



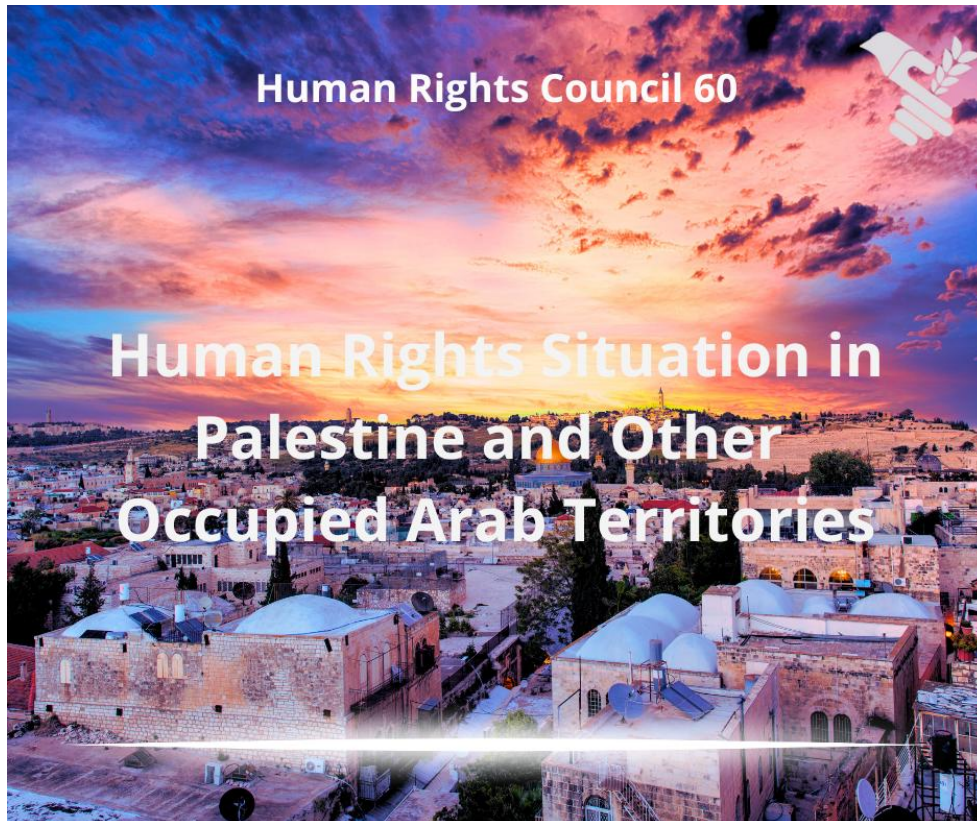
GENEVA CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
ADVANCEMENT AND GLOBAL DIALOGUE

## UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

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

#### Combined Agenda Items 2 and 7

#HRC60 • 29-30 September 2025



#### REMARKS ON THE OPT DATABASE UPDATE

#### Ms. Nada AL-NASHIF, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights

Ms. Nada AL-NASHIF presents the [report](#) prepared by the High Commissioner for Human Rights mandated by the UNHRC on the creation and updating of a [database of business enterprises involved in one or more of ten listed activities in Israeli settlements](#). This work was to be carried out in close consultation with the Working Group on Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises. The last comprehensive update covered the period up to 1 August 2019. The reporting period for this update runs from 2 August 2019 to 30 April 2025.

The report is based on an established methodology drawn from the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, on technical assessments, and on factual determinations. The Guiding Principles remain the key framework for assessing the potential involvement of companies in the activities falling within the scope of this mandate. Those activities include supplying equipment and materials that [facilitate the construction of illegal settlements](#) and the [demolition of houses and property of Palestinians](#); surveillance activities; the use of



natural resources for business purposes; and the pollution and dumping of waste in Palestinian villages. Throughout its work, OHCHR was guided by the principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. In preparing the update, OHCHR issued a [public call for inputs](#) in May 2024. OHCHR received 733 submissions involving allegations of the potential involvement of 596 business enterprises in the listed activities.

With the resources available, OHCHR was able to analyse and fully assess allegations of the potential involvement of 215 companies in listed activities, including the 97 listed in the 2023 update. These [215 companies](#) were alleged to be conducting business activities with a direct physical link to land, such as construction, real estate, mining or quarrying. OHCHR is continuing to assess the other 381 companies and will report on them in due course.

Out of the 215 business enterprises reviewed, OHCHR found reasonable grounds to believe that [158 were involved](#) in one or more of the listed activities during the assessment period. For seven of the enterprises listed in the 2023 update, OHCHR found that involvement had since ceased, and therefore removed them from the database. A business enterprise may be removed if credible information shows it is no longer involved in the activities that justified its inclusion. Most of the business enterprises listed are domiciled in Israel; the others are based in [Canada, China, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States](#).

The database is available on [OHCHR's website](#). In the interest of promoting transparency and dialogue, OHCHR will also post communications from companies requesting to have their comments shared publicly. For the purposes of future updates, OHCHR will only review determinations of involvement when it receives reliable new information. This report is designed as a tool to inform States, business enterprises and other stakeholders that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a company is involved in one or more of the listed activities, and to assist companies in complying with their responsibilities under international law.

The report urges business enterprises to take action to [address the adverse impact of their activities on human rights](#), and to provide for remediation. It underscores the due diligence responsibility of business enterprises, in particular when they are operating in areas affected by conflict. The methodology used is globally applicable. OHCHR informed all the [business enterprises](#) that were screened that it had received allegations about their potential involvement in the listed activities, and invited them to provide relevant information. Many took this opportunity. The report also emphasizes the [duty of States](#) to ensure that companies in their territory, or subject to their jurisdiction, do not contribute to serious human rights violations or abuses, particularly in areas affected by conflict.

Since the presentation of the previous report last year, OHCHR has actively engaged with 14 member states, 38 business enterprises, and 22 other stakeholders. OHCHR remains open to constructive dialogue, and calls on member states, business enterprises and other stakeholders to make constructive use of this update and to uphold their human rights obligations and responsibilities.



## VIEWS EXPRESSED THE CONCERNED COUNTRIES

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

The delegation of the **Syrian Arab Republic** does not wish to take the floor.

The delegation of the **State of Palestine** expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the Deputy High Commissioner and the Office of the High Commissioner for preparing and presenting the update to the database for all business entities involved in the activities listed in paragraph 96 of the 2012 report, in implementation of UNHRC resolution 31/36 of 2016. The first database was released in 2020, four years later, and was updated in 2023, although resolution 53/25 calls for annual updates. While fully aware of the difficulties faced by OHCHR, the State of Palestine stresses the need to provide resources, commitment, and work on continuous updating, in accordance with the agreed mandate, normative framework, and methodology, given the importance of this matter in helping states and companies fulfill their responsibilities under international law, including last year's advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and the regulation of commercial enterprises based in or subject to the jurisdiction of States.

A large number of the companies mentioned in this report are **Israeli companies** that have cooperative relationships with commercial entities in various countries. In this regard, the State of Palestine demands that the recommendations contained in this report be implemented and that companies cease their commercial activities linked to human rights violations and crimes committed against the Palestinian people, in accordance with the provisions of international law and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which are based on the duties of States to protect human rights and the responsibilities of companies and commercial entities, and the need to provide effective remedies to the victims as a result.

In this context, it is important to note the significance of the report prepared by the Special Rapporteur on the OPT on **corporations and business entities that contribute directly or indirectly to genocide**, which includes a list of names of companies that bear legal and criminal responsibility. In this regard, the State of Palestine condemns the punitive measures taken by the United States against Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese, which violate applicable law and rules. The State of Palestine also condemns the punitive measures taken against a group of Palestinian civil society organizations.

Just days away from the two-year anniversary of the crime of genocide, which was declared by Defence Minister Gallant on 9 October 2023, when he ordered the cutting off of water, food, medicine, and fuel to the people of Gaza following the **attack on October 7, which the State of Palestine condemns**, as it is fundamentally opposed to the targeting of civilians before and after October 7, and since the massacres committed against the Palestinian people 80 years ago. For two years, the world has been witnessing the scale of the crimes committed against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem. The human toll has exceeded **250,000 martyrs, wounded, and missing**, most of them children and women, in addition to the forced displacement of more than two million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. For the fourth time, under false pretexts, they have been forced into 'safe areas' without any means of subsistence, such as housing, food, water, or infrastructure.



The Occupying Power continues to use **starvation as a weapon of war**, including through the so-called Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), which has become a trap for killing the needy and hungry. This is denied by the criminal head of the genocidal government, who was allowed to address the UN General Assembly with all sorts of lies, claiming that there is no famine. Despite United Nations reports, and that he provides the residents of the Strip with 3,000 calories of food per day, knowing that more than 400 people have lost their lives as a result of famine and malnutrition, most of them children, and that the criminal army he leads does not target civilians, knowing that more than **20,000 children** have been martyred over the past two years. He announces that he has ordered loudspeakers to be installed in the Gaza Strip so that the population can hear his speech, as Hitler did in extermination camps such as Auschwitz.

What is happening in the **West Bank and East Jerusalem** is no less horrific than the crime of genocide in Gaza, where there is killing, burning, destruction, attacks on property, theft of natural resources, daily incursions and arrests, abuse of citizens, the construction of more than 1,200 checkpoints and electronic gates separating villages and cities from each other, and the repeated closures of the Karama crossing, in addition to the rampages of settler gangs against the civilian population, the displacement of more than 50,000 people from the northern camps in Jenin, Tulkarm, and Nablus, and the continued confiscation of land and construction of settlements.

The latest was the approval by the criminal Netanyahu of the construction plan in the E1 area to separate the north of the West Bank from the south, as well as the constant threats to annex the West Bank and parts of it to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, as Netanyahu announced in his latest speech, and as he and his government's extremist and criminal leaders always declare. In addition to all this, they are stealing and **withholding Palestinian funds** to prevent the Palestinian Authority from fulfilling its obligations towards the Palestinian people. In this regard, the State of Palestine expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Saudi Arabia for launching the emergency coalition for the financial sustainability of the Authority, along with a number of other European countries participating in this coalition.

**Palestinian prisoners and detainees** in the occupation prisons have not been spared from brutality, ill-treatment, and food deprivation, in addition to the provocative visits by the criminal Ben Gvir, the latest of which was to prisoner Marwan Barghouti, whom he threatened inside his cell. There are more than **18,000 cases of detention**, including more than 4,000 administrative detainees who are not allowed to be visited by the Red Cross to follow up on their cases, in addition to an unknown number of cases of enforced disappearance.

In its most recent report, the Commission of Inquiry on the OPT concluded that genocide is being committed in Gaza. This is the result of two years of work involving documentation, legal investigation, and eyewitness testimony, all of which point to the perpetration of **four acts of genocide** under the 1948 Convention on the Prevention of Genocide. It should be noted that the International Court of Justice issued several decisions in 2024 to take provisional measures to prevent genocide and called on states to shoulder their responsibilities. The US representative to the UN Security Council arrogantly attacked the Commission and its credibility and demanded its dissolution at the meeting, which was thwarted by a veto against 14 countries that called for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and the delivery of aid through the United Nations and relevant international organizations.





On 22 September 2025, the **Two-State Solution Conference** was held in New York and chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of France, whose efforts and dedication to ensuring the success of the conference are greatly appreciated. The Conference was preceded and punctuated by recognitions from 11 countries, in addition to the four countries that recognized Palestine in May 2025, which the Palestine welcomes and considers a step on the road to justice and to preserving the two-state solution based on the borders of 4 June 1967.

The State of Palestine considers these acts of recognition not as a reward for any party, but as a **moral, legal, historical, and political obligation and duty** incumbent upon all countries, despite the delay and the failure of some countries to recognize Palestine, hoping that they will soon proceed with the recognition. In this context, the State of Palestine stresses the need to implement the two-state solution (New York Declaration) and calls on all countries to take practical steps to **stop the war of extermination and settlement** by completely halting the export and transfer of arms to Israel from any country and reviewing their commercial and diplomatic relations with the occupying government.

Noteworthy are the significant steps taken by Spain, Slovenia, and many other countries, leading to the imposition of a **comprehensive boycott** on the genocidal government, as was done with the apartheid government in South Africa, and to secure international protection for the Palestinian people until the illegal occupation ends and the people of Palestine exercise their right to self-determination and sovereignty over their state in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem, and a just solution to the refugee issue is found in accordance with international resolutions.

In conclusion, the State of Palestine extends its gratitude and appreciation to the international **popular movement and solidarity around the world** for stopping the genocide and achieving Palestinian rights.

## INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

### Regional and Cross-Regional Groups

**Algeria on behalf of the Arab Group** affirms its unwavering support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, foremost among them their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital. It also affirms its commitment to the rights of the Syrian Arab Republic in the occupied Syrian Golan and demands an end to its illegal occupation. The Group expresses its deep concern over the grave crimes and violations that continue to be committed by the Occupying Power, including acts of genocide in Gaza. The Arab Group welcomes the report of the Commission of Inquiry that documented these crimes and calls on the international community to ensure accountability and an end to impunity. It further calls on Arab states to impose specific sanctions and a comprehensive moratorium on arms supplies to Israel in order to end the genocide and illegal occupation, including ending the occupation of the Syrian Golan. The Arab group also welcomes the recent update of the database of companies involved in settlement activities and calls on states and companies to cease any activities that support this illegal occupation in line with their obligations under international law and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.



