphold the peace efforts and the ceasefire agreement. The international community must take a decisive stance to ensure a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and the delivery of humanitarian aid. Türkiye reiterates its unwavering support for the rightful cause of the Palestinian people and reaffirms its commitment to contributing to efforts aimed at securing peace and stability in the region, including revitalising the two-state vision.

Iraq commends the efforts made by the High Commissioner to prepare the reports that have been presented under item 7. These reports mention the genocide and the crimes committed against the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. This shows that item 7 is important and must be maintained on the agenda until the heinous occupation ends. Iraq condemns the breach of the ceasefire agreement by the Occupying Power. Massacres and ethnic cleansing are ongoing. There is a policy of annexation and apartheid and that policy of fait accompli, given the attempts to change the demographic composition of the areas and also the dismantling of camps. The perpetrators should be brought to justice before international courts and there should be compensation for damages. Iraq supports the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to create its own state with East Jerusalem as capital. Efforts must be made at the international level in order to provide humanitarian aid to civilians and to rebuild what has been destroyed. There must be an end to the targeting of UN staff.

Brunei Darussalam reiterates its strong condemnation of the resumption of attacks by the Occupying Power when such brutal acts of aggression are a blatant violation of the ceasefire agreement by the Occupying Power. The violation of the agreement and the latest attacks, along with the updates from the reports on settler violence, forced eviction and acts of forcible transfer, demonstrate the Occupying Power's continued breach of IHL, the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions, and disregard for Palestinians' lives and the lives of UN humanitarian aid workers.



Such unjust acts should not be allowed to go on. The UN bears both a moral and legal obligation to ensure accountability for such acts and abuses of international law. Brunei Darussalam continues to condemn these repeated violations and aggressions that run counter to relevant UN resolutions and international law. This includes any proposals or actions aimed at forcefully and permanently displacing and erasing the Palestinians from their homeland. Brunei Darussalam emphasises the critical importance of resuming dialogue for the full implementation of the ceasefire agreement in all its phases to alleviate the immense suffering long endured by the Palestinian people, as well as address the root cause towards ending decades of occupation and violence by the Occupying Power.

Luxembourg is deeply concerned at the breakdown in the ceasefire in Gaza and the death of hundreds of civilians, particularly children, caused by Israeli airstrikes. Luxembourg calls upon Israel to put a stop to all its military operations and urges all parties to respect their obligations under international law. Humanitarian aid must be immediately restored and hostages released as quickly as possible. Resumption of negotiations and the political process with a view to achieving a two-state solution fully respecting Israeli and Palestinians' rights to self-determination remains the only path towards fair and lasting peace. The Arab Reconstruction Plan for Gaza, presented to the Cairo Summit on 4 March, is a serious approach to this issue. Luxembourg is worried about the growing pace of settlements, demolitions of houses and forced displacement of Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, which increasingly looks like an annexation. Any forced displacement of Palestinian people being gathered in the West Bank is a serious violation of international law and a major obstacle to the two-state solution. Israel must fully respect the ICJ opinion of 19 July 2025 and immediately stop any activities of settlement and remove settlers from the occupied Palestinian territory.

The **DPRK** is deeply concerned about the continued flagrant and systematic violations of human rights committed by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory and strongly condemned its brutal attack, collective punishment and massacres and ethnic cleansing against Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. The Palestinian people are deprived of most basic human rights, including right to life. The main responsibility of causing today's humanitarian catastrophe in this region lies with the United States and Western countries, too, which have ignored and instigated the genocide and atrocities committed by Israel so far. Israel is strongly urged to stop all forms of human rights violations and abuses in illegal occupied Palestinian territory and any attempt for annexation and settlement expansion in illegal occupied land. The DPRK reaffirms its support and solidarity with the Palestinian people in their efforts to realise their inalienable and legitimate rights, including to self-determination and freedom in their independent and sovereign state of Palestine within the pre-1960 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Jordan stresses that the reports presented under Item 7 are always awash with atrocities and grave violations. The practises of occupation are deplorable in the OPT, including East Jerusalem. Jordan condemns the Israeli aggressions against the Syrian territories and insists on the importance of the UNHRC shouldering its responsibility. The absence of comprehensive and just peace and the non-fulfilment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are basis for the breaches that our council is duly mandated to follow up on. These are documented by the reports of OHCHR and other UNHRC subsidiary bodies. The weakness of the accountability mechanisms help the perpetrators to continue what they are doing. The settlers are perpetuating every crime



imaginable and accountability rests on elevating the principles of justice and non-permission of repression. No one is spared, humanitarian workers and civilians and members of international organisations. These are categorised as crimes that require accountability. Jordan rejects any measures targeting UNRWA, which plays a vital role in providing services and care for Palestinian refugees in the five areas that it covers and contributes to the stability of the region. Jordan delivers a message of peace and justice and until such time that the independent Palestinian State is established based on the 1967 borders.

According to **Slovenia**, there is no justification for attacking civilians and civilian targets. Nor can anything justify the blockade of all humanitarian aid to Gaza for three weeks, which is an act of collective punishment. Humanitarian assistance must not be politicised. The people of Gaza and the West Bank, along with hostages held by Hamas, continue to endure unimaginable atrocities. Slovenia stands firmly for the protection of civilians. As highlighted in the recent reports by the Commission of Enquiry, violence against women and children resulting from Israel's methods of war and its systematic use of sexual and gender-based violence exceeds the limits of what a human can bear. Slovenia strongly resonates the High Commissioner's words that in order to break the decades-long cycle of violence, ensuring accountability is crucial. All human rights violations and abuses in Gaza and Israel must be investigated and perpetrators held to account. Slovenia reiterates its call for an immediate and permanent cessation of hostilities and for safe and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid at scale in order to protect all and alleviate the suffering of all civilians, including the remaining hostages. This can only be achieved when all parties adhere to international law, in IHL and IHRL, and accountability is established.

Iran condemns the renewed attacks by the Israeli regime following the ceasefire, which have resulted in the martyrdom of hundreds of innocent Palestinians. Iran strongly rejects any idea or plan that forces the displacement of the Palestinian people in any form, under any circumstance, or for any reason. We also denounce the deliberate obstruction of humanitarian aid to Gaza. The HC's report confirms that the Israeli regime has indiscriminately targeted residential areas, hospitals, and schools, violating the Fourth Geneva Convention. The forced displacement of 90 percent of Gaza's population, widespread destruction, and unlawful killing in the West Bank amount to war crimes and exhibit signs of genocide. Additionally, the reports highlight the expansion of illegal Israeli settlements, apartheid policies, and the systemic use of sexual and gender-based violence by Israeli forces as a weapon of war, as documented by the Independent International Commission of Enquiry. These grave violations demand urgent and decisive action. The world cannot turn a blind eye. Justice for Palestine is not optional. It is a moral and legal obligation.

The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** categorically condemn Israeli airstrikes on Gaza Strip, violating the ceasefire. Resumption of violence is a step in the wrong direction. It prevents civilians from being protected and compounds tension in the region. The UAE also deplores the escalation of settlements in the West Bank. New settlements there and in East Jerusalem are wrong and the UAE rejects any attempts to force Palestinian people out of their lands and to change the legal status of the occupied territory. The UAE calls for de-escalation and a ceasefire. The UAE insists that there should be no collective punishment. Humanitarian aid must be provided with secure access and we will continue to support international efforts to build peace in the Middle East and



to put a stop to illegitimate efforts to prevent a two-state solution. There must be an independent Palestinian state with its capital in East Jerusalem.

Djibouti firmly condemns Israel's resumption of its brutal aggression against the Gaza Strip, which has led to the deaths of hundreds of people. This is a flagrant violation of the ceasefire agreement and defies international efforts to achieve peace. Furthermore, Djibouti calls for the ceasefire to be maintained and respected in Gaza so that peace can take hold and thereby we can prevent a further deterioration of the catastrophic humanitarian conditions which have reached unprecedented levels in Gaza's history. In this regard, Djibouti calls upon the international community, particularly the Security Council, to honour its responsibilities and put an end to this dreadful massacre, open up border crossings to ensure that humanitarian aid has access to all parts of Gaza and that civilians be protected. Djibouti reiterates its constant position for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, particularly the creation of an independent state with 1967 borders and East Jerusalem as the capital. Djibouti rejects any plans to try and deport Palestinian people from their lands and supports the establishment of an accountability mechanism for human rights violations.

Egypt condemns Israeli airstrikes in Gaza causing hundreds of civilians. This is a violent breach of the ceasefire and international law as is cutting off electricity supplies and preventing humanitarian aid from entering Gaza. This just compounds the suffering of civilians. Egypt rejects the settlement policy pursued by Israel, which blatantly violates UN Security Council resolutions and the ICJ advisory opinion. It also rejects any attempt to force Palestinians out of their historic lands. Egypt urges the international community to honour its responsibilities and put a stop to the Israeli aggression and ensure that Palestinian people have their inalienable rights with a Palestinian state and that Palestinians can exercise their fundamental rights, their right to life to return and self-determination. Egypt condemns Israeli airstrikes on Syrian territory and also condemns the illegal occupation of Syrian Golan and other regions of Lebanon.

Peru reiterates its deep concern at the recent airstrikes carried out by Israel against civilians in Gaza. They have caused a large number of victims, including women and children. Such actions are a flagrant violation of IHL, international law and the ceasefire agreement which was achieved between the parties to conflict. Peru urges all parties to resume dialogue and negotiations and joins the Secretary General's call for full respect for the ceasefire and that there be safe and unfettered access for humanitarian aid and that the remaining hostages be unconditionally released. Peru reiterates its support for the two-state solution, living side by side in mutually agreed and safe borders in accordance with the General Assembly resolution, international law and other pertinent resolutions. Peru expresses its support for all efforts to bring about a lasting political solution which ensures peace, stability and peaceful coexistence in the region.

Malaysia strongly condemns the renewed Israeli attacks on Gaza following the unilateral ending of the ceasefire which have killed hundreds of Palestinians, including women and children. These genocidal acts flagrantly violate international law, multiple UN resolutions and ongoing peace efforts. The international community has the obligation and the responsibility to take decisive action to put an end to the massacre. Israel's recent aggression exacerbates the already horrific humanitarian catastrophe and undermines diplomatic efforts for peace. Two weeks ago, UNRWA's Commissioner General depicted the grave humanitarian situation in the OPT and the challenges that UNRWA continues to face in its work. Malaysia reiterates its strong support for



UNRWA's indispensable role in delivering humanitarian aid, education and healthcare to nearly 6 million Palestinian refugees. Malaysia is extremely concerned about the latest COI report that reveals more evidence of Israel's violations in the context of sexual and gender-based violence. The systematic destruction of sexual and reproductive healthcare facilities in the OPT clearly constitutes genocidal acts under international law. Malaysia will continue to render its undivided support to the Palestinian people until they are able to attain their right to self-determination in a sovereign Palestinian state based on pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Nigeria affirms its commitment to supporting ongoing efforts to address urgent challenges in occupied Palestine territory, especially during these difficult times. Nigeria reiterates its unwavering support for the struggle of the Palestinian people in achieving their human right and fundamental freedom. Nigeria remains convinced that the only lasting solution to this historic conflict lies in the establishment of an independent state of Palestine, coexisting side by side with the State of Israel in peace, security and prosperity. With respect to the current situation in Gaza, Nigeria strongly opposes and condemns one-term violence against civilians that has led to severe humanitarian crisis. Nigeria condemns all forms of violence, regardless of the perpetrators, and joins the call for the restoring of ceasefire and unrestricted humanitarian access to those in need in Gaza. Finally, Nigeria emphasises the urgent need for the international community to take decisive action to end this crisis and protect the human right and fundamental freedom of the Palestinian people.

Eritrea has always said that country-specific mandates pushed without the state's consent must be terminated. None of the countries facing country-specific mandates today are occupying sovereign states, nor are they committing genocide. The discussion to end this general debate itemed as consular efficiency is a blatant beat to shield Israel from accountability and evade policy and suffering from the international agenda. As the human rights situation door beats spirals to levels never seen in history, any move to silence this debate is nothing short of an endorsement of impunity. Recently, Israel resumed its indiscriminate bombing, yet instead of strengthening mechanisms to address these grave injustices, there are brazen attempts to curtail scrutiny and sabotage justice. This is not about streamlining. It is a political manoeuvre to whitewash Israel's crimes and suppress those seeking accountability. The same nations preaching human rights and rule of law now aim to dismantle a rare platform that amplifies the Palestinian plight. The international community must reject this silencing attempt and recommit to protecting the rights of Palestinians and all under occupation. Justice must not be sacrificed on the altar of political expediency, not now, not ever. Eritrea stands with the Palestinian people in their struggle for self-determination.

Oman categorically condemns Israel's violation of the ceasefire in Gaza and its resumption of its attacks on defenceless civilians. This is a crime against genocide and a breach of international law. Oman welcomes the reports presented under item 7 and believes that settlements in the West Bank, notably, are a violation of international law. This is an attempt to illegally change the demographic composition of this area. We must find ways of stopping these settlements, hold Israel accountable and protect the rights of the Palestinian people. They cannot be denied, whatever the circumstances, otherwise this will weigh heavily on human conscience forever. So this is why Oman reiterates its constant position in favour of regional peace and an end of Israeli occupation in the occupied Palestinian territory and Syria and Golan. We need lasting, fair peace



which enables the Palestinian people to exercise its rights, notably the right to a Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as the capital.

The **Russian Federation** notes that after the end of the first phase of the agreement between Israel and Hamas, there has been no transition to the second phase. A rejection of the initial agreements cut the brittle ceasefire in Gaza short and led to a resumption on 18 March of the full-scale military action. This new spiral of bloodshed draws concern and condemnation. The primary responsibility lies on the parties to the conflict and the negotiators who are working behind the scenes and not officially informing the international community, including the UN Security Council, about what they are doing. A renewal of military action in Gaza at this stage risks descending into a large-scale regional war, bearing in mind the new realities on the ground, which is the occupation by Israel of five strategic heights in the south of Lebanon and the full occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights and other adjacent areas, as well as the worsening situation in Yemen. Russia is in favour of an unconditional and full ceasefire, which would make it possible to provide unhindered and safe access to all victims and those in need. Russia calls for all hostages and forcibly detained persons to be released, and we underscore the importance of restarting the peace process on generally recognised international law on the basis of generally recognised international law.