**Colombia on behalf of Hague Group** recalls that the Group held an emergency international conference on Palestine in Bogotá on 16 July 2025 and adopted the Bogotá Declaration signed by 13 countries with proposals for concrete actions to stop the genocide against the Palestinian people. Through the Bogotá Declaration, the members of the Hague Group committed themselves to preventing their territories from being used for the transit or transport of military equipment to Israel, to preventing their states' public resources from contributing to the financing or facilitation of the occupation of Palestine, and to not allowing the war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by Israel to go unpunished. Putting an end to the barbarity in Gaza is not only a legal obligation under international law but also a moral obligation of the entire international community. The Hague Group calls on all member states of and observers to the UNHRC to take effective measures to stop the crimes perpetrated by Israel against the Palestinian people. Lastly, the Hague Group also invites states that have condemned the genocide in the Gaza Strip to join the Hague Group and to endorse the Bogotá Declaration.

**Ghana on behalf of the African Group** affirms that the ongoing Israeli military occupation of Arab territories is a situation of protracted conflict that continues to inflict a heavy toll on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories. This cruelty cannot be normalized. The African Group expresses grave concern at violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed against the Palestinian people, worsened by Israel's aggression against Gaza, the obstruction of humanitarian assistance and escalating violations in the West Bank. Grounded in its values of opposing colonialism, oppression and apartheid, the African Group reaffirms its support for the Palestinian struggle to exercise their right to self-determination and establish an independent state based on the 4th June 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital. The African Group denounces collective punishment and attempts at forced displacement and rejects any attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause through displacement and violation of international law and the right to self-determination. The Group calls on Israel to comply with ICJ provisional orders and to retrace support for relevant UN resolutions and the UN Secretary-General's position, thereby warning that atrocities despite the peace agreement threaten peace and security in the Middle East. The African Group further stresses the need to address the root causes, such as the prolonged occupation, confiscation of land, settlement expansion, violations of international law and defiance of UN Security Council resolutions. Resolving the Palestinian question through a two-state solution is essential.

**Kuwait on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)** welcomes the results of the High-Level International Conference on the Settlement of the Palestinian Question through Peaceful Means and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, co-chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of France, and the international momentum embodied in the declarations of recognition of the State of Palestine, which also affirmed support for all efforts aimed at achieving a just and sustainable settlement of the Palestinian issue through the implementation of the two-state solution and the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the umbrella of the Palestinian Authority. The GCC countries welcome the latest report of the Commission of Inquiry, which concluded that the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation forces in Gaza constitute genocide, imposing a moral and legal obligation on the international community to take urgent action to stop them and hold those responsible to account. In this



context, it stresses the need to reach an immediate and comprehensive agreement to cease fire in the Gaza Strip, release hostages and detainees, protect the civilian population, and facilitate the urgent and uninterrupted delivery of humanitarian aid.

**Pakistan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)** condemns in the strongest terms Israel's heinous crimes and genocide in the occupied Palestinian territory, especially the Gaza Strip. Over the past two years Israel has caused an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe, siege, starvation and deprivation of food and medicine have been used as weapons against the Palestinian people. The expansion of illegal settlements in the West Bank including Jerusalem has been accompanied by a concerted campaign to ethnically cleanse the Palestinian people from their native land. The OIC Group affirms its solidarity with Special Procedures and civil society facing reprisals for speaking out against the atrocities committed by the Occupying Power. Annexing any part of the OPT is a blatant assault on the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination as well as a nullification of efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region. Israel's cowardly attack in Qatar sought to disrupt efforts to end the carnage in Gaza. Its disregard for diplomacy and pattern of aggression against regional countries conclusively answers any lingering questions about Israel's intentions. OHCHR's updated database, the findings by the Commission of Inquiry and the Special Rapporteur on the OPT as well as the rulings of the International Court of Justice are adding up to an incontrovertible truth. States' obligations under the Genocide Convention are clear. Ignoring the talented Palestinian Holocaust must not be an option.

**Uganda on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)** stresses that, for many years, the Movement has maintained a firm position of solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just cause, including their right to self-determination and the condemnation of massive, flagrant and systematic violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law committed by Israel, the illegal Occupying Power. The NAM rejects any proposal to forcibly displace or relocate the people of Palestine, as it is tantamount to ethnic cleansing contrary to international law including international human rights law and international humanitarian law. The NAM expresses its deepest alarm that the situation in the Gaza Strip continues to deteriorate, with genocidal acts being committed against the Palestinian people. Recalling that the COI has concluded that Israel, the Occupying Power, is committing genocide, the NAM notes that the ICJ, with its order of 26 January 2024, imposed provisional measures to prevent such acts - measures which have not been implemented. 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 humanitarian and human rights law. The NAM also 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 by Israel, the illegal occupying power, to expel or deport them from their homeland, and a halt to all other illegal policies and practices by the Occupying Power. The Non-Aligned Movement welcomes the recent update of the UN database of business enterprises involved in settlement-related activities, and urges States and companies to ensure that their activities and business relationships are not contributing to or benefiting from these unlawful policies and practices, in line with their obligations under international law, as reaffirmed by the ICJ Advisory Opinion of 2024. In



conclusion, the NAM extends its full support to the Government of the State of Palestine in its ongoing efforts to put an end to the occupation of the land of the State of Palestine and realize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

**Venezuela on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defence of the UN Charter** recalls that for almost two years, the Palestinian people have endured a spiral of genocidal acts and serious, internationally criminal acts by Israel, the illegal occupying power, which have already claimed more than 56,000 lives, mostly women and children. The Commission of Inquiry has now confirmed that Israel is committing genocide. The International Court of Justice ordered provisional measures to prevent genocide in January 2024. However, Israel has intensified its aggression. The international community must end this cycle of impunity, as anything else makes our system complicit and transforms the legal order into a tool of injustice. The Group of Friends reaffirms the ICJ Advisory Opinion of July 2024 on the illegality of Israel's continued presence in occupied Palestine. States must fulfil their obligations: not to recognise or support the illegal situation, to uphold the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, and to take measures to end systemic discrimination. The Group of Friends welcomes the publication of the United Nations database on companies involved in settlements and calls on States and companies to ensure that their activities are not complicit in serious violations. Inviting the High Commissioner to keep the database up to date and comprehensive, the Group of Friends urges states to exert pressure on Israel to end the genocide and illegal occupation, as well as Israel's illegal occupation of the Syrian Golan.

### **State Delegations**

#### **Middle East and North Africa<sup>1</sup>**

**Algeria** denounces that the persistent inaction in the face of the genocidal situation in Gaza challenges not only the human conscience, but especially that of the human rights defenders that the UNHRC is supposed to embody. The double standards adopted in dealing with the Palestinian tragedy are all the more unacceptable given that the genocidal actions of the Occupying Power are publicly acknowledged, documented in detail by the Commission of Inquiry mandated by the very same UNHRC, and relentlessly implemented. This position is proven, especially when confronting the selective indignation shown by some in response to specific situations with the deafening silence fuelled by a politically paralysing historical guilt surrounding the torment of the Palestinian people, who are facing a methodically planned, inhumanly executed and politically accepted genocide. What the world is witnessing today is indeed a moral failure on the part of the international community, a failure with extremely serious consequences. Human rights, which are supposed to be universal and inalienable, become relative, conditional and denied when it comes to Palestinians. The daily life of these Palestinians, punctuated by massacres, famine, systematic discrimination and war crimes, is nothing more than the repetition, day and night, of a contemporary *Kristallnacht* under the eyes of a world that looks on.

**Bahrain** affirms that the report of the Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, presented conclusions and legal analysis worthy of the attention and consideration of the international community and international actors.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined by UNICEF, 2021.





Bahrain supports the recommendations contained in the report, particularly its emphasis on the importance of immediately stopping the commission of crimes in the Gaza Strip. The High-Level International Conference on the Settlement of the Palestinian Question through Peaceful Means and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, co-chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of France, has brought a glimmer of hope for the revival of the Palestinian cause. The successive announcements of recognition by a large number of countries are proof of the international community's deep belief in the importance of working towards an approach based on strengthening efforts for peace and coexistence.

**Djibouti** welcomes the report of the Commission of Inquiry, which considers that Israel is committing genocide in the Gaza Strip, and strongly condemns the military offensive on Gaza City and Israel's continued brutal aggression against innocent civilians in flagrant violation of international law. Furthermore, Djibouti calls for an end to the aggression and for Israel to lift its blockade on humanitarian aid in order to avoid further aggravating the catastrophic humanitarian conditions, which have reached unprecedented levels in Gaza, and to enable the conditions for lasting peace. In this regard, Djibouti calls on the international community, in particular the UN Security Council, to assume its responsibilities and immediately put an end to this abominable massacre, open the border crossings, ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to all areas of Gaza, and provide the necessary protection to all civilian populations. Djibouti reiterates its firm and unwavering position in support of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in particular the creation of their independent state on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital. Finally, Djibouti rejects any plan aimed at deporting the Palestinian people from their land and supports the establishment of any mechanism for holding to account those responsible for violations of the most basic human rights of the Palestinian people.

**Egypt** condemns in the strongest terms the genocide committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, as confirmed by the latest report of the Commission of Inquiry, which documents grave Israeli violations, including widespread indiscriminate shelling of residential areas, direct targeting of civilians, destruction of medical facilities and vital infrastructure, and imposition of a comprehensive blockade aimed at deliberately starving civilians by preventing the entry of food, medicine and fuel, in continuation of the policy of collective punishment and in flagrant violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Egypt categorically rejects the policies of forced displacement against Palestinians and considers them a crime against humanity aimed at uprooting the Palestinian people from their land. It emphasises the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice, which confirmed the illegality of the occupation. Egypt also welcomes recent international steps in support of Palestinian rights, including the repeated recognitions of the Palestinian state. Egypt stresses that the continuation of occupation policies and settlement expansion, along with systematic violations in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, including repeated incursions into cities and camps, killings and arbitrary arrests of civilians, land confiscation and expansion of settlement outposts, and repeated attacks on religious sites in East Jerusalem, constitute a direct threat to regional peace and security and hinder efforts to achieve calm. Egypt affirms that the only path to stability in the region will be achieved by ending the occupation and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights, foremost among which is their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state on the



borders of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Egypt also condemns Israel's repeated attacks in the region, including on Syria, Lebanon and Qatar, and considers them a flagrant violation of the sovereignty of states and a serious breach of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. It stresses the need for the international community, led by the UNHRC, to shoulder its responsibilities in ensuring accountability for these attacks and crimes and bringing their perpetrators to justice.

**Ghana** thanks the High Commissioner for his comprehensive report on the humanitarian and human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. Ghana is deeply concerned over the living conditions of the Palestinian population, the widespread displacements of civilians and the demolition of Palestinian-owned structures which exacerbate tensions, deepen mistrust and undermine the prospects of our future Palestinian states. Commending the resilience of the Palestinian people in the face of ongoing systematic violence, Ghana calls for the removal of restrictions on humanitarian aid and other essential facilities as unhindered assistance is critical to saving lives and alleviating suffering. Ghana also underscores the need for accountability for all the grave violations of human rights and international law. Ghana believes that a genuine diplomatic process backed by the commitment of both Palestinians and Israelis is the only path to a just, deplorable, durable and comprehensive peace. In this context, it looks forward to a meaningful international engagement and dialogue toward achieving a two-state solution. In closing, Ghana urges all parties to prioritize constructive dialogue and collective action to achieve a secure and peaceful resolution for both Israel and Palestine.

**Iraq** expresses its deep concern over the appalling humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, particularly in light of the spread of famine and the resulting severe suffering of civilians, especially children, women and the elderly, with rising numbers of victims, injured and forcibly displaced persons. The worsening humanitarian disaster in the Gaza Strip is a direct result of the genocide that has been ongoing for two years at the hands of the abhorrent occupation, which continues to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity and to use starvation as a weapon of war, leading to a horrific food and health crisis that is claiming the lives of millions. This calls for urgent international action to stop this genocide and protect innocent people. Iraq calls on the international community to take urgent and effective measures to stop the genocide in the Gaza Strip, open the crossings to allow humanitarian aid to enter, end the aggression, and hold the occupation accountable for its crimes against humanity in accordance with international law. In conclusion, Iraq welcomes the update issued by OHCHR to the database on companies operating in illegal settlements, and condemns the threats made by the Prime Minister of the Occupying Power to target Iraq, as Iraq will not accept any threat to its sovereignty and dignity. Iraq reiterates its firm and supportive position on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

**Jordan** recalls that the UNHRC has a fundamental responsibility to protect the human rights of the Palestinian people under the Israeli occupation. However, the truth is that the international community is witnessing crime after crime, no longer needs to read a book like 'A Memory of Solferino' by Henry Dunant to realize the atrocities of the occupation against the innocents in Gaza, the West Bank, and the occupied Jerusalem. The international community must take a decisive stance now. Two weeks ago, the COI confirmed the crime of genocide against the Palestinian people. The Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights presented an update to the



list of business enterprises operating in the Israeli settlements. These documents, among others, reveal the catastrophic actions of the occupation government, which has violated all international laws, human ethics, and shared values. Confronting this reality is not just a legal obligation, but a moral duty that requires states to take decisive steps to stop the violations and hold the perpetrators accountable. Jordan welcomes the leadership role of US President Donald Trump and his ongoing efforts to end the war in Gaza, through his proposed peace plan, which includes the reconstruction of Gaza, preventing the forced displacement of the Palestinian people, and rejecting the annexation of the West Bank. In conclusion, the Palestinian people will obtain their full rights including their right to statehood, as this is the key to regional stability and security, and this is what Jordan will work with everyone to achieve.