Senegal endorses the statements made on behalf of the groups it belongs, and we welcome holding this general debate under item 7. Senegal, first of all, expresses its deep concern at the tragic situation in Palestine. It spares no one or no infrastructure. It is a humanitarian disaster. The international community must ensure that international law is respected. Furthermore, the United Nations must fully play its role as the bulwark of international peace and security. Without peace and security, human rights cannot be enjoyed. In addition to the disaster in Gaza, we see ever more intense colonisation and settlement of West Bank, with the local people being forcibly displaced. Israel's acts jeopardise the two-state solution, so Senegal urges the international community to invest more in defending international law and ensure the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination. Senegal supports the two-state solution in line with relevant UN resolutions.

Ireland states the world continues to witness appalling scenes in the occupied Palestinian territory. The renewed Israeli airstrikes and the ground operation have brought fresh suffering in Gaza. Ireland reiterates its unreserved condemnation of the brutal 7 October attacks on Israel by Hamas and the unconscionable taking of hostages. International law limits the use of force in self-defence to no more than is necessary and proportionate. For Ireland, it is clear that Israel has exceeded these limits in its response. Over 90% of the population in Gaza has been displaced. Over 50,000 people have been killed. The destruction of civilian infrastructure is widespread, and the blocking of humanitarian aid serves to compound this suffering. Settlements are illegal under international law. Settlement expansion and settler violence continues at scale in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and in the Syrian Golan. In the West Bank, we are witnessing unprecedented levels of violence and settlement construction. Almost 40,000 people have been displaced, and a further 200,000 are at risk. Ireland calls for Israel's full compliance with international law, for accountability for all violations and abuses committed by any party, for a resumption of the ceasefire and hostage release agreement, for the release of all hostages and



the immediate resumption of humanitarian access at scale. Ireland urges all sides to step back from violence and to focus on agreeing a permanent ceasefire and a pathway to a lasting peace.

Bahrain reiterates its constant position in favour of the Palestinian people's rights. This is the most important process for peace and stability in the region, and Bahrain deplores any attempt to push Palestinians out from their land. This is a violation of international law. In view of the latest developments in Gaza, Bahrain rejects and condemns Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, and calls on the international community to assume its responsibilities from a legal and moral point of view. Bahrain urges Israel to put a stop to its aggression and its attacks and to apply the ceasefire. Bahrain calls for the implementation of the two-state solution in line with the Arab League's resolutions and UN resolutions so that there is a sovereign Palestinian state with the 1967 borders and East Jerusalem as its capital, and that Palestine should be a full member of the UN. Bahrain stands in solidarity with our brotherly Palestinian people, and supports international efforts to ensure peace and stability in the region and to ensure that dialogue and diplomacy prevail so that there is no further deterioration of the situation and that everyone can benefit from peace and stability

Mauritania condemns the resumption of Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, which is a dangerous escalation that has led to a major loss of human life and infrastructure. This is a violation of international law and the ceasefire. Mauritania calls for the immediate resumption of the ceasefire and international decisions to be respected. The humanitarian blockade must be lifted. Mauritania firmly deplores the conclusion that sexual and reproductive violence has been systematically used since October 7 by Israel, as outlined in the Commission of Enquiry's report, and that there have been attacks on women and girls, the destruction of medical facilities, and hunger has been used as a weapon of war. This is a violation of the Geneva Convention and international law. Item 7 is absolutely vital to tackle the systematic violence and violations of human rights by the Occupying Power against defenceless people. Any attempt to water down the importance of this item will only lead to further violations.

Afghanistan remains deeply concerned about the continued violation of human rights in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territory. The Israeli Government's renewed military attack on Gaza blatantly violates established humanitarian principles. Forced displacement, ethnic cleansing, and demographic alterations imposed on these territories undermine fundamental freedom and contradict established international norms. At this critical moment, we cannot continue on the path of selective attention, turning away from the gravest atrocities afflicting on the Palestinian people. An 18-month-long military assault not only exacerbated the humanitarian crisis, but also underscores the need for Item 7 on the UNHRC's agenda. Afghanistan urges all delegations to actively engage in this critical discussion, demanding an end to the illegal occupation and violence perpetrated against civilians. Such impunity must not persist. Afghanistan urges all states to reaffirm their commitments to the universality of human rights and to support mechanisms that safeguard the dignity and the rights of all people, regardless of geography or political context. Realising the Palestinian right to self-determination and establishing a just two-state solution remains the only effective pathway for a long-lasting peace.

Tunisia endorses the statements made by the groups to which it belongs, with the exception of references to the 1967 borders, East Jerusalem, and the two-state solution. This is based on Tunisia's firm and consistent position in supporting the Palestinian people in achieving their



legitimate and inalienable rights, most and foremost the establishment of an independent, fully sovereign Palestinian State on all its lands, with Jerusalem as the capital. Tunisia condemns in the strongest terms the Occupying Powers' attacks since 18 March in various parts of Gaza. This has led to hundreds of deaths of civilians, men, women, children, older persons. Furthermore, many more people have been injured. This is a violation of international law and basic human values. Tunisia urges the international community to assume its responsibilities to put a stop to these violations. We must also ensure that the Zionists are held accountable. We must prevent the forced displacement of Palestinians. We must also ensure that the advisory opinion of the ICJ is respected. Tunisia stresses the need to have the UN General Assembly resolution implemented with regard to the advisory opinion of the ICJ.

Venezuela condemns in the strongest terms this new phase of the criminal attacks perpetrated by Israel against various places in Gaza, causing the deaths of hundreds and wounding thousands. There has also been constant destruction of homes, mosques, schools, and shelters for displaced persons, leaving many civilians trapped under the rubble. This vicious aggression marks the resumption of the war in Gaza after a ceasefire that held for more than two months, and the humanitarian situation is continuing to get worse, showing once again the prolonged war crimes perpetrated in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank since 2023. These heinous, barbaric acts are occurring with the complicity and cover-up by the United States and their international allies. Without delay, it is urgent to join our efforts, focused on a quest for peace with respect to life, solidarity, justice, and accountability for those who are responsible for this horrific genocidal massacre. The world should, in unison, call for an end to this new phase of terrorist violence, for a final ceasefire, as well as a commitment by all stakeholders on the ground to cease hostilities and protect the human rights and provide fundamental guarantees for the protection of the Palestinian people.

Libya expresses its gratitude to the High Commissioner and his team for preparing these reports and for monitoring the human rights situation in occupied Palestine. Libya supports maintaining Item 7, which entrenches the importance of adhering to the steadfast and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in the face of the aggressions and crimes of the Occupying Power. Libya strongly condemns the ongoing breach of the ceasefire agreement by the Occupying Power and its escalation of barbaric raids and massacres against Palestinian civilians as part of a genocidal war and ethnic cleansing for 17 months now. Libya calls for the implementation of the measures ordered by the ICJ. Libya calls upon the international community, international organisations, and states to shoulder its responsibility to achieve justice and to operationalise international accountability mechanisms to hold the Occupying Power accountable for its ongoing crimes against the brotherly Palestinian people. It also renews its categorical rejection to plans by the Occupying Power to further expand settlements and to annex lands in the West Bank and the forced displacement.

Uganda is concerned with the recent resurgence of hostilities in the state of Palestine, leading to loss of civilian lives, humanitarian crisis, and destruction of property, including hospitals and medical facilities. Given the foregoing, Uganda reiterates its urgent call for a ceasefire and resumption of negotiations toward the lasting peace and stability in the state of Palestine. Uganda condemns the targeting of civilians and noncombatants by the belligerents and calls for the release of all captives. Uganda also calls for the humanitarian aid at scale to meet the



dramatic needs of the population. This should be unimpeded, expanded, and sustained. Uganda calls for an immediate halt to the forced displacement of Palestinian civilians, including any attempts to expel or deport Palestinians from their homeland. Uganda urges the international community, regional actors, the parties, most especially, to master the necessary courage to exert all efforts to pursue a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. This should be based on the relevant UN resolutions to achieve a two-state solution with Israel and Palestine living side-by-side in peace and security.

Pakistan condemns in the strongest possible terms the occupation regime's utter disregard for international law and the egregious violations of IHRL and IHL. The Occupying Power's unceasing escalation is part of a systematic campaign to deny subsistence to millions of Palestinians in dire need. The Israeli decision to block critical humanitarian aid from entering Gaza and dismantling of UNRWA are steps to further their nefarious designs. Pakistan calls for unrestricted humanitarian access to Gaza and to hold Israel accountable for imposition of collective punishment, apartheid, and genocide. Pakistan calls for the full withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, and denounces unacceptable proposals for displacement of Palestinians. Pakistan underscores the need for accountability, echoes the concerns of the Special Procedures, and deplores Israel's refusal to grant access to the Commission of Enquiry. The root causes of the unedited crisis in Palestine are clear for all to see. They are rooted in the denial of the right to self-determination. The ICJ advisory opinion has clearly settled the question of Israel's illegal occupation. The relentless military assault on Palestinian people under the occupation must end. Justice demands the immediate realisation of Palestinians' right to self-determination, to return to their homeland, and to establish a viable, contiguous, and sovereign State on the pre-1967 borders.

The **Philippines** reiterates its call for urgent action to end the serious and compounding breaches of international law in Palestine that directly impinge on the human rights, freedom, and dignity of the Palestinian people. The Philippines is gravely concerned with the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Gaza and the resumption of indiscriminate attacks against innocent civilians, especially children. It underscores the legal and moral obligation of all to adhere to IHL at all times, particularly on the protection of civilians and facilitation of humanitarian assistance. The Philippines supports the ICJ advisory opinion affirming the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the imperative for all states to comply with the respective obligations under international law. There is no military response to this protracted conflict. Only dialogue and negotiations can lead to a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution that would allow Palestine and Israel to live side by side with each other in peace, security, and full sovereignty.

Sri Lanka is deeply concerned by the breach of the ceasefire agreement in Gaza, leading to further loss of life and aggravating the already dire humanitarian situation. The lack of access to food, water, medicine, health services, electricity, and other essential supplies is adding to the suffering of the people of Gaza and the West Bank. While recognising the legitimate security concerns of both the Palestinian and the Israeli peoples and the legitimate expectation of the Palestinian people's statehood, Sri Lanka emphasises that the need for genuine dialogue and international political commitment towards the two-state solution on the basis of the 1967 borders is all the more urgent. As chair of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practises, Sri Lanka has been consistently advocating for a sustainable political solution to the conflict,



which has now escalated to an unprecedented and devastating level. Sri Lanka reiterates the call for an immediate, unconditional, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, unconditional release of hostages and detainees on both sides, and uninterrupted humanitarian access to the people in Gaza.

The United Republic of **Tanzania** firmly believes that a long-lasting solution between the neighbourly states of Israel and Palestine requires constructive engagement by all concerned. Tanzania also believes that violence only begets violence, and an eye for an eye will only aggravate the already dire situation but also impede the long-aspired two-state solution, with the entire Middle East region living in peace, security, and prosperity. Security is indivisible. A secure Israel needs a peaceful and stable Palestine and the entire Middle East. In this regard, Tanzania calls for the cessation of violence in all its forms and manifestations, the respect to international human rights and humanitarian law by all concerned, unimpeded access to humanitarian aid to those in need, especially in Gaza, the renewal of peace talks, a halt to illegal settlements, rebuilding of damaged infrastructure, especially schools, hospitals, water, and energy, and a halt to negative ideology and stereotypes that fuel and perpetuate enmity and hatred among the great people of the Middle East.

Lebanon thanks OHCHR for their sobering reports. By breaking the ceasefire and resuming its onslaught, Israel, the occupying power, is once again subjecting Gaza to brutal military attacks, civilian killings, humanitarian crisis, forcible displacement, and collective punishment. But this is only a fraction of the grim picture. We risk witnessing a spike in war crimes and crimes against humanity, more encroachments and settlement expansion in the West Bank, reoccupation of Gaza, and ethnic cleansing. This would in turn portend more erosion of the credibility of international law and IHL, let alone the risk that this poses for security and stability in the Middle East. The UNHRC should condemn the Israeli illegal actions and uphold the human rights of the Palestinians, particularly the right to self-determination. Israel should be held accountable and effective measures and pressure should be exerted to end the occupation. This, if we want to achieve a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Sierra Leone aligns itself with the statements of the African group in noting the grave and continued violations of human rights in the OPT. The continued occupation, settlement, expansion, forced displacement, and restrictions on fundamental freedoms undermine the rights of self-determination and dignity of the Palestinian people. Sierra Leone is particularly alarmed by the increase in civilian casualties following the resumption of hostilities, especially among women and children, and humanitarian crisis caused by the current blockade of the Strip. The excessive use of force, restrictions on movement, and the demolition of homes and infrastructure in Jenin and other parts of the OPT are alarming. International human rights and humanitarian law must be upheld, calls for full compliance with UN resolutions to ensure accountability and justice. Sierra Leone reiterates its strong support for a peaceful and just resolution of the Palestinian crisis based on international law and the relevant UN frameworks. Sierra Leone calls for the resumption of ceasefire and urges all parties to prioritise dialogue and diplomacy and an end to the bloodshed and unjustified suffering of the Palestinian people. Sierra Leone urges international community and indeed influential actors to intensify their efforts to promote de-escalation, humanitarian assistance, and the protection of the Palestinian rights. The sustainable solution to the Palestinian crisis is a two-state solution based on the 1967

borders achieved through genuine engagement and meaningful dialogue. Sierra Leone fully supports all efforts to promote lasting peace, security, and stability.