**Kuwait** affirms that what the Palestinian people have been subjected to for nearly two years in the Gaza Strip, which the Commission of Inquiry has concluded is genocide, deliberate siege and starvation, are nothing but a visible manifestation of the crimes of the occupying power and its continued oppression and brutality against civilians. Turning a blind eye to these crimes in Palestine while upholding the banner of respect for international law elsewhere only reinforces double standards and undermines the foundations of justice and equality upon which the United Nations was established. The State of Kuwait appreciates the momentum generated by the High-Level International Conference on the Settlement of the Palestinian Question, chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the French Republic, and the recognition of the independent State of Palestine by a large group of friendly countries. Kuwait calls on all other countries to take similar steps. Kuwait further welcomes the database prepared and updated by OHCHR on companies involved in supporting illegal settlements and stresses the importance of expanding and updating it to include all accomplices. The State of Kuwait will remain steadfast in its support for the brotherly Palestinian people and their legitimate right to establish their independent state on the borders of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions and the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative.

**Lebanon** stresses that the events unfolding in Gaza have persisted for far too long. Despite repeated warnings, the collective punishment of the Palestinian people has become dangerously normalized. Lebanon strongly condemns Israel's ongoing violations throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in Gaza where civilians continue to suffer under siege, bombardment, forced displacement, deprivation of basic needs and starvation. The recent report by the Commission of Inquiry lays bare the scale and gravity of these violations. These findings demand decisive international action to stop the ongoing genocide. The world must move beyond words and toward accountability. Lebanon also welcomes the growing international recognition of the State of Palestine. However, recognition must be matched by concrete measures to uphold international law, support Palestinian rights and bring an end to decades of suffering. To this end, Lebanon joins calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, as well as for ensuring humanitarian access, adopting targeted sanctions against those responsible for crimes and acting for the end of Israeli occupation of all Arab territories. Without accountability, there will be no justice. And without justice, there will be no peace or stability for any of the peoples of the region.

**Libya** denounces that genocide in its clearest form, indeed in its most abhorrent form, before the eyes of the whole world and broadcast live, is not a rumour or a possibility. It is documented with



irrefutable evidence gathered by the Commission of Inquiry, which operates in accordance with the highest standards of integrity and impartiality, and before that by the International Association of Genocide Scholars. Israel has committed and continues to commit genocide against the Palestinian people with the aim of exterminating them as a human group. Libya addresses directly to the countries that claim to uphold human rights to ask what have they done and what will they do to stop the ongoing genocide. Will they prosecute the Zionist criminals for their actions, or does international justice only apply to African countries and the Third World? Doing nothing is not an option. Libya warns that either one does everything in its power to stop this genocide, or it will end up in complicity. Libya commends the courage and professionalism of the Commission of Inquiry and constantly supports its work. In closing, Libya thanks OHCHR for its recent update of its database of companies involved in illegal settlement activities.

**Morocco** strongly condemns Israel's ongoing violations in the Palestinian territories and reiterates its call for an immediate ceasefire and a return to the negotiating table with a view to putting an end to the war and achieving security and stability in the Middle East. Morocco also calls for the opening of all crossings to allow humanitarian aid to enter the Gaza Strip and for the launch of a comprehensive process to return displaced and exiled civilians to their homes in safe conditions. Morocco remains committed to preserving the essential role of UNRWA and all relief agencies affiliated with the Palestinian Authority. In this context, His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee, has ordered the launch of an air bridge to the Gaza Strip to transport nearly 300 tonnes of food, medical and relief supplies to the inhabitants of Gaza, via unprecedented corridors, in order to alleviate the suffering of civilians. Furthermore, the Kingdom of Morocco renews its call for urgent intervention to put an end to Israeli attacks in the West Bank, particularly the demolition of homes and the displacement of residents, and to halt attacks in the city of Jerusalem and respect Islamic and Christian holy sites in accordance with the status quo in force since 1967. In conclusion, Morocco commends the international momentum for the recognition of the Palestinian State, which is part of the growing support for the two-state solution as the most rational and realistic solution.

**Oman** recalls the extremely dangerous circumstances in which the Palestinian people are witnessing grave violations that, according to the Commission of Inquiry, amount to the crime of genocide. This requires the UNHRC and the international community to take urgent and decisive measures. The utmost priority must be an immediate ceasefire, ensuring the protection of civilians and ensuring their unhindered access to humanitarian aid, with the need to hold those responsible for violations accountable before the relevant international mechanisms. Oman welcomes the New York Declaration as an important step towards resolving the Palestinian issue through peaceful solutions based on the two-state solution. It appreciates the efforts of the countries supporting this path and reiterates its deep appreciation for the countries that have recognized the State of Palestine, as this embodies common humanitarian values and enhances respect for international law. From this standpoint, the Sultanate of Oman clearly affirms that the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their independent, sovereign State with East Jerusalem as its capital is an inherent and inalienable right and represents a fundamental pillar for achieving a just and sustainable peace that contributes to enhancing stability and development and opens broad horizons for a better future for the region and the world.





**Qatar** welcomes the announcement by a number of countries of their official recognition of the State of Palestine, which is a victory for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and is in line with international law and UN Security Council resolutions and the New York Declaration on the implementation of the two-state solution and the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the 1967 borders. Everyone knows that the Israeli occupation seeks to undermine the chances for peace and efforts to achieve calm in the region by implementing settlement, colonial and aggressive plans and policies that pose a threat to peace and security, as evidenced by the treacherous Israeli aggression that Qatar suffered on 9 September 2025, which was met with clear and explicit international condemnation for targeting the mediation efforts deployed by Qatar and its partners to reach a ceasefire agreement in the Gaza Strip, which was successful and widely appreciated by the international community. Qatar stresses the need for these recognitions not to remain ink on paper and for the international community must shoulder its legal and moral responsibilities and take effective measures to pressure Israel to stop the war and its crimes of genocide, starvation, forced displacement, and withholding humanitarian aid, and to end its occupation of all Palestinian and Arab territories. Qatar also calls for the prosecution of all those responsible for these crimes and grave violations committed against the Palestinian people.

**Saudi Arabia** reiterates its strong condemnation of the continuing Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip and the resulting killing, destruction and targeting of innocent civilians, in flagrant violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law. The Kingdom condemns the crimes of starvation, forced displacement, brutal practices and ethnic cleansing against the brotherly Palestinian people, and calls for an immediate and permanent ceasefire and full protection for civilians. Saudi Arabia, in cooperation with Norway and the European Union, has taken the initiative to launch the International Coalition for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution. Jointly with France, it also chaired the High-Level International Conference on the Peaceful Settlement of the Palestinian Question and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, which constitutes a clear implementation path for the two-state solution leading to an end to the occupation and the conflict. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will continue its tireless efforts to achieve the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with international legitimacy resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative. Saudi Arabia welcomes the broad international support for the New York Declaration and calls on countries that have not yet recognised the State of Palestine to take this essential step. It also calls on the international community to take practical and decisive action to end the humanitarian tragedy and support the path to a just and lasting peace.

**Sudan** expresses its full solidarity with the Palestinian people, who have long suffered various forms of human rights violations, particularly in Gaza, with the prolonged siege and the resulting collective punishment and widespread destruction. Sudan affirms its support for all efforts aimed at ending the state of violence and the cycle of violence and reaching a just and final solution to this protracted crisis in all its dimensions, through ending the occupation and enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable right to change their destiny and establish their independent state on the basis of international legitimacy. After having carefully reviewed the report on the role of certain businesses and companies in supporting illegal settlement activities, Sudan emphasises the serious legal and moral responsibility incumbent



upon states and commercial institutions under international law, which clearly criminalises support for occupation and human rights violations.

**Tunisia** reaffirms its unwavering support for the Palestinian people in defending their legitimate rights, which cannot be forfeited by the passage of time, particularly their right to establish an independent, sovereign state on all their occupied territories, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. Tunisia renews its condemnation in the strongest terms of the Occupying Power's continued commission of genocide in the Gaza Strip, as confirmed by the report of the Commission of Inquiry, which concluded that crimes against humanity and unprecedented war crimes had been committed in flagrant violation of all international conventions and human and moral values. Expressing its disappointment at the international community's inability to put an end to this humanitarian tragedy and to hold the perpetrators accountable, Tunisia calls on the international community to shoulder its urgent responsibilities to immediately cease fire, lift the unjust siege on all occupied Palestinian territories, end the famine, allow humanitarian aid to enter and ensure its effective delivery. It also stresses the need to end the occupation of Syrian territories. Tunisia calls on all states and companies to cease all forms of transactions with the occupying entity in fulfilment of their obligations under international law and in accordance with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 2024. In conclusion, Tunisia wishes to distance itself from any statements or terms used in the statements of the groups to which it belongs that could be understood as legitimising the occupation or any kind of recognition thereof.

The **United Arab Emirates** stresses that the Gaza Strip is currently witnessing unprecedented humanitarian suffering as a result of ongoing Israeli military operations and violations, with civilians, particularly women and children, being subjected to killing, starvation and forced displacement, in flagrant violation of international law and international humanitarian law. No excuse can justify targeting civilians, besieging them or pursuing unacceptable expansionist ambitions, including the threat of annexing the West Bank. The UAE welcomes President Trump's announcement of his proposal to end the war, rebuild Gaza, prevent the displacement of the Palestinian people and advance comprehensive peace, as well as his declaration that he will not allow the annexation of the West Bank. The Emirates affirms its readiness to cooperate positively and constructively with the United States and the parties concerned to finalise the agreement and ensure its implementation, thereby guaranteeing peace, security and stability for the peoples of the region. The UAE further welcomes the growing recognition of the State of Palestine and extend a sincere invitation to the rest of the countries to join this path. The UAE affirms that stability can only be achieved through a two-state solution and the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. The Emirate's first and most urgent demand remains the achievement of an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, the end of the blockade, and the facilitation of humanitarian aid delivery.

**Yemen** welcomes the outcomes of the High-Level International Conference chaired by Saudi Arabia and France and affirms its unwavering and supportive stance on the rights of the Palestinian people, foremost among which is their right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on the borders of 1967 and with East Jerusalem as its capital. The continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories constitutes a flagrant violation of international law, the United Nations Charter and the Geneva Convention. The war of



extermination waged by the Israeli occupation forces and the daily violations are crimes against humanity and crimes against war in modern history and must be addressed and not go unpunished. In this context, Yemen commends the objective report of Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese and strongly condemns the smear campaigns, threats and pressure to which she has been subjected. Affirming that such practices undermine the independence of UNHRC Special Rapporteurs and the independence of the UNHRC, Yemen calls on the international community to take immediate and sensible action to stop these cruel violations, and to enable the brotherly Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and the full establishment of a sovereign State.

### Africa<sup>2</sup>

**Djibouti** welcomes the report of the UNHRC-mandated Commission of Inquiry, which finds that Israel is committing genocide in the Gaza Strip. Furthermore, Djibouti strongly condemns the military offensive on Gaza City and Israel's continued brutal aggression against innocent civilians in flagrant violation of international law. Furthermore, Djibouti calls for an end to the aggression and the lifting of Israel's blockade on humanitarian aid in order to avoid further aggravating the catastrophic humanitarian conditions that have reached unprecedented levels in Gaza and to enable the conditions for lasting peace. In this regard, Djibouti calls on the international community, in particular the UN Security Council, to assume its responsibilities and immediately put an end to this abominable massacre, open the border crossings and ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to all areas of Gaza, as well as provide the necessary protection to all civilian populations. Djibouti reiterates its firm and unwavering position in support of the Palestinian cause and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, in particular the establishment of their independent State on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Finally, Djibouti rejects any plan aimed at deporting the Palestinian people from their land and supports the establishment of any mechanism for accountability for violations of the most basic human rights of the Palestinian people.

**Eritrea** reiterates that portraying Ageda Item 7 as a country-specific mandate is a deliberate attempt to minimize its gravity. This is not only misleading, it is deeply insulting to those nations unfairly placed under country-specific scrutiny, nations who are neither occupiers of sovereign states nor perpetrators of genocide. Meanwhile, the human rights catastrophe in the occupied Palestinian territory has spiralled to levels unseen in modern history. Yet, the international community has failed to act decisively successfully. It is unconscionable that this is allowed to continue. It is uncertain how the international community will ever make right the grave injustice endured by the Palestinian people. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination is not a matter up for negotiation. It is a lawful entitlement. Palestinians like every people on earth deserve to live in dignity, peace and security. Their pursuit for independence is legitimate, just and in line with the very principles on which this body was founded. The government of Eritrea stands firmly with the people of Palestine in their struggle for an independent state and reaffirms its unwavering support for their legitimate rights, above all, their right to self-determination and to a sovereign state of their own.

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<sup>2</sup> Except for MENA countries.