Views Expressed by Inter-Governmental Organizations

The **Sovereign Order of Malta** thanks the High Commissioner for his report and shares his concerns over the human rights situation in the EBTs and the need for justice and accountability. The reports of potential war crimes and crimes against humanity are deeply troubling. Violations of IHL and IHRL are unacceptable and perpetrators must be held to account. The situation in Gaza is untenable. Humanitarian access must be granted and electricity and water supply restored immediately. The Order also deplores the resumed airstrikes and the recent attack on the UN facility, resulting in the death of a staff member. In the West Bank, the Sovereign Order's maternity at the Holy Family Hospital continues its work, serving those in need without any distinction. The Sovereign Order's poverty alleviation programme in Bethlehem is a lifeline for about 250 families. However, roadblocks, checkpoints render access and free movement extremely difficult. The Sovereign Order's mobile clinics still try to reach remote communities whenever possible. As an apolitical, neutral and impartial entity, the Sovereign Order of Malta reiterates its call for the return to the ceasefire agreement with the dignified release of all hostages, unimpeded humanitarian access, the protection of aid workers, opposing any forms of forced displacement. The international community must work together to put an end to the conflict with the reconstruction of Gaza in a lasting peace based on a two-state solution.

The **League of Arab States** thanks the High Commissioner for the reports which have shed light on the gross violations being committed against the human rights of the occupied Palestinian territories and the occupied Syrian Golan. It also mentioned the expansion of settlements, which is threatening the right to self-determination. The League of Arab States condemns, once again, the indiscriminate strikes carried out by Israel against the Gaza Strip, causing hundreds of martyrs and wounded, including women and children, which is done in contradiction of the international community's will for a ceasefire. This happened a few days after the urgent Arab Summit that took place in Cairo, which reflects Israel's rejection of peace and its attempt to present us all in front of a *fait accompli* in terms of its attempts to wipe out the Palestinian people and drive them out of their territory in defiance of international law and all international decisions. The international community must speak out loud and clear to put an end to the massacres against a population that is under siege and deprived of all humanitarian assistance in the context of an unprecedented campaign of deprivation of food and killing and genocide. Israel should be forced to put an end to the military occupation and forced back to the negotiations table for a ceasefire and the liberation of all those detained.

Views Expressed by Non-Governmental Organizations

The **Palestinian Return Centre** thanks the HC for the report and brings to the UNHRC's attention the brutal attacks against Gaza committed by Israeli forces. This disproportionate measure not only is the most significant violation of the ceasefire agreement but is also another escalation of the genocidal attacks against the Palestinian people of Gaza. At least 300 children have been killed since Israel resumed its war. This expansion of the genocidal war has led to a death toll surpassing 800 victims in a very short period of time, with over 1,700 others injured. The Centre condemns the establishment of a new Israeli agency aimed at facilitating the so-called voluntary



departure of Gazans. This policy is a blatant attempt to forcibly displace the population under the guise of consent and constitutes a continuation of Israel's systematic efforts to ethnically cleanse Gaza. It is paramount for the members of the UNHRC to urgently seek accountability measures not only internationally, but also within their national jurisdictions to achieve justice against the perpetrators of the ongoing genocide.

B'nai B'rith states that the UNHRC is mandated to uphold universal human rights, yet by long serving as a political tool to target one member state, the democratic Jewish state of Israel, while distracting from the abuses and even atrocities of all too many others, the UNHRC has not just denied the most fundamental rights of Israeli civilians of all backgrounds, it has also consigned Palestinians to more of the same, captivity to violent fanatic groups ideologically committed to the prevention of compromise and coexistence. For over 535 days, scores of Jews and Arabs, Israelis and citizens of dozens of other countries have been held hostage and tormented by Hamas, a jihadist group that has deliberately exploited Gazans to shield its own terrorists. Israel had already withdrawn from Gaza completely and unilaterally two decades ago. Israel had removed every single Jewish settlement. 25 years ago, Israel also withdrew fully from southern Lebanon, but Hamas and Hezbollah, like their Iranian sponsor, did not seek an Israeli pullout, they seek expressly a genocide of Jews and the destruction of the Jewish state within any boundaries. Until the UNHRC recognises the true cause of misery across the Middle East, its people will continue to be denied the future of peace and progress that they deserve.

Defence for Children International (DSI) declares that Israeli forces have detained a record number of Palestinian children and administered detention, holding them indefinitely without charge or trial. 112 Palestinian children are detained pursuant to administrative detention orders in Israeli prisons as of 31 December 2024. These children represent the largest cohort of Palestinian child administrative detainees on record and comprise more than one third of the total number of children detained by the Israeli military. A total of 300 Palestinian children are detained by the Israeli military. However, this does not include the unknown number of Palestinian children detained in Israeli military installations. In early March, DSI Palestine field researchers in Gaza interviewed a Palestinian boy who was separated from his family and detained, tortured and starved by Israeli forces in January 2024, when he was 16 years old. He was detained for more than a year and released at the end of February as part of the truce agreement. Israeli forces are detaining Palestinian children *en masse*, starving them and carrying out vicious beatings with regularity and impunity. The international community has allowed this to happen without bestowing meaningful accountability and consequences to Israel. DCI strongly urges all Member States to demand the immediate release of all Palestinian children in Israeli detention centres, military bases and prisons, demand unrestricted access for lawyers and human rights organisations to meet with child prisoners and call to reverse the suspension on family visits. Cut off the flow of weapons, technology and financial support to the Israeli military and investigate allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The **Coordinating Board of Jewish Organisations** states that, in October 7, Israeli women were raped, tortured, mutilated, shot in their genitalia, burnt alive and murdered. Their bodies became battlefields. But the atrocities did not end there. The community uncovered genocide, the deliberate destruction of families. Parents were tortured in front of their children, children in front of their parents and Hamas is still holding hostages. Instead of a global commitment to justice,



the community witnessed denial and distortion. From the very start there was a warning, Hamas sexual atrocities would be used against Israel. Yet only weeks after October 7, while bodies were still being identified, UN experts conditioned their investigation into Hamas' crimes on also investigating Israel for the same crimes. The result? Israel was placed in the annual report on sexual violence alongside Hamas. Now a new UN report goes further, accusing Israel of genocidal sexual violence. The Coordination Board is deeply concerned that the suffering of their dead is being manipulated, not for justice but for politics. This is another violation, another rape of the victims. It exploits their suffering to serve injustice. History will judge this moment. Justice demands truth, not politics.

The [International Humanitarian Society for Development Without Borders](#) raises the issue of the targeting healthcare facilities in Palestine. Over a hundred such facilities have been subjected to Israeli raids, leading to the absence of services for hundreds of thousands, including basic services, given the blockade enforced upon the Gaza Strip for over 20 years. Israel has killed over a thousand Palestinians, medical cadres since October 2023, and dozens of Palestinian doctors are being tortured in Israeli prisons, including Dr. Al-Bursh, who has been tortured. An extinguisher hose has been placed in his rectum, and that eventually led to his death. The Society calls upon the international community to establish Commissions of Enquiry into the death of Dr. Al-Bursh and other medical cadres and hold the perpetrators accountable, and to release immediately all the detainees among doctors. These acts in front of the international silence are not just violations, but are a moral scourge.

The [Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration](#) explains that when this UNHRC session began, Gaza was clinging to a fragile ceasefire. Yet within days, that illusion of moving forward, of peace, was shattered. In a single night, at least 174 children were killed. In one night. One of the highest single-day child death tolls in modern history. Since October 7, 2023, over 16,000 children have been killed. More than a million have been displaced, and thousands remain lost. Children are not just casualties of this war. They are its deliberate targets. We need to recognise the genocidal nature of this man-made humanitarian crisis. A moral crisis. A crisis in which the international community has failed to uphold the most basic principles of human dignity and international law. The war on Gaza has been called many things but what it is at its core. A war on children. A war on the future of the Palestinian people. Schools lay in ruins. Hospitals reduced to dust. Weaponization of starvation. Declaration of famine. Acute malnutrition. And many more violations that are constantly being buried beneath the bombed land that is now left unrecognisable under the weight of violence and destruction. The Society and Geneva International Centre for Justice (GICJ) demand accountability for the crimes committed, the end to this war, and justice for the lives that were lost. And protection for all Palestinian people, especially women, children, and all other civilians.

The [European Union of Jewish Students](#) states it is time for the UNHRC to confront a fundamental truth. Israel is under attack by terrorist organisations Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis, and even more, whose relentless goal is to destroy the Jewish state and eradicate its 10 million citizens. These groups kidnap civilians, fire rockets at home, and openly glorify violence. This is not resistance. It is terrorism, pure and simple. And yet, this war is not only fought with rockets and rifles. It is also waged in diplomatic arenas where some leaders, who openly celebrated the October 7 massacre, nor among the worst human rights abusers, continue their



attacks on Israel in the international arena. They urge the Jewish State to disarm, as if Israel should accept another October 7, and forget about the remaining 59 hostages held by Hamas. Instead of promoting a fair and lasting peace and addressing the root causes of the conflict, Item 7, the only country-specific agenda item at the UN, is routinely used to single out the only democracy in the Middle East, fuelling political instability. Such double standards at the world's largest peace forum deeply erode the UN's credibility. It is time for the UN to end the hypocrisy, stop the instrumentalizations of Item 7, and hold true human rights abusers accountable.

The **Institute for NGO Research** takes the floor through Ms. Lea Goldin, the mother of Lieutenant Hadar Goldin, a proud soldier in the Israel Defence Forces, whose remains have been held captive by Hamas in Gaza since August 2014. Hadar was 23 years old at the time, a gifted artist. He was engaged to marry the love of his life. But that August, hours after the ceasefire between Hamas and Israel took effect, Hamas terrorists emerged from a tunnel in Gaza, ambushed an IDF unit, killed Hadar, and abducted his remains. For more than 10 years, Hamas has been holding her son and the remains of other deceased Israeli civilians and soldiers who were murdered and abducted during the brutal attack of October 7, refusing to release them in flagrant violation of the IHL and IHRL. For more than 10 years, Hamas has cruelly tormented her family, denying Hadar a proper burial. Ms. Lea Goldin has met with UN Secretary General Guterres, who reiterated that he stands behind UN Security Council resolution 2474, calling for the immediate and unconditional release of her son's remains. This is not her mission alone. It is a mission we all share. She calls on the members of the UNHRC, as mothers and fathers, to imagine what if this were their own son.

The **World Jewish Congress** gives the floor to Mr. Yehuda Cohen, the father of Nimrod Cohen, an Israeli soldier who was taken hostage. On October 7, 2023, Nimrod was captured while defending the Israeli border and the nearby villages from a brutal Hamas terrorist attack. He and his tank crew fought with everything they had, but they were overpowered. The entire team was taken hostage to Gaza. Nimrod was the only one taken alive. Mr. Cohen urges the international community, especially the negotiating states Egypt and Qatar, as well as the Israeli Government, secure the ceasefire, ensure the continuation of the hostage's release. We must not stop until every hostage is home with his family, until Nimrod is back with us. There are forces working to obstruct the hostage deal. It took external intervention, primarily from US President Trump, to make it happen. He calls on the UNHRC to remain vigilant and prevent any attempt to sabotage it again. A ceasefire and a hostage deal are not only the right course of action, they are necessary for the hostages, for Israel, for the Palestinians, for the future of the entire region. He calls for help to his son home.

United Nations Watch states that history will record that on this day we came here to fight for the conscience of the United Nations. Days away from the UNHRC's planned reappointment of Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese for another three-year term. United Nations Watch requests the UNHRC's President to convey to all delegates all information brought to his attention on the persistent non-compliance by Ms. Albanese with the Code of Conduct pursuant to their letter. Ms. Albanese has repeatedly breached her duty to uphold the highest standards of probity, impartiality, and good faith, and her duty to show restraint and moderation. There is clearly no other agenda item under which to bring objections to the renewal of the Rapporteur. Human Rights Watch notes that the Palestinian delegation in February 2010 asked Richard Falk, then



Rapporteur, to quit. It is known that from WikiLeaks cable documenting that the Palestinian Authority asked Richard Falk to leave. So clearly this is an issue that Human Rights Watch can raise. It notes that the Dutch government today announced the cabinet does not support Ms. Francesca Albanese's possible reappointment. France condemned her for denying the anti-Semitism of October 7, saying it was scandalous and a disgrace to appear to justify it. Germany said it was appalling for her to justify the horrific terror attacks. Canada denounced Albanese for Holocaust distortion. The US Ambassador said clearly she is unfit for her role. Human Rights Watch urges the UNHRC to act.

The **International Organisation for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination** stresses that the collapse of Gaza's fragile ceasefire further exposes a harsh truth. This is no longer a war, but the systematic eradication of the Palestinian people. At least 1.9 million Palestinians were displaced, more than 113,000 wounded, over 50,000 have been killed. The deadly Israeli attacks on the Palestinian people, including defenceless women and innocent children, are no longer just a cause for concern. They are an undeniable reality. As an Occupying Power, Israel's relentless and disproportionate use of force amounts to nothing less than a genocide. The Organization strongly condemns Israel's genocidal acts, and demands an end to Israel's impunity. No one is above the law. Israel ratified the Genocide Convention in 1950, and therefore is legally obligated to prevent and punish acts of genocide. It also condemns the involvement of other states who are complicit in the genocide of Palestinians. Under Article 3E of the Genocide Convention, states enabling genocide must be held legally accountable under international law. Finally, the Organization urges the UNHRC to take more decisive resolutions and bolder steps towards ending the genocide against Palestinians. The world cannot turn a blind eye to the systematic campaign of genocide and oppression any longer.

The **Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression** stresses that for over 58 years, Israel has occupied Syrian Golan. It has constantly expanded its settlements and there is no accountability for all their attacks. Israel is exploiting the current situation in Syria in order to just impose its will on the territory. It has taken over 11 camps around 11 villages and has dug areas around the villages, and this has been seen in other occupied regions. There has been an escalation of attacks. There have been 32 settler attacks since the start of the year. The most recent was in a village in the south of Syria. This is part of an escalation which has caused hundreds of civilian deaths in a flagrant violation of international law and the principles of civilian protection. The lack of any deterrent to Israel's occupation. The Syrian Center urges the United Nations to call for Israel to end its military operations. We must return to the 1967 borders in order to ensure peace and stability.