The **Gambia** reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people and the legitimate aspirations for freedom, dignity and self-determination. The worsening humanitarian crisis marked by starvation, mass displacement, indiscriminate attacks on civilians and severe restriction on aid supplies demands urgent international action. The recent finding of the Commission of Inquiry that Israel forces have committed acts of genocide under the Genocide Convention in Gaza is '*a stain on our collective conscience*'. The Gambia welcomes the growing recognition of the state of Palestine by the majority of the world states as the affirmation of the inherent right of self-determination. The Gambia underscores the urgent need for accountability and respect for international humanitarian law and human rights law as the only means to adjust and lasting peace on the basis of the two-state solution with East Jerusalem as the capital of an independent State of Palestine.

**Mauritania** supports the joint statements of the groups to which it belongs and welcomes the recent update of the OHCHR database on commercial companies involved in settlement activities. Mauritania urges states and companies to ensure that their activities and business relations do not contribute to or benefit from these illegal policies and practices, in line with their obligations under international law, as confirmed by the 2024 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice. In this regard, Mauritania affirms its support for the conclusions and recommendations contained in the aforementioned report. The delegation of Mauritania extends its sincere congratulations to the sisterly State of Palestine on the successive successes of its legitimate efforts to achieve its rightful international standing. In this regard, Mauritania commends the recognition of the State of Palestine by a growing number of countries, as well as the adoption by the UN General Assembly of the New York Declaration, which aims to give new impetus to the two-state solution and which was voted in favour of by the overwhelming majority of countries around the world. The humanitarian situation in Gaza is beyond description. The world is witnessing a people being exterminated before their very eyes, through killing, starvation and displacement. The rest of the occupied Palestinian territories, including East Jerusalem, are also subjected daily to various forms of aggression, annexation and liquidation schemes. In conclusion, Malaysia reaffirms its unwavering support for the brotherly Palestinian people and their inalienable rights, foremost among which is the establishment of their independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

**Nigeria** remains deeply concerned by the ongoing occupation of Palestine and the continued violence, destruction, and humanitarian suffering endured by the Palestinian people. The deepening humanitarian catastrophe underscores the urgent need for a just, comprehensive and lasting solution, in line with relevant United Nations resolutions. Nigeria reaffirms its continued support for the struggle of the Palestinian people towards the realization of their inalienable human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly their right to self-determination. It stresses the urgent responsibility of the international community to act decisively to end the crisis, uphold international law, and guarantee the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the Palestinian people. Nigeria strongly condemns all forms of violence against civilians, which have aggravated the already dire humanitarian crisis. Nigeria calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities, an end to indiscriminate attacks, and the guarantee of safe, unhindered humanitarian access to alleviate the suffering of the people in Gaza. Finally, Nigeria remains convinced that the





only sustainable path to peace lie in the realization of an independent State of Palestine, existing side by side with the State of Israel, in peace, security, and mutual prosperity.

**Senegal** reiterates its unwavering support for the just cause of the Palestinian people in their legitimate quest for a viable, free and independent state. To say today that the situation is tragic is simply stating the obvious, as Gaza has become a living hell for hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, overwhelmed by an indiscriminate military offensive of rare atrocity, forcing them to flee in total destitution. Senegal strongly condemns the inhuman collective suffering and reprisals unjustly imposed on civilian populations, which constitute serious violations of their fundamental rights and a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The State of Israel, which is subject to the obligations of this Convention and whose people have historically suffered injustice and oppression, must seriously reflect on the daily suffering inflicted on the people of Gaza and put an immediate end to this tragic situation, the use of illegitimate force and the policy of *fait accompli*. In conclusion, Senegal welcomes the historic decisions taken by a number of countries to recognise the State of Palestine and calls for concrete and bold measures to ensure that the land of Gaza and Palestine ceases to be a graveyard for international humanitarian law.

**Sierra Leone** reaffirms its solidarity with the Palestinian people and their legitimate aspirations to realise their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination and statehood. Sierra Leone remains deeply concerned by reports of forced displacement and the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza, including the risk of starvation and famine. In this regard, Sierra Leone welcomes yesterday's 20-Point Plan for Gaza proposed by the United States as a potential step towards resolving the crisis. While encouraging all efforts to pursue peace, Sierra Leone stresses that any implementation must fully respect international law, uphold human rights safeguards and ensure the meaningful participation and ownership of the Palestinian people. Sierra Leone emphasises that any action resulting in the forced transfer or relocation of civilians, the killing of journalists or the bombing of civilian populations and infrastructure is contrary to international law, constituting both a war crime and a crime against humanity. Sierra Leone calls for an end to occupation and reiterates its support for a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the question of Palestine based on international law and relevant United Nations resolutions that will enable the Palestinian people to live in peace, dignity and security.

**South Africa** appreciates the update to the OHCHR's database and recalls that eighty years ago, the UN was established to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. Yet this objective remains in tatters for the Palestinians, as Israel continues to violate international law with impunity. Accordingly, Gaza is in ruins, strewn with the bodies of the innocent, where those who survive cling to a life of starvation, deprivation and disease. The victims are the targets of a campaign - a genocide aimed at erasing the Palestinians as a group. While welcoming the recent High-Level Meeting on the Two-State Solution at the UN General Assembly, South Africa urges the international community to take action now to end the suffering of the Palestinians, together with Israel's unlawful occupation, which lies at its core. As the report of the Commission of Inquiry concluded, all states have a legal duty to prevent and punish genocide. States need not wait for a ruling to act, as they were put on notice when the International Court of Justice issued its first provisional order. Recalling that the Hague Group was established for this very purpose, South Africa urges states to join in taking measures to promote accountability and uphold international law, much as we need to hold Israel accountable, corporate entities, too, must be



held to account. As South Africa's Peace Prize Laureate, the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu, stated, *'If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor'*, South Africa calls on the international community to let these words inspire us to collectively end the injustice against the Palestinians once and for all.

### Asia and the Pacific<sup>3</sup>

**Afghanistan** expresses its profound concern at the continuing systematic violation of human rights in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories. Despite the clear findings of the UN Commission of Inquiry concluding that grave crimes including genocide in Gaza have been committed, the Occupying Power remains shielded from accountability. The Palestinian people, the right to self-determination, expand illegal settlement, arbitrarily detain civilians and impose siege and starvation as a weapons of war, all in violation of international law. Afghanistan reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people in the legitimate struggle to achieve freedom, dignity and statehood. Afghanistan calls on the international community to act decisively to end occupation, lift the blockade on Gaza and resume a genuine peace process to ensure accountability for the persistent violation committed by Israel and delivers lasting peace in the Middle East. This agenda item remains vital because the occupation persists. It should remain on the Council's agenda until a just two-state solution is achieved.

**Bangladesh** condemns in the strongest possible terms the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity committed by Israel against the Palestinian people in Gaza. What the world is witnessing today is one of the greatest humanitarian tragedies of our time. The death toll in Gaza has now exceeded 66,000 with more than 168,000 wounded. Among them are over 18,000 children, a generation deliberately annihilated. Bangladesh strongly denounces Israel's fragrant violations of international humanitarian and human rights law. This brazen contempt is perpetuated by the shield of unconditional support it continues to receive from certain quarters. Bangladesh concurs with the findings of the Commission of Inquiry that the world is witnessing a genocide happening live. The international community cannot remain complicit through inaction and silence. Bangladesh demands an immediate and unconditional cease fire in Gaza and end to the illegal cease with full and sustained humanitarian access and international accountability for Israel's war crimes, crimes against humanity and acts of genocide through relevant judicial mechanisms. Finally, Bangladesh reaffirms its unwavering support for the establishment of an independent sovereign and viable state of Palestine based on the two-state solution and on the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

**Brunei Darussalam** notes with concern that the situation on the ground continues to deteriorate as the Occupying Power intensifies its aggression in Gaza, including the recent large-scale ground offensive launched in the Gaza Strip. This ongoing military operation has not only caused further mass displacement, but also severely impedes delivery of desperately needed aid. These actions reflect a blatant disregard for international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Brunei firmly condemns the repeated violations, including the genocide it has committed, which has led to the tragic loss of countless Palestinian lives, and continue to threaten the prospects for peace and stability in the region. Brunei calls upon the international community to uphold its

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<sup>3</sup> Except for MENA countries.



legal and moral obligations to put an end to these breaches and to hold the Occupying Power accountable for its actions through collective resolve. This must include addressing the root causes perpetuating the occupation and ending the longstanding impunity enjoyed by the Occupying Power. The international community's continued failure to act not only diminishes our shared humanity, but also undermines the primacy and credibility of international law. Brunei Darussalam remains resolute in its solidarity with the Palestinians in their struggle for peace, freedom and inalienable right to self-determination. Brunei reaffirms its full support for the creation of a fully independent and sovereign State of Palestine, on the basis of the two-State solution, based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. Furthermore, Brunei will continue to advocate for Palestine's admission to the United Nations as a full member, in joint pursuit of peace, justice and truly leaving no one behind.

**China** is deeply concerned by the human rights situation in Palestine and other Arab territories under occupation. The current round of Palestinian-Israeli conflict has dragged on for two years, causing unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe. Nevertheless, Israel persists in advancing its plan to take control of Gaza City, rapidly accelerating its encroachment on Palestinian territories in Gaza and the West Bank. Air strikes targeting Hamas figures in Qatar who were planning peace talks constitute grave violations of international law, severely infringing upon the Palestinian people's and neighbouring countries' rights to survival and development, and directly undermining stability in the Middle East. Faced with this critical juncture, the international community must accord the utmost attention to accelerating the resolution of the Palestinian issue, expediting a comprehensive ceasefire in Gaza, revitalising the two-state solution, and safeguarding peace and stability in the Middle East. China remains steadfast in its support for the just cause of the Palestinian people, and stands ready to work with the international community to advance the Palestinian issue towards an early, comprehensive, just and lasting resolution.

**Indonesia** affirms that the relentless assault against the Palestinians as well as act of aggression against other sovereign states represent a total desecration of the very foundation of international law. Humanity is trampled before the world's eyes as Palestinians continue to be deprived of their most basic right in their own land. While UN agencies report an alarming malnutrition and now not Gaza is facing famine, the safety and well-being of the Palestinian people must remain the Council's highest priority. Alleviating humanitarian catastrophe and protecting of civilians must come first. As member of the ministerial group for the protection of humanitarian personnel, Indonesia also calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel who serve to protect humanity. Far too many children in the occupied Palestinian territory have witnessed the horror of war as they grew up vulnerable in an endless cycle of fear and hatred. While delivering and strengthening humanitarian aid is crucial, accountability remains the hammer that can break this chain. The future of the two-state solution rests on how firmly the international community upholds accountability.

**Iran** welcomes the update of the High Commissioner's database and particularly commends the work of the COI, which has reaffirmed that the crime of genocide is taking place - an alarming conclusion that Iran had previously cautioned against months earlier. The Commission's determination of *dolus specialis*, namely the specific intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a protected group, as evidenced by patterns of conduct and explicit statements by Israeli officials, constitutes a matter of utmost legal gravity under the Genocide Convention. As recalled by the



Commission, all States Parties bear the *erga omnes* obligation to prevent and to punish genocide, as well as to refrain from rendering aid or assistance to its commission. The prohibition of genocide is a peremptory norm of international law, and no State may disregard its binding force. Iran categorically condemns this genocide and any Western complicity therein - whether political, military, economic or otherwise. Iran further endorses the findings of the Special Rapporteur and calls for the immediate adoption of comprehensive sanctions against Israeli regime. Genocide cannot be erased by silence. The voice of justice shall endure.

**Malaysia** strongly condemns Israel's blatant campaign in taking over Gaza by military force, a deliberate manoeuvre to illegally occupy Palestinian lands for good. Gaza and the West Bank must remain integral parts of the State of Palestine. Malaysia unequivocally rejects Israel's annexation, forced displacement, illegal settlements, land grabbing and settler violence in the OPT. These atrocities constitute flagrant violations of international law and the UN Charter. Famine in Gaza has been officially confirmed by the UN. Malaysia calls for an immediate and unhindered flow of humanitarian supplies into Gaza through a UN-led mechanism, specifically via UNRWA. Last month, Malaysia announced an additional contribution of RM100 million for rebuilding and reconstruction of Palestine. Malaysia recalls with grave concern the recent COI's report that concluded on reasonable grounds that Israel has committed and is continuing to commit genocide against the Palestinians in Gaza. Urging states to take all reasonable measures to stop this on-going campaign of genocide in Gaza, Malaysia also calls for the urgent imposition of an arms embargo on Israel, as the continued transfer of weapons only worsens the atrocities against the Palestinian people and perpetuates impunity. Malaysia urges states and businesses to cease operations connected to illegal settlements based on the High Commissioner's report. To conclude, Malaysia reiterates its commitment to the Palestinian cause and will continue supporting the establishment of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine, based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The **Maldives** warns that the consensus of unity is tested in Palestine. For decades the UNHRC, the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council have spoken with clarity - Resolution 67/19 affirms the Palestine's right to statehood. Resolution 233/4 declares Israeli settlements illegal. Yet Israel continues to expand its illegal settlements undermining the prospect of a two-state solution. The establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian state based on pre-1916 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital is not a gift. It is a right enshrined in international law. A few days ago, the UNHRC-mandated Commission of Inquiry declared that Israel has committed genocide in Gaza in defiance of international law and in disregard of orders of the International Court of Justice. The Maldives is appalled by the Israeli sections including blocking humanitarian aid, causing widespread starvation, systematically destroying Gaza's health care and education system, committing systematic acts of sexual and gender-based violence and directly targeting children. Symbolic gestures are simply not enough. The Maldives calls for an immediate cease fire, unimpeded humanitarian access and all arms sales to Israel and decisive international action to bring occupation to an end. Until that day comes, the Maldives will stand unshaken with the people of Palestine.