The **Human Rights & Democratic Participation Center 'SHAMS'** states that with the ongoing genocide in Gaza, the West Bank and especially Palestinian refugee camps are witnessing a growing military assault that represents a continuation of Israel's policy of ethnic cleansing and forced displacement. Since the beginning of 2025, with a clear violation of IHL, Israeli occupying forces have committed grave violations in Palestinian camps that amount to war crimes. These include the killing of civilians, demolition of homes, and the forced displacement of more than 44,000 refugees. The infrastructure has been completely destroyed with water, electricity, and communication cut off. This occurs along with the implementation on January 2025 of two new Israeli Knesset laws targeting UNRWA. One bans its activities and the other criminalizes any



engagement with UNRWA. SHAMS calls on the UNHRC to demand an immediate end to all Israeli military operations in Gaza and West Bank; activate the relevant provisions of Chapter VII of the UN Charter; and support the efforts of the International Criminal Court to hold Israeli political and military leaders accountable for crimes committed against the Palestinian people. It also calls on states to fulfil their legal obligations including the duty of non-recognition and non-assistance in unlawful acts.

Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man explains that Israeli ministers supported by US President Trump have publicly declared their intent to forcibly and permanently remove Palestinians from our land under the false pretence of voluntary relocation. Israeli ministers are calling for the annexation of the West Bank. The UN Commission of Inquiry has included that Israel is committing genocide. The ongoing genocide is enabled by the inaction of the international community. Israel's complete disregard for international law, its systematic denial of the Palestinian right, Palestinian people's right to self-determination and return, and historical impunity have fuelled its crimes. Today, the existence of the Palestinian people is under immediate threat. Mass killings, torture and sexual violence, forced displacement, detentions, destruction of property, and deliberate targeting of the Palestinians are part of a coordinated effort to erase the Palestinian presence from our homeland. Al Haq and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights call on all states to immediately act to effectively halt Israel's genocide and address the root causes. Silence and failure to act constitutes endorsements of these unplanned atrocities.

BADIL Resource Centre for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights welcomes the HC's reports on settlements, but regrets its failure to address the root causes of the ongoing neck-bend. Israeli perpetrated forcible transfer, colonisation and apartheid. More specifically, the establishment of colonies, their associated infrastructure and resulting colonisers' attacks with impunity form a foundational pillar of the Israeli regime's system of domination and dispossession, which deprives the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights to self-determination and return. The UN and its Member States are obliged to recognise Israeli colonisation as one of the root causes and more critically adopt effective measures to end the Israeli regime's impunity and hold it accountable. Ensure the effectiveness of the UN protection system, including the functional role of UN agencies, especially the protection of UNRWA and its full capacity and operations. Move beyond condemnation to enforcement through the imposition of military, economic and political sanctions against the Israeli regime to ensure the fulfilment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to end Israeli international crimes as well as the ongoing genocide, begin the process of decolonisation and uphold the principles of international law.

The **American Association of Jurists** notes with profound consternation the absence in this room of the two main actors of the crimes committed in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, Israel and the United States. Once again, it strongly condemns the financial and military support given in particular by the United States to the Israeli Government, a support that stands as complicity for the crimes committed in the occupied Palestinian territory. About 50,000 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip, where 90% of the inhabitants are displaced and homeless. Schools, hospitals, buildings, UNRWA facilities have been destroyed. 280 UN personnel killed, water and electricity cut off. In this context, the American Association of Jurists deeply regrets the failure by



the Swiss Government to organise the Conference of High-Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, as called for by the UN General Assembly last September. What we are addressing here is not only material destructions and genocidal intentions against the Palestinian people, but also massive attacks against international order, rule of law, international law, including IHL and IHRL. Those responsible and their accomplices must not enjoy impunity.

The **Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies** stresses that Israel continues to carry out mass atrocities in the OPT and as complicity for and at times supported by the US, European and other countries. These horrific acts tear international law apart. The latest reports by the UN High Commissioner and the Commission of Inquiry (COI) detail the systematic targeting of civilians, the use of disproportionate and indiscriminate force and violations amounting to atrocity crimes including war crimes and crimes against humanity in both Gaza and the West Bank. In Gaza, atrocities include mass civilian casualties, the destruction of hospitals and civilian infrastructure and the displacement of nearly the entire population. The COI's most recent finding exposed the horrifying use of sexual violence by Israeli forces including for stripping, harassment and rape. The deliberate targeting of women's healthcare facilities including maternity wards and IVF clinics further reveals a systematic effort to prevent birth among Palestinians in Gaza which constitutes a genocidal act. Yet, impunity persists. These acts coupled with the broader policies of collective punishment demand urgent action from the UNHRC. Justice delayed is justice denied. Accountability must be ensured. Perpetrators should be held accountable.

The **Jerusalem Institute of Justice** gives the floor to Ms. Doron Steinbrecher, a 30-year-old woman who was brutally abducted from beneath my bed in Kfar Aza on October 7. She was released a few weeks ago after 471 horrific days in Hamas captivity under inhumane conditions in a tunnel underground with no lights and no fresh air. She stands before the UNHRC to bear witness first-hand. Her friends who remain in captivity are enduring suffering beyond belief. No stretch of imagination can capture the horror of their daily reality. This reality is too cruel to grasp. No one can truly understand it in 90 seconds, not even in 90 hours. Her friends are still held in hell after more than 510 days, thereby making reference to the terrible condition of the hostages who returned in the past few weeks. How much longer can they survive? We must all do everything with our power to bring them home.

The Director of **Touro Law Center, The Institute on Human Rights and The Holocaust**, recognises Holocaust deniers, justifiers and enablers. In the past, Palestinians collaborated with the Nazis. In the present, Palestinians collaborate with the UN to accomplish the same goal, ethnic cleansing of Jews. How? One, by perverting language. In January, the UN purported to redefine the Holocaust to remove the singular focus on the extermination of Jews. Two, by inverting facts. In March, UNHRC actors mimicked the Nazi playbook of accusing Jews of sexually violating non-Jews without corroboration and despite habitual Palestinian deceit, though the truth is the exact opposite and corroborated by the perps themselves. Three, by corrupting law. The latest UNHRC resolution purports to criminalise Jews, Jewish self-defence, Jewish self-determination. European states are poised to launch a new legal pogrom and to bankroll it, ghastly reminiscent of their Holocaust records. The Nuremberg Tribunal taught us crimes are committed by men, not by abstract entities. So never again means knowing the what, perversion, inversion, corruption, and the who, Navy Pillay, Chris Sidoti, Miloon Kothari, Francesca Albanese,



Volker Türk. To paraphrase Albanese, as the leading global purveyor of anti-Semitism, the UN is a stain on world's history.