**Pakistan** emphasizes that the world continues to witness the harrowing tragedy unfolding in the occupied Palestinian territory. The inherent human dignity of the Palestinian people and their rights to self-determination, to life and to their own state are being trampled with impunity. In





Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem, the people under occupation face death, deprivation and displacement amounting to genocide. Those mandated by the council to address this dire situation face threats and reprisals. The region stands at a defining moment. Pakistan welcomes the long-due recognition of Palestinian statehood by several countries. Concrete and coordinated international actions is essential to finally achieve the long coveted goal of peace and stability in the Middle East. A permanent ceasefire, unrestricted humanitarian access and end to illegal settlements and accountability for crimes all remain essential, implementing the provisional measures and advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice is an international legal imperative. The emergence of an independent and sovereign state of Palestine on pre-1967 borders with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital must be our shared goal.

The **Philippines** joins the international community's urgent call for an end to the ever worsening humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and the grave violations of international human rights and humanitarian law that have brought unconscionable suffering to the people of Palestine, especially children, women and the elderly. The Philippines is deeply concerned by recent developments including the Israeli government's planned full military takeover of Gaza, the continuing restrictions and access to lifesaving humanitarian aid such as food and water, large scale displacement, attacks affecting civilians and reports of settlement expansion in the West Bank. These developments aggravate an already dire humanitarian situation and further diminish prospects for peace in the Middle East. The Philippines strongly urges Israel to heed calls for a ceasefire as a crucial first step to protecting civilians and reviving the path to peace. There is no military solution to this longstanding crisis. No amount of firepower can extinguish the will of the Palestinian people to claim their inalienable right to self-determination, independence and dignity. The Philippines continues to support the two-state solution consistent with the UN General Assembly resolution 181 of 1947 and other relevant UN resolutions as the only viable path towards a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region.

**Sri Lanka** has repeatedly voiced grave concern at the continuing violence in the Middle East and the ceaseless attacks against civilians in Gaza. Apart from the daily loss of innocent lives, the dire humanitarian situation is deteriorating day by day to disastrous proportions. The international community has failed to stop the escalation of this humanitarian catastrophe. As the Chair of the 'Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories', Sri Lanka firmly believes that peace in the Occupied Palestinian Territory will remain unattainable as long as the underlying issues of occupation, blockade, and the refusal to recognize Palestinian self-determination, continue to exist. The need for political will and genuine dialogue has been missing for decades to reach the two-state solution called for by a majority of UN member states on the basis of the 1967 borders. While recognizing the legitimate security concerns of both Israeli and Palestinian people, Sri Lanka emphasizes that the world must act now, to stop the killing and to reach a sustainable political solution for the Palestinian people. Sri Lanka reiterates its call for an immediate, unconditional, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and strict adherence to it, the release of hostages and detainees on both sides, and the uninterrupted humanitarian access for the people who are dying of hunger in Gaza. It is absolutely necessary that UNRWA is able to continue its mandated and essential humanitarian work in the occupied Palestinian territories without any obstacle. Sri Lanka reiterates its support for Palestine's full membership in the United Nations,



as endorsed by the UN General Assembly at the 10th Emergency Special Session. Sri Lanka welcomes with appreciation the recent announcements by several States on their recognition of Palestine as a state, at the UN General Assembly last week. As stated by H.E. the President of Sri Lanka in his statement to the UN General Assembly, Gaza has been turned into an open prison full of pain and suffering. The time has come for the international community to stop being a mere spectator and to act decisively to end the suffering of millions.

**Viet Nam** is deeply concerned about the ongoing hostilities, loss of lives, destruction of civilian infrastructures and the suffering of the Palestinian people, especially in Gaza. Calling for an immediate cease fire, the protection of civilians and urgent humanitarian aid, Viet Nam also emphasizes the need for unimpeded humanitarian access and urge all parties to take necessary precautions to protect civilian lives and infrastructures fully complying with the international humanitarian law, particularly the principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution. Viet Nam calls for negotiations based on international law, the UN charter and relevant resolutions. The Vietnamese Government strongly supports the two-state solution based on pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine, living peacefully alongside Israel in peaceful co-existence security and mutual recognition in accordance with UN resolutions and international law. Viet Nam was among the first to recognize the State of Palestine and consistently supports Palestine's full membership in the UN. In closing, Viet Nam stands ready to contribute positively to peace efforts and to support the international community in achieving a just lasting resolution.

#### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Bolivia** considers it appropriate to update the database of companies participating in specific activities related to Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. States have a responsibility to fully respect their legal obligations under international law, as clarified by the International Court of Justice in its 2024 advisory opinion, particularly when it states that states must ensure effective regulation of companies domiciled in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction. Bolivia reaffirms its commitment to agenda item 7 and the procedures that are monitoring the human rights situation in Palestine, which is currently in a state of catastrophe and genocide. Bolivia cannot remain silent about the gravity of the crimes and atrocities committed by the Occupying Power, its passive allies and transnational companies involved by action or omission. The international community must increase its international obligations to achieve an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza and allow full, safe, unconditional and unhindered humanitarian access.

**Brazil** recalls that during the High-Level Segment of the 80th UN General Assembly, President Lula warned of the risk of disappearance of the Palestinian people. He underscored the dire situation in Gaza, which is marked by mass killings, widespread forced displacement, and the use of hunger as a weapon of war. The situation in Gaza must not overshadow the parallel crisis in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, where grave human rights violations persist. Violence perpetrated by Israeli settlers and military incursions are a primary concern, directly contributing to the forced displacement of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The ever-present threat of Israeli annexation further jeopardizes the prospects of peace. Brazil expresses its deep appreciation for the work undertaken by the UNHRC and its special procedures in documenting human rights violations within the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Brazil condemns all threats



directed at UNHRC mandate-holders. Justice and accountability are essential to achieve reparations and ensure the non-recurrence of these violations against the Palestinian people. 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.

**Chile** recalls that in its most recent report, the Commission of Inquiry highlighted the dire situation facing Palestinians in Gaza, with half a million people facing famine conditions, including one in five children suffering from malnutrition. Based on this and other evidence, the Commission concluded that the conduct of the Israeli authorities demonstrates an intention to destroy the Palestinian population in Gaza through starvation and the blockade of humanitarian aid. Chile is particularly concerned by its findings that there are reasonable grounds to assert that acts of genocide have been committed, conclusions that are consistent with the preliminary findings of the International Court of Justice. The international community must act. In September, Chile welcomed 68 refugees from Gaza who were forced to leave their homes in the face of imminent risk to their lives. Chile further welcomes the recent recognition of Palestine as a sovereign State announced by the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Portugal, and encourages those states that have expressed their intention to do so to fulfil this commitment. These decisions represent significant steps towards the realisation of the two-state solution, the only way to guarantee peace, security and dignity for the Palestinian and Israeli peoples. Chile hopes that this recognition will contribute to the protection of the Palestinian population and respect for their right to self-determination.

**Colombia** strongly condemns corporate complicity in crimes committed in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The Israeli occupation has become a machinery of extermination sustained by private interests that profit from war, displacement and destruction. In the face of this barbarity, the international community must demand accountability, exemplary sanctions and concrete actions to halt any contractual relationship, investment or provision of supplies that finance or support the occupation. Colombia rejects the indiscriminate violence that has had a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable people, such as children and persons with disabilities. The latter face the collapse of medical and rehabilitation services, the destruction of their community organizations and forced displacement without access to support devices, assistance or protection networks. Colombia, faithful to its commitment to human rights and global justice, raises its voice to demand an end to genocide, effective protection for all victims, and full accountability for all those involved. Not another day should pass without us joining forces to put an end to this abominable genocide, which is being cynically and criminally perpetrated before the world's very eyes.

**Cuba** draws the Council's attention to the unfolding famine in Gaza, where 2.2 million human beings in Gaza are condemned to starvation by the actions of genocide, extermination and ethnic cleansing carried out by Israel, which has the military and financial support and impunity guaranteed by the United States Government. More than 63,000 Palestinians have been killed in the last two years, most of them women and children. The UNHRC has a duty to do much more in the face of the ongoing massacre, and it should begin without delay by putting an end to hypocrisy, selectivity and double standards. Every year, several developed nations accuse multiple countries here of alleged human rights violations while ignoring their own problems and



remaining complicitly silent or openly supporting the genocide of the Palestinian people. Other actors also play a reprehensible role, such as UN Watch, a lobby group for Israel disguised as a supposedly independent NGO. Its strenuous efforts to justify the crimes of the Israeli government and attack anyone who defends the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people are an offence to the members of genuine NGOs. In closing, Cuba reiterates its firm solidarity with the Palestinian people and their just cause for freedom, independence and an end to the illegal occupation.

**Honduras** thanks the OHCHR for the report updating the database of business companies and reaffirms that states have an obligation to respect and ensure respect for international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law. This implies not only refraining from committing violations, but also ensuring that companies under their jurisdiction do not violate these rights. In light of the conclusions in the recent report of the Commission of Inquiry, Honduras reiterates the urgency of a ceasefire and of guaranteeing full and unrestricted access for humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip, including the supply of essential medicines and the provision of timely medical care to children in critical health situations, among them more than 20,000 who have required treatment for acute malnutrition and immediate risk of death. The international community must send a strong message that there can be no impunity for genocide, war crimes and serious human rights violations. Honduras highlights the work of the UNHRC as a vital space for this and reiterates its firm commitment to efforts aimed at achieving a swift and lasting peace that respects the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people.

**Mexico** expresses concern at the invasion and confiscation of land, the demolition of properties and the systematic control of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. These practices violate the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Mexico also deplores the participation of transnational companies in activities related to the settlements, through financial operations, the provision of services or the exploitation of resources. Mexico recognises the importance of OHCHR's mandate to maintain an up-to-date database of companies involved in activities of particular concern, a key tool for transparency and accountability. Recalling that respect for human rights is an essential condition for a just and lasting peace, Mexico calls on states to comply with their international legal obligations and encourages companies to implement policies in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

**Peru** appreciates the discussion within the UNHRC on this highly relevant issue in the current complex international context, and reiterates its deep concern over the continuing deterioration of the situation in the Gaza Strip, in particular the famine crisis and its serious impact on children. It also expresses its serious concern about the conclusions presented in the report of the Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel. Peru rejects the announcements regarding the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and military control of Gaza City, due to their implications for the civilian population and their basic living conditions. Furthermore, Peru has joined the calls by the UN Secretary-General and Pope Leo XIV for peace, thereby emphasizing the urgent need to protect the civilian population, address the food crisis in Gaza and release all hostages. In this regard, the Peruvian Government reiterates the need for unrestricted respect for international law and UN resolutions,





urging the international community to redouble its efforts to achieve a two-state solution in which both states can coexist in peace and security.

**Venezuela** affirms that seventy-seven years ago, Israel's colonial ambition gave way to a massive, planned and violent expulsion of the Palestinian population. That historic crime has not ceased. Its tragic consequences persist to this day, now aggravated by a proven ongoing genocide. Israel has carried out a planned and sustained massacre, protected by the complicit silence of Western powers; it has intensified the illegal annexation of Palestinian territories in the West Bank, in open and repeated violation of international law. This conduct violates the Fourth Geneva Convention, contravenes UN Security Council resolutions and constitutes a crime of aggression, apartheid and colonialism. As if that were not enough, on 9 September Israel bombed Qatar, where a negotiating mission seeking to end the conflict was based. This aggression is an act of state terrorism, a flagrant violation of international law and a challenge to the principles of peaceful coexistence among nations. Rejecting the sanctions imposed on the courageous Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese, Venezuela embraces the brave and dignified Palestinian people with unwavering brotherhood and commitment. Their cause is its own cause. Their heroic resistance is a source of inspiration for the free peoples of the world. Their legitimate desire for justice, peace and sovereignty is a cry that Venezuela makes its own, with the conviction that sooner rather than later, freedom and dignity will flourish forever in the sacred land of Palestine.

#### Eastern Europe

The **Russian Federation** describes the situation in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict zone as critical. In the Gaza Strip, as a result of Israel's military operation, mass starvation has broken out before the world's very eyes. People in need are being shot in queues for food rations, and around 10,000 minors are suffering from acute malnutrition. This is despite the fact that there are humanitarian aid supplies around the perimeter of the Gaza Strip that would be enough to sustain the civilian population for several months. In recent weeks, a number of major events have taken place within the walls of the UN, clearly reflecting the growing solidarity of the international community in the view that what is happening in the Gaza Strip as a result of Israel's actions, whatever the reasons for them, cannot continue. This is an important signal to Israel's military and political leadership that justice for the Palestinian people must be restored. The time has come for action that will lead to an immediate ceasefire and the release of hostages and prisoners. Russia calls on the Israeli authorities to take urgent measures to prevent further deterioration of the situation in the Gaza Strip, to cease fire, to restore unimpeded humanitarian access, and to ensure that all those in need receive the necessary humanitarian assistance, including food. The time has come to restart an irreversible peace process leading to the creation of an independent, sovereign State of Palestine, coexisting peacefully with Israel.

**Slovenia** condemns the continuous attacks on Gaza, where the humanitarian situation is appalling, and the situation in the West Bank is also deeply concerning. Thanking OHCHR for its report, Slovenia reiterates its firm position according to which Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory are illegal under international law, constitute an obstacle to peace, and undermine the viability of a future Palestinian state and the prospect of a two-state solution. The database of business enterprises related to Israeli settlements is key to understand the economic structures that sustain illegal settlements. Slovenia sees a direct connection between

this database and the broader patterns of violation documented by other UN mechanisms, including Special Rapporteurs and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice. Slovenia calls on all listed businesses to adhere to their human rights due diligence obligations and to cease activities that contribute to these violations, and reiterates its call on Israel to halt all settlement expansion immediately. Accountability and respect for international law are non-negotiable. The international community must collectively ensure that economic activities are not complicit in human rights violations.

### Western Europe and Others

**Belgium** remains deeply concerned about the situation in Gaza. In view of the humanitarian crisis and the violence perpetrated by Israel in violation of international law, and in light of its international obligations, including the duty to prevent any risk of genocide, Belgium has decided to take several measures to ensure a two-state solution and increase pressure on the Israeli government. These measures are currently being implemented and include, among other things, a policy of refusing to export and transit arms, as well as a national ban on the import of goods produced, exploited or processed in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The extremist ministers Ben Gvir and Smotrich and the political and military leaders of Hamas have been declared *personae non gratae* on Belgian territory. Belgium is working on sanctions against violent Israeli settlers and Hamas officials. Belgium is also stepping up its efforts to provide humanitarian aid through all possible channels and is committed, in particular, to continuing medical evacuations of children with complex medical conditions that cannot be treated in the region. Finally, Belgium continues to support the International Criminal Court and joins the High Commissioner's call for the lifting of sanctions against three Palestinian human rights organisations for their contribution to the investigation of the ICC investigation.

**France** reiterates its condemnation of the terrorist attacks of 7 October 2023. It condemns them without reservation, because nothing, ever, anywhere, can justify resorting to terrorism. But nothing, nothing justifies the continuation of the war in Gaza today. France's recognition of the State of Palestine on 22 September paves the way for a just and lasting peace in the interests of both Israelis and Palestinians. This recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in no way detracts from the rights of the Israeli people, which France has supported from day one. On the contrary, it is a defeat for Hamas and all those who stir up anti-Semitism or seek the destruction of the State of Israel. The absolute priority is the immediate release of the 48 hostages, coupled with an end to military operations throughout the Gaza Strip and the immediate and unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid. Hamas must be disarmed and excluded from the future governance of Gaza and the entire Palestinian territory. The second phase will be one of stabilisation and reconstruction in Gaza. This must involve the establishment of a transitional administration incorporating the Palestinian Authority, accompanied by security forces. France is ready to contribute to an international stabilisation mission and to support, alongside its European and international partners, the training and equipping of Palestinian security forces.

**Iceland** reaffirms the urgent responsibility of the UNHRC to confront grave and escalating human rights violations wherever they occur. The most serious abuses are too often committed in situations of war and armed conflict, where civilians - particularly women and children - continue



to bear the heaviest burden. Israel's ongoing military operations against and within Palestine are way beyond proportional self-defence and, along with the relentless obstruction of humanitarian assistance, constitute serious violations of international law. The two-state solution remains the only viable and morally justifiable path forward. Iceland once again reiterates the call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the restoration of humanitarian access and the release of all hostages. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine continues to inflict devastating human suffering. The deliberate targeting of civilians, as well as schools, hospitals, and critical infrastructure, are grave breaches of international law. Iceland is particularly outraged by the forcible transfer of Ukrainian children, who must be reunited with their families without delay. Iceland calls on the Russian Federation to cease immediately its war of aggression and to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. On Afghanistan, Iceland reiterates the call for accountability to address long-standing impunity for serious past and ongoing international crimes committed in Afghanistan. Multilateralism and the international human rights system require our unwavering commitment and resolve. In closing, Iceland refers to Nordic-Baltic statements, including on Afghanistan, Belarus, Burundi, the DRC, Nicaragua, Myanmar, DPRK, Sudan, Syria and Venezuela.

**Ireland** recalls that at least 65,000 Palestinians have been killed and 165,000 injured in the Gaza Strip over the past two years. Famine is now confirmed and is projected to spread. The UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry has concluded that genocide is being committed in Gaza. These conclusions are devastating and Ireland takes them extremely seriously. International law limits the use of force in self-defence to no more than that where it is necessary and proportionate. These limits have been consistently seeded by Israel. Ireland calls for full compliance by all parties with international law as well as an immediate cease fire and the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas. The continued pressure on Israeli and Palestinian human rights defenders and civil society organizations including sustained efforts to prevent scrutiny of the conduct of the occupation is concerning. In the West Bank, the scale, speed and severity of Israeli military operations displacement, demolitions and settlement construction is unprecedented. Only an end to violence and a political pathway to implementation of the two-state solution can provide lasting peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

**Luxembourg** emphasises that last week it took a historic step, together with 10 other States, to recognise the State of Palestine. In the face of a disastrous situation, this step should help to pave the way for lasting peace. This will be achieved through the two-State solution, which is more than ever under threat, but also the only hope for a peaceful outcome. Luxembourg notes with concern the precarious situation in the occupied Palestinian territory. As raised before the International Court of Justice, cooperation with UN entities is mandatory for all member states, without exception. The closure of the *Allenby Bridge* and the blocking of the flow of goods and people risk triggering a new humanitarian crisis and are of particular concern to Luxembourg. The latter recalls that the colonisation of Palestinian territory has been declared illegal by the International Court of Justice. The European Union has adopted several sets of restrictive measures against extremist and violent settlers. Luxembourg will strongly support any further measures that may lead the Israeli government to comply with international law.



**Spain** warns that a genocide is unfolding before the world's eyes. The international community has failed in its obligation to prevent it. It is now imperative that it fulfil its obligation to stop it. Spain supports Israel's right to proportionate self-defence following the terrorist attacks by Hamas on 7 October 2023, and will continue to demand the immediate and unconditional release of the remaining hostages, but the tens of thousands of civilian casualties, the hundreds of deaths caused by famine, the displacement of millions of people and the destruction of hospitals, schools, homes and infrastructure are intolerable and must stop. Spain urges the unhindered entry of humanitarian aid in a safe and massive manner, with UNRWA as the main actor. The expansion of settlements in the West Bank, fragmenting the territory, and the violence against settlers and evictions, which hinders the two-state solution, the only way to achieve peace and regional stability, must also cease. Spain regrets the obstacles that have been placed in the way of Palestine's participation in the UN General Assembly in New York and also the persecution to which UNHRC mechanisms are subjected. Lastly, Spain will comply with the decisions of the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court and will continue to promote measures such as arms embargoes, sanctions and trade bans on products from the settlements, and will continue to work with the emergency coalition to help Palestine.

**Türkiye** thanks the High Commissioner for presenting the report on the database of business enterprises which brings an important contribution by shedding light on Israel's unlawful actions in the occupied Palestinian territories. Its recommendations provide states clear guidance on taking tangible measures to halt these practices and ensure accountability. Reiterating its call for an immediate ceasefire for and for unhindered humanitarian access to Gaza, Türkiye urges the international community to take urgent and concrete measures to stop illegal settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.

### International Organizations

The **Sovereign Order of Malta** remains deeply disturbed by the continuous gross violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law in the OPTs, especially in Gaza, where the situation is beyond untenable. It further acknowledges the latest report of the Commission of Inquiry (COI) and voices concern over the risk of a regional spillover of the conflict. The Order of Malta condemns the rise of settler violence in the West Bank directed at religious communities and places of worship, particularly against Christians. The increasing number of checkpoints renders the Sovereign Order's ability to provide medico-social assistance, through the Holy Family Hospital and its mobile clinics, extremely difficult. In Gaza, the Order of Malta is cooperating with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and are ready to provide emergency humanitarian aid once the blockade is lifted. As the Sovereign Grand Chancellor declared in New York during the Two State Solution Conference at the UN General Assembly, 'the Sovereign Order of Malta will not spare its efforts and will continue to be on the ground and to focus its advocacy and activities in favour of the most disadvantaged.' The Order of Malta welcomes any peace efforts that will ensure an immediate, unconditional ceasefire, unimpeded humanitarian access, the dignified release of all hostages, respect for IHL, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and the ICJ provisional order. Welcoming the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, the Sovereign Order reiterates its wish that the people of Israel and Palestine can live side by side in peace, security and tolerance.



### National Human Rights Institutions

The **Independent Commission for Human Rights of the State of Palestine** welcomes the report on business enterprises involved in settlement activities and stresses that these activities perpetuate systematic violations of Palestinian rights, including housing, freedom of movement, and economic, social, and cultural rights. Corporate involvement also contravenes the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Such involvement is not neutral. It profits from a colonial system of dispossession, forced displacement, and the fragmentation of Palestinian society, undermining the right to self-determination. Responsibility therefore extends beyond the occupying power to include the companies that sustain and profit from these practices. The Commission urges the UNHRC and High Commissioner to regularly update and publish the database of companies involved in settlement activities, and calls on states to ensure that national companies do not directly or indirectly engage in these unlawful practices. Encouraging the international community to use the database for accountability measures, including economic and legal actions, the Commission also urges the international community to prosecute and hold companies accountable for supporting violations of Palestinian rights.

### Non-Governmental Organizations

**Al-Haq, Law in the Service of Man** believes that no meaningful discussion on the human rights situation in Palestine can take place without recognition of the fact that the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination is a prerequisite for the full realisation of all other human rights guaranteed to all peoples under international law. As a direct result of Israel's genocidal settler-colonial apartheid regime, protracted unlawful occupation, and annexation of large swaths of Palestine's territory, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination – a foundational principle of international law with *jus cogens* status – has been systematically obstructed. The Palestinian people have been systematically fragmented and denied their right of return as Israel entrenches its illegal presence and control over the Palestinian people on both sides of the Green Line in a continuing Nakba. The denial of this absolute right has had far-reaching consequences, stripping the Palestinian people of autonomy and the ability to govern their own affairs, control their resources, and establish institutions that reflect and protect their collective identity and aspirations. This not only violates their social, civil and political rights but also undermines access to essential services such as education, healthcare, and housing – all cornerstones of human dignity. Without the ability to freely determine their political status and pursue economic, social, and cultural development, the enjoyment of all other human rights is effectively unattainable and instead structural inequality, racial domination, apartheid, and oppression persists. The realisation of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination is critical to enabling the Palestinian people to freely pursue a future of their own making, emancipated from an Israeli system designed to ensure their erasure.

The **American Association of Jurists** has witnessed the indiscriminate attacks by Israel against the civilian population in the occupied territories in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem; attacks on Palestinian refugees, forced displacements; destruction of sources of electricity, hospitals, and schools; barriers to humanitarian assistance, lack of food, water, and medicine, as well as homelessness, starvation, famine, and death in Gaza. Over 65,000 have died in Gaza. The Association notes the impunity and lack of accountability to the international





community by Israel and the United States; their disregard of the rulings of the International Court of Justice, and attacking Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese, who has investigated the machinery sustaining Israel's settler-colonial project of forced displacement of the Palestinians in the occupied territory. The Association is deeply concerned about the criminalization by Israel and the United States of Palestinian NGOs providing information and evidence to the International Criminal Court. The United States government must stop its unconditional military and financial support to Israel. The nature of the attacks of Israel in Gaza, including aerial bombardments on residential neighbourhoods, forced displacements, and starvation of civilians is genocide, according to article 2 of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. This is also an attack against international order, international law, human rights and international humanitarian law. The UNHRC has the obligation to ensure peace and security, protect the right to self-determination and the very existence of the Palestinian people. The Association of American Jurists requests the UNHRC to demand an immediate, unconditional, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, and the lifting of all restrictions regarding humanitarian aid.

**Amnesty International** draws the Council's attention to the fact that, at this very moment, Israeli forces are relentlessly escalating their assault on Gaza City, displaying yet again a chilling intent to continue the genocide against Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip. In December 2024, Amnesty International concluded based on its research and legal analysis that Israel has carried out acts prohibited under the Genocide Convention, with the specific intent to destroy Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. These acts include killings, causing serious bodily or mental harm and deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of the group in whole or in part. For the last 23 months, the inhumane conditions imposed by Israel, including through repeated mass displacement, deliberate destruction of life-sustaining infrastructure, including healthcare and reproductive health facilities, and its unlawful blockade, have wrought unfathomable levels of suffering. Pregnant, breastfeeding and older women are forced into impossible choices between death and brutal displacement to unfit and unsafe areas; or between their hunger and feeding their starving children. The deadly mix of hunger and disease Israel has created is not a byproduct of war, but a calculated outcome of its deliberate actions and policies. Amnesty calls on all states to champion the adoption of concrete measures to bring Israel's genocide to an end, starting with the implementation of the International Court of Justice's provisional measures to stop Israel's unlawful blockade, and to reach a ceasefire. The offensive on Gaza City must stop now. All states must turn words into action and immediately impose a comprehensive arms embargo on Israel and demonstrate their support for the International Criminal Court, including by doing everything in their power to mitigate and block the effect of US sanctions and enforce its arrest warrants. Time is running out not only for Palestinians but for our collective humanity.