Al-Mezan Centre for Human Rights stresses for the past year and a half, Al-Mezan has documented the gravest escalations of human rights violations by Israeli forces and authorities against Palestinian prisoners and detainees that we have ever documented. More than 9,500 Palestinians are currently suffering in Israeli prisons, including 3,405 administrative detainees held without charge or trial, among them 107 children. Another 1,500 Palestinian civilians from Gaza are held as unlawful combatants without charge or fair trial. Just yesterday, an Israeli civil court prolonged the arbitrary detention of Dr. Abu Safiya for another six months based on purported secret evidence. Since October 2023, Al-Dameer has documented over 1,000 instances of torture, cruel treatment, sexual violence, and forced stress positions for prolonged periods in Israeli detention centres. The Centre also highlights the severe medical neglect causing outbreaks of preventable diseases affecting Palestinian detainees who are deliberately deprived of medical care. Since October 2023, 63 Palestinians have died while in Israeli custody. On 24 March 2025, a 17-year-old child detainee died under unexplained circumstances in Megiddo Prison. He had no prior health conditions before his arrest in September 2024, but was infected with the rapidly spreading scabies disease. Additionally, released detainees continue to face deportation, harassment, and family separation, highlighting a never-ending cycle of abuse. Al-Mezan urges the UNHRC and the international community to demand the unconditional and immediate release of all Palestinians arbitrarily detained and to ensure accountability through international mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court.

The **Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling** urgently demands concrete actions to be taken against the grave violations of human rights and international law being committed by the Israeli forces and the West Bank. Israeli military incursions have increased significantly in the past year, marked by excessive use of force and extreme violence and airstrikes and a complete annihilation of infrastructure, homes, and residences, in addition to schools and clinics as well. 700 people have lost their lives in the past year in the West Bank, while 160 of them are children. The Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling has been able to document the extreme use of force and violence against Palestinian women, including sexual violence and reproductive violations. Several testimonies from Nur Shams Refugee Camp reported that a 63-year-old woman was used as a human shield by the Israeli forces. She was forced to sit in a chair while soldiers fired shots from behind her for hours. When the Centre tried to document her testimony, she was in extreme distress. Unable to process what had happened, she insisted she did not have any recollection of the invasion, and in fact, she believed she was not in the refugee camp at the time. The foundations of human rights and international law are being shook. Israel is setting a precedent that you can commit war crimes with no accountability. The Centre urges the UNHRC to take decisive measures to end the immunity of Israel.

Human Rights Watch states that Israeli authorities are again blocking all aid from entering Gaza in flagrant violation of international law. Amid renewed airstrikes and a ground invasion of Gaza, which have killed hundreds since March 18, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. These abuses and increasing use of abusive tactics from Gaza in Israel's escalating campaign in the West Bank have been facilitated by the failure of states to act in the face of well-documented atrocities. Human Rights Watch documented in November the widespread and systematic deliberate



forced displacement of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, reflecting state policy and without plausible justification and therefore amounting to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and at least in parts of Gaza, ethnic cleansing. In December, Human Rights Watch found that Israeli authorities have deliberately inflicted conditions of life calculated to bring about the destruction of part of the Palestinian population in Gaza, including by deliberately depriving them of food, water and other objects necessary for their survival, amounting to the crime against humanity of extermination and acts of genocide. Some states continue to transfer arms and other military support to Israel and the United States has called for further forced displacement and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in Gaza, effectively green-lighting Israeli authorities to continue to commit genocidal acts. Governments should urgently act to prevent further mass atrocities, including by suspending arms transfers to Israel, supporting the International Criminal Court and executing its arrest warrants and imposing targeted sanctions on officials responsible for laws of war violations.

Presse Embleme Campagne stresses that over 200 journalists and media workers have been killed in Gaza, Lebanon and the West Bank since October 2023, marking this period as a record for the profession. Presse Embleme Campagne condemns in the strongest terms these deliberate killings of media professionals by Israel forces which constitute war crimes. Killing the messengers as well as silencing individual journalists and the truth is the most serious form of censorship. This aims to avoid scrutiny, suppress accountability, and build a climate of impunity that leads to other human rights violations in an incremental way. The work of media professionals is crucial for gathering important evidence of mass atrocities against Palestinians. Presse Embleme Campagne urges for all those with influence to pressure the State of Israel for a full and hindered access to the press. Access to reliable information during a conflict can save lives. Media outlets, especially foreign ones, plays a crucial role in bringing to light the truth. Too often, we witness most of the leading media downplaying mass atrocities, justifying war crimes, and dehumanising Palestinian lives, contributing to consent for crimes against humanity and genocide.

Meezaan Center for Human Rights states that the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza requires immediate and urgent international action. Since Israeli authorities halted the entry of humanitarian aid, including fuel, into the Gaza Strip on 2 March, the region has been left without essential supplies. This period now exceeds the duration of the siege imposed between 7 to 21 October 2023. Critical supplies, including food, medical equipment, and fuel, are urgently needed. According to UNICEF, roughly 1 million children in Gaza lack basic necessities, with about 4,000 newborns unable to access essential medical care. The health system in North Gaza has largely collapsed, with severe shortages of medical supplies. Hospitals are struggling with the lack of oxygen, essential medications, and materials needed for surgeries and other medical treatments. This has severely impacted the ability to provide life-saving services. At least 1.9 million people, or 90% of the population, have been displaced, many multiple times. The destruction of homes and infrastructure, with 92% of homes severely damaged or destroyed, has left countless people without shelter. The situation is worsening as new evacuations are expected due to ongoing risks. Meezaan Centre for Human Rights and Geneva International Centre for Justice (GICJ) call for urgent attention from the international community and states to address the worsening human rights situation in Gaza. They urge the establishment of safe routes for



humanitarian aid, support for international investigations, and pressure on Israel to lift the blockade and allow unrestricted aid.

International-Lawyers.Org states that what is happening in Palestine is a genocide in the true meaning of the term. In Gaza, the Occupying Power has killed over 50,000 Palestinians. The majority are men, women and children. Many have died because of a lack of medicine. Furthermore, civilian targets have been attacked, such as hospitals being destroyed, and the same can be said of shelters and press facilities. The aim is to destroy any evidence of the genocide. In Jerusalem and West Bank, we are seeing forced displacement because of the expansion of settlements, and there has been destruction of camps. This is all part of a systematic Israeli policy to force Palestinians to leave. The worst thing is the international community remains silent. There is no accountability mechanism to impose sanctions on the occupying power. UNRWA needs to be protected. It is the agency which needs to be able to discharge its mandate until everyone can return. Justice is a humanitarian obligation.

Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnat Va Salamat Iranian voices concerns over the catastrophic consequences of armed conflict on children of Gaza. These wars not only claim lives, but interrupt the cognitive, emotional and physical growth of children with lifeline repercussions. In Gaza, we observe alarming trends. Thousands of children under five have been suffering malnutrition, impairing brain development and physical growth. Almost all children exhibit symptoms of PTSD, such as anxiety or speech regression due to exposure to violence. Multiple displacement to unsafe places and loss of caregivers and siblings. Thousands of children under eight lack access to early learning environments. Thousands of children under five are growing up in overcrowded camps or wandering from place to place. Deprived of a stable caregiving and the routine critical for their healthy development. Without immediate action, an entire generation risk is irreversible loss in learning social skills and health. The NGO urges the international community to use all capacity at hand to strengthen the fragile peace in Gaza. Prioritise funding for early childhood development programmes in the region.

FACTS & FIGURES ON PARTICIPATION

61 State Delegations

2 Inter-Governmental Organizations

26 Non-Governmental Organizations