The **Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism** recalls that one of the most important functions of international order is to ensure the implementation of international standards, including human rights. Observance and respect for the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and dozens of other human rights conventions are affected by the continuation of an order that the international community accept and consider it a path for cooperation and progress of mankind. In the past two years, Israel has undermined the existing



international order with its acts and discredited many international bodies. Israel's crimes and genocide against the people of Gaza and its aggression against the territories of Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Iran, Tunisia and Qatar are clear examples of the destruction of the existing international order, which have been condemned by many international bodies and considered a threat to international security. Regarding Israel's genocide in Gaza, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, stated that the international community is failing in its duty. Expressing concern about the Israel's crimes, the Association for Defending Victims of Terrorism warns that if the crimes continue, there will be nothing left of international principles and standards to defend. Therefore, it is necessary for the UN human rights mechanisms, especially member states, to take more decisive measures in countering all types of violations of the international order.

**Association Ma'onah for Human Rights and Immigration** notes that business and innovation matter to all states, but what happens when business comes at the cost of life, safety, education, food, and dignity. The genocide in Gaza has become a business for Israel, and involved Western countries. Weapons are sold, deals are signed, and destruction turns into profit. The Occupying Power has been armed with billions of US dollars in military aid, constituting a blatant and unlawful act of complicity. This ongoing flow of weapons is directly fuelling the destruction and suffering in Gaza. The Association questions the Council on the meaning of discussing on whether Israel's actions are rightful or not, when millions of Palestinians are in a situation of life or death. Israel has long used its economic ties to sustain what is now finally recognised as genocide. This funding to Israel facilitates the mass destruction of Gaza, of homes, schools, and hospitals, and enables reconstruction not for Palestinians, but to install settlers on the ruins of Palestinian homes. Since 1948, this illegal process has aimed to erase the Palestinian identity. While some nations try to negotiate ceasefires, others showcase war technologies, using Gaza as a live testing ground. The Association questions how the international community accept this. When it comes to the Palestinian people, the international legal system has collapsed. Now that the genocide is recognised, it must be met with sanctions. In closing, the Association urges all states to end complicity. Accountability must replace profit. Humanity must replace silence.

**Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)** denounces that the world is impotently assisting at the catastrophic situation unfolding in Gaza. The scale of destruction, civilian deaths, and systemic deprivation inflicted by Israeli Government on the Palestinian people demands not just moral outrage, but immediate international action. These acts amount to genocide under the 1948 Genocide Convention as the Special Rapporteur on OPTs and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry have affirmed in their well-documented reports. The ongoing blockade, the obstruction of humanitarian aid, the starvation and access to water used as a weapons and preventable deaths of children and other civilians exemplify such conditions. International human rights and humanitarian law and even the rules of war have been totally disregarded. Accountability remains absent, and impunity prevails. All this is happening under the silence and complicity of too many Governments. APG23 calls upon the Council and all member states to act with urgency for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire; access for humanitarian aid in Gaza, without delay or restriction; the prompt and unconditional recognition of the State of Palestine; and the end of illegal occupation in the West Bank and punish violent behavior by Israeli settlers. States should halt all trade agreements involving Israeli companies in the Occupied Territories



and the selling of weapons; provide full support for the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court investigations; and establish credible international accountability mechanisms to investigate and prosecute all perpetrators of international crimes, including the crime of genocide, regardless of status or affiliation. Moreover, APG23 urges the UNHRC to condemn and act against US Government sanctions targeting Ms. Francesca Albanese and some members of the International Criminal Court. These measures undermine their independence and obstruct accountability efforts. Protecting UN officials from political pressure is vital to uphold international law and defend human rights globally.

**BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights** denounces that the world has witnessed 2 years of unabated Israeli genocide, confirmed by UN Special Procedures and others. By failing to impose sanctions, their minimum obligation, States have enabled the Israeli regime in its genocide and multiple international crimes. By supplying weapons and parts, States are also complicit in genocide. By defunding UNRWA, failing to confront the banning of its operations and to protect its employees and premises, allowing the continuation of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation and failing to ensure the delivery of aid, States are complicit in the weaponization of aid, famine, forced displacement and genocide. The obligation to prevent and stop genocide is binding on all states, individually and collectively. The obligation cannot be replaced by recognition or declarations, nor can it be excused by lack of consensus or majority. Imposing sanctions does not require the approval of the UN Security Council, nor a provision by the International Court of Justice. The imposition of political, economic and military sanctions is not a hostile act, but the legal responsibility of each and every state, and the most effective measure to stop Israeli genocide and international crimes.

The **Centre for Global Non-Killing (CGNK)** stresses that to construct peace, we need to deconstruct violence. When both so called aggressor and defender are acting in atrocious manner, distinguishing between them, or siding with any of them is vain and cautioning violence. Constructing peace is not a matter of leadership, or not only. Peace needs values enhancement, universal education. To support peace and peaceful institutions, we need the people, all the people. Establishing peace requires comprehensive infrastructures, manned by peace oriented persons, equipped with effective and preventive policies, and with universal peaceful settlement of disputes mechanisms. When a violent or armed conflict arises, prevention was lost by the people, by their leaders and institutions. To conclude, the Centre recalls that the right to life - a good life, the non-killing principle are universal. The Centre wishes to all the peoples of both Palestine and Israel the wisdom, the heartfulness, the calm, and the non-violent force needed to overcome their difficulties, to bring peace to themselves and therefore, some, to the rest of the world. There is a right to life. There is a right to peace.

The **Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (CBJO)** states that fifty years ago, the UN reached its lowest point when the General Assembly voted to single out the Jewish people's independence movement for tarring as 'racist'. Though that infamous resolution was later revoked, the 2001 Durban conference on racism was again derailed by shocking anti-Zionism and antisemitism. Today, the CBJO forced to deplore yet a new destructive low, as some cynically push an unsurpassed falsehood - that Israel is committing 'genocide'. Israel – the Middle East's only pluralistic democracy. Israel – a country that has been targeted openly for extermination by genocidal forces. Israel – which has done more to facilitate aid to an adversary's population than



any party to war ever. Israel – which, despite its military strength and the human-shield tactics of its enemies, has killed fewer Arabs in nearly 80 years than Iranian and Arab forces repeatedly have in eight. 2025 marks another anniversary. Twenty years ago, a right-leaning Israeli prime minister completely pulled his country out of Gaza, including every soldier, and settlement. His predecessor and successor offered Palestinians statehood and nearly all the territory they demand. But Palestinian leaders, and terrorists backed by an Iran seeking nuclear weapons, yet again torpedoed peace. Decades of defaming Israel and echoing extremists' claims have not helped Palestinians. Rewarding Palestinian terrorism now will not incentivize progress, or finally release Hamas' hostages.

**Defence for Children International (DCI)** stresses that amidst Israel's ongoing genocide, Palestinian children and newborns are being deliberately targeted, starved, and displaced by the thousands. Despite this reality, corporations continue to operate directly and indirectly in support of Israel's war crimes and dispossession. Global business actors sustain Israel's settlement enterprise, designed to dispossess Palestinian children of their land and economic independence, undermine their inalienable rights, and entrench a criminal annexation project. The International Court of Justice has made clear that Israel's prolonged occupation, settlement regime, and annexation are unlawful, amounting to apartheid.. States have a binding duty to ensure their policies, laws, and financial systems do not enable or profit from these violations, and must actively support and resource this database as a central tool to dismantle them. Failure to regularly update and act upon this database directly undermines the ICJ's authoritative findings and emboldens the culture of impunity that allows corporations to profit from genocide and apartheid. The challenge of documenting and engaging with businesses for this database must not be stalled by political pressure or underfunding; it must be met with the full support of member states and a clear recognition that corporations themselves are actively complicit in sustaining Israel's unlawful regime and in stripping Palestinian children of their cultural, environmental, and economic inheritance. Accordingly, DCI urges the Council to ensure the UN database on business enterprises in Israeli settlements is annually updated, expanded, and fully resourced; take all necessary measures to regulate companies under state jurisdiction involved in sustaining Israel's apartheid system, and cease the use of public resources to support complicit entities; and reaffirm the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and full sovereignty over their land and natural resources, and explicitly condemn the role of corporate actors in perpetuating environmental violence and dispossession.

The **European Centre for Law and Justice** explains that during its 59th regular session, it informed the UNHRC of the numerous false accusations made by the Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel. On 6 May 2025, the Commission released another false report accusing Israel of intentionally targeting educational, religious, and cultural facilities in Gaza without any military purpose. Like its previous reports, the Commission provided no evidence, legal analysis, or any criteria for its methodology to support its erroneous accusations and conclusions. Such reports, coupled with some UN officials' anti-Israel rhetoric are contributing to fuelling the growing antisemitism around the world. Instead of applying the law of armed conflict to the facts on the ground in Gaza, the Commission simply disregards both facts and law and makes outlandish assumptions and conclusions against Israel. Primary among the UN's purposes are international peace and security and equality and



protection of human rights. These purposes cannot be accomplished if UN officials have one agenda - to demonize Israel. In light of the Commission's unethically biased and grossly faulty reports, its mandate should be terminated, and its members investigated and removed.

**Humanitarian Relief Foundation** stresses that the international community stands at a critical juncture. When the crossing between our lives and our deaths closes, grief turns to dust. In Gaza, war is no longer just a war on stones, but on the soul, the heart, and the body. Little Hind Rajab called for help for three hours before her voice was silenced. Journalist Maryam Abu Daqqa paid with her life in defense of the truth. Doctor Alaa al-Najjar lost nine of her children and continues to save lives. Teacher Ghada Rabah remained under the rubble for three days before her home was bombed again. This is not only a tragic account; it is a testament to the bombardment's dehumanization. Tens of thousands have been killed in Gaza, including thousands of children, each one of whom has an untold story. The representative of Humanitarian Relief Foundation stands before the Council after a journey fraught with danger. In the West Bank, checkpoints and crossings open and close without warning, isolating people from their lives. Even the speaker's return to its family is no longer guaranteed. This anxiety is not a weakness, but a reality experienced daily by every Palestinian. Palestinians in Gaza do not want a Riviera, as one might imagine, nor do they want to be humiliated at the gates of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. Gaza existed before history, and as it was, it will return, with the hopes of its mothers, the arms of its men, and the dreams of its children.

**Human Rights and Democratic Participation Centre 'SHAMS'** draws this Council's urgent attention to the escalating settler violence in the occupied West Bank. Palestinian civilians are being killed, their homes and agricultural lands burned, and their property systematically destroyed by armed settlers, often under the protection or acquiescence of Israeli forces. These grave acts of violence form part of a broader strategy to forcibly displace Palestinians from their lands. At the same time, Israel, the Occupying Power, continues its unlawful policy of settlement construction and de facto annexation of occupied territory. These practices, which contravene article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and numerous UN Security Council resolutions, have entrenched a system of dispossession and apartheid. They undermine the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and represent a flagrant violation of international law, including the prohibition on the acquisition of territory by force. The expansion of settlements, coupled with settler terror, is not only illegal but designed to alter the demographic composition of the occupied West Bank and to extinguish the prospects of a just and lasting peace. This Council cannot remain silent in the face of such deliberate violations. In this regard, SHAMS respectfully recommends that the Council urgently adopt binding measures to halt settlement expansion, settler violence, and annexation policies, and to ensure accountability for perpetrators and those who aid or condone such crimes; and reaffirm the illegality of all Israeli settlements under international law and take concrete steps to safeguard the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

**Human Rights Watch (HRW)** denounces that Israeli authorities are escalating their assault on Gaza City, where the world's foremost experts on food insecurity, the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC), in August [declared a famine](#), caused by [Israel's mass starvation strategy](#). The rigorous Commission of Inquiry report underscores the growing consensus among human rights organizations and experts around the ongoing atrocities in Israel's genocidal campaign in Gaza.





Israel's actions in Gaza should have long ago triggered the 'duty to prevent' under the Genocide Convention, but states have failed to act decisively. As we have passed the deadline the UNGA set for Israel to comply with the landmark 2024 ICJ opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's policies and practices in the OPT, it is not only Israel which has failed to comply, but governments across the globe. The double standards of many leading world powers and their failure to act have effectively given Israel the green light to proceed with announced plans to demolish what remains of Gaza's civilian infrastructure and to further displace Palestinians. Some states have recently recognized the State of Palestine, but the move risks being an empty gesture if states continue to allow trade with illegal settlements that make its existence impossible and fail to act as Palestinians face extermination and ethnic cleansing. States should urgently act, including by imposing an arms embargo on Israel and targeted sanctions against Israeli officials responsible for ongoing grave abuses, suspending preferential trade agreements with Israel, condemning US sanctions against ICC officials, a UN rights expert and leading Palestinian human rights groups advocating for justice, and committing to defending the ICC and those working with it from coercive measures, execute its warrants and support its investigations. States should use the new update to the UN database of businesses facilitating Israeli settlements in the OPT to fulfill their duty to prevent businesses located in their countries from continuing to contribute to grave violations of Palestinian rights. States have all the tools they need. Now is the time to act.

The **Institute for NGO Research** states that the UNHRC is obsessed with Israel. During the 60th session alone, there were multiple debates, reports, press conferences, and side events targeting Israel demanding unconditional ceasefires, ICC prosecutions, arms embargoes, company boycotts, and immunity for terrorists. Dozens of states and NGOs hysterically crying for accountability. Yet, this army of the self-righteous are silent when it comes to Israeli human rights, the global explosion of antisemitism, and mass terrorism. They are silent about the 48 hostages still being tortured in Gaza's military tunnel network. There is nothing about Iranian, Houthi, Hezbollah, or Hamas attacks on Israeli civilians. There are no campaigns to save the hostages, no demands to end indiscriminate ballistic missile and drone attacks, no condemnation of Hamas exploiting Gaza's entire population as human shields, no calls for boycotts, no calls for arrests, no efforts to stop the terror financing. No lawsuits against the UN agencies and NGOs who for 20 years were silent while Hamas built tunnels, stored weapons, and opened command centers right in front of them, even in hospitals. The truth is, this institution and the humanitarian/human rights industry do not care about real accountability, international law, humanitarian principles, or universal human rights. They are political actors who apologize for terrorism, promote destructive and morally bankrupt ideologies, and feed on anti-Israel obsession. The time to stop bankrolling this on-going travesty is now.

The **International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)** denounces that, over the last two years, emboldened by its apparently endless impunity, Israel carried out genocide, ethnic cleansing and the full range of the worst war crimes and crimes against humanity provided for by international law. Despite authoritative findings from the ICJ, the ICC, and UNHRC Special Procedures, many governments still refuse to label Israel's actions as genocide, and continue to supply weapons, diplomatic cover, economic support, and intelligence cooperation to its perpetrators. Moreover, to shield Israel from criticism and accountability, Western countries violate the fundamental rights and freedoms of their citizens on a massive and unprecedented



scale. In Europe alone, thousands of people are currently in jail or under investigation for opposing genocide and supporting Palestinian liberation. Apart from admirable efforts by South Africa, Colombia, the Hague Group and few others, no concrete and meaningful action - at a state level - has been taken to stop the genocide and hold Israel accountable. The High-Level International Conference and the ensuing the New York Declaration are yet another demonstration of disregard for international law and the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people. Most leaders gathered at the Conference discuss about peaceful coexistence as if there were not an ongoing genocide and brutal occupation. Rather than advancing peace and justice, this initiative appears to be a desperate attempt to save Israel from accountability and evade responsibility. Such talks serve to deflect global public outrage and divert the attention from what should be done according to international law. The whole Israeli colonial project and its apartheid regime have no place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They must be fought by all legitimate means, and they must be dismantled. IADL urges member states to restore the rule of law and the credibility of the UNHRC and the entire UN system. Member states must take all necessary measures to guarantee to the Palestinian people an immediate and permanent ceasefire, the end of occupation, the right to return, accountability, reparations, guarantees of no recurrence, self-determination and sovereignty. This is the only path towards a just and lasting peace.

The **International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD)** qualifies as a 'genocide' the atrocities in Gaza that the world is watching in real time. The injustice Palestinians face did not start two years earlier but 78 years ago. What is the point of recognizing a State that is soon to be gone, while the military support of occupation continues. It is shameful that those providing Israel with cover, through weapons and through words, are seated among us today. How many red lines must be crossed before plain truth is spoken and effective measures are taken? And to the governments that proclaim 'Never Again' as a moral compass: that pledge should apply to all, or it is just empty words. Children are starving, families are burning, hospitals and schools are rubble, and yet we debate, we hesitate, we justify. Recognition without action is a public show. What matters is protection and accountability now. EAFORD urges the UNHRC and all member states to enforce ICJ measures; halt military operations; stop arms, fuel, and military transfers enabling violations; facilitate large-scale humanitarian aid; support investigations and hold perpetrators accountable; and sanction those complicit in these atrocities. Palestine is not waiting to be validated; its people exist and insist on their freedom. The task is not only to applaud recognitions of Palestine, it is to stop the killing and uphold the law. Too often, the world acts only after it is too late. Act decisively against a genocide unfolding before the world's eyes, to regret forever time and again.

**International-Lawyers.Org** denounces that the role played by business enterprises is not only aiding and abetting this occupation, but ensuring its continuous existence. While welcoming the start of the implementation of the Database pursuant to resolution 31/36, the necessary mechanisms to effectively continue to counter this corporate machinery are lacking. Even where the State fails to monitor business, corporations have the responsibility to assess the human rights impact of their activities, and seize activities. Instead, the corporate conglomerate in occupied Palestine is continuing business as usual, and continues to supply not only equipment, and transport materials which facilitate the construction and expansion of settlements, but also services and utilities supporting and in fact sustaining the existence of the



occupation. A duty applies also to businesses as well as the state to manage situations of direct linkage where there is a direct human rights impact. Simply conducting due diligence will not suffice, as ties must be cut with direct linkages of enterprises which continue to adversely impact human rights. The economic enterprises developed out of Israel's per capita spending of \$46.5 billion dollars in defence generates many direct linkages which ought to be urgently countered to prevent further involvement of private enterprises in the funding of not only an apartheid, but a Genocide. International-Lawyers.org strongly urges the UNHRC to ensure that this mandate is fully implemented, including a yearly update of all business enterprises, as requested under resolution 53/25; and to allocate the financial resources and necessary expertise for the office to continue to review the pending 700 submissions, which will begin to bridge the governance gap that if not closed continues to allow for avoidance of liability. Implementation of the mechanisms proposed by the special bodies reporting on the OPT and providing financial resources, and human capacity to monitor and update the database are imperative to countering the corporate machinery's continued violations of human rights.

The **Palestine Red Crescent Society on behalf of Medical Aid for Palestinians** explains that being a humanitarian means dedicating your life to serving others and humanity. Yet in the occupied Palestinian territory, this noble mission is perilous, as Israeli policies and practices turn the act of saving lives into a threat, allowing violations of international law to be committed before us on live television. The Palestine Red Crescent Society today speaks not with another warning, but with a final plea. The Society is no longer facing a shrinking humanitarian space, but an extinct one. The relentless, deliberate and systematic targeting of civilian and medical infrastructure have become an expected and daily occurrence. Its medical missions are sent for rescue and are unsure whether this would be their last. In Gaza, its teams that are starved and displaced, are shelled to death; in the West Bank, they are brutally humiliated, obstructed and attacked. An impasse has been reached. The Society is unable to fulfill its core mandate, which is saving lives. The horrors that the international community has allowed Israel to commit cannot be left to Palestinian humanitarians to confront alone. The Society does not stand before the Council to urge IHL enforcement - a ceasefire and accountability. Action must be taken to stop the erasure of the Palestinian people, and if not, the erasure of our shared humanity.

**MIDLINE for Human Rights (MDH)** brings before the Council the voice of the silenced Palestinian prisoners. In the past two years, around 5,000 people from Gaza have been detained. Many are forcibly disappeared, denied contact with families, lawyers, or even recognition of their existence. Concealing their fate is itself a war crime. For 48 Israelis detained, the world stopped. The entire international community was outraged enough to demand immediate action. But what about the thousands of Palestinians detained without trial, without charge, left to rot in prisons for years? Why is the world silent for them? Why does the world turn its back when the innocent are tortured, neglected, forgotten? Why is there no outcry when the faces of these detainees are Palestinian? Inside prisons, conditions are brutal - torture, solitary confinement, medical neglect. For instance, Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, arrested while saving lives, now wasting away without care; or Tahani Abu Samhan, arrested pregnant, forced to give birth in prison. Her newborn son, Yahya, is now the world's youngest prisoner. What conscience allows a child to begin life behind bars? While the killing of American journalist Charlie Kirk was condemned as an attack on free speech, Palestinian journalists languish in prison, some killed on camera, their press vests offering no



protection. Where is the outrage for them? The UNHRC must act. MDH demands the release of all Palestinians held without charge or trial; the end of enforced disappearances, torture, and medical neglect; and immediate access for the International Committee of the Red Cross. The time to act is now. The time to break the silence is now.

**Minority Rights Group (MRG)** recalls that Primo Levi, who survived Auschwitz, reminded us – ‘If understanding is impossible, knowing is imperative.’ His words are urgent today, because what is happening in Palestine is not only the destruction of life, but the destruction of memory. Even Palestine’s minorities are not spared. In Gaza, nearly 80 percent of all buildings are gone. More than 90 percent of schools are destroyed. Hospitals lie in ruins, farmland scorched, and even bread and water have become scarce. This means an entire generation is being denied health, education, and hope. Gaza’s Christian community, once two thousand strong, is now only a few hundred. Saint Porphyrius Church, a place of sanctuary, was struck, killing civilians within its sacred walls. In the West Bank, settler violence has reached record highs, olive groves are burned, livestock slaughtered, children attacked on their way to class. Bedouin families face repeated demolitions, their homes, water tanks, and schools erased. This is more than physical destruction. It is the attempt to erase the memory of a rich and diverse community. When schools, libraries, churches, mosques and olive groves are destroyed, it is not only the present that is attacked, it is the continuity of history itself. When memory is erased, a community dies twice. This is not accidental. It is systematic. If the world stands by, silence itself becomes complicity. The question before us is stark - will we act to preserve Palestine and its memory, or will we stand by and, through inaction, become participants in its erasure?

The **Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)** draws the Council’s attention to Israel’s ongoing genocide devastating the Gaza Strip. Palestinian women face intersecting forms of violence that cannot be viewed in isolation. Starvation, sexual and gender-based violence, and reproductive violence converge as mutually reinforcing crimes. These attacks target not only individual bodies, but the very social fabric of Palestinian society, eroding survival, continuity, and dignity. In the occupied West Bank, Israel and its state-backed settlers continue annexing land while sealing off Palestinian villages and towns with over 900 gates and checkpoints. Just last week, Israel closed the West Bank’s only border crossing for days, trapping Palestinians not only within their cities, but within their entire homeland. Instead of taking concrete measures to end Israel’s genocide and decades of military occupation, many states limit their response to symbolic recognition of a Palestinian State. While such recognition is welcome, absent of real accountability, it risks becoming a substitute for action, allowing states to evade their legal and moral responsibilities to impose sanctions, arms embargoes, or accountability mechanisms against Israel. MIFTAH urges states to act with courage to end Israel’s impunity, to center the Palestinian people’s right of return, freedom, and dignity, and above all, to demand an immediate end to the genocide.

**Partners for Transparency** expresses its deep concern about Israel’s systematic disinformation policy in the context of its ongoing aggression against the Palestinian people. Through digital and media propaganda, it seeks to justify mass killings, destruction of infrastructure, and population displacement as ‘defensive measures’, when facts on the ground clearly indicate that they amount to genocide and crimes against humanity. The organization has monitored extensive disinformation campaigns, including the dissemination of more than 12 million posts across



Israeli social media platforms and media outlets, aimed at labeling Palestinian victims as terrorists, undermining international sympathy for them, and concealing the scale of the devastating human losses, including the deaths of thousands of women and children. Israeli authorities have also adopted a systematic discourse aimed at discrediting humanitarian organizations and journalists documenting violations on the ground, representing a systematic attempt to undermine witnesses and obliterate evidence. In conclusion, Partners for Transparency calls on the UNHRC and the international community to effectively address these misleading policies that cover up ongoing violations, and to strengthen efforts to uncover the facts and ensure accountability for crimes committed against the Palestinian people.

The **International Humanitarian Society for Development Without Borders** notes that Agenda Item 7 constitutes the only instrument dedicated to monitoring the human rights situation in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories. Expanding and developing its mechanisms has hence become an urgent necessity, so that it no longer remains a mere formal item, but rather an effective framework for presenting the facts and holding the Israeli occupation accountable for its crimes. The daily attacks to which the Palestinian people are subjected - from settlement expansion and home demolitions to bombing, siege, and detention - require a broader and more in-depth discussion under this Item, with sufficient time allocated in Council's sessions to ensure that these violations do not go unnoticed. The Society also calls for the activation of international mechanisms for the protection of civilians, whether through fact-finding committees, dispatching monitoring missions, or referring reports to competent courts, so that the Council does not remain a silent witness. Continuous monitoring, coupled with accountability mechanisms, is what will end the policy of impunity. Defending and expanding Item 7 is a defence of justice itself and the right of Palestinian civilians to life and dignity. The Council faces a real test - either prove its commitment to the principles of universal human rights, or allow the occupation to continue its crimes without accountability.

The **Palestinian Return Centre** takes the floor on Agenda Item 7 to condemn Israel's assault on Doha on 9 September 2025, which targeted Palestinian negotiators during a meeting to discuss a U.S. ceasefire proposal. This attack struck the territory of a mediating State hosting an internationally recognized negotiation track, killing individuals including a Qatari officer. Striking negotiators and mediators constitutes a direct assault on the integrity of mediation processes and undermines the principle of peaceful dispute settlement enshrined in the UN Charter and customary international law. It is an attack on regional stability, and a violation of the very foundations upon which this Council stands. Through such conduct, Israel seeks not to resolve the conflict but to abort prospects for negotiation and prolong the war, expanding hostilities to target mediation track itself. The attack on Doha represents a grave violation of the principles of sovereignty, the prohibition on the use of force, and the protections afforded to diplomatic channels. The Palestinian Return Centre urges the UNHRC to adopt a resolution condemning this crime, stressing the imperative to halt attacks on negotiators and mediators, and to conduct an independent investigation holding perpetrators accountable. Peace is not restored by bombing negotiators, but through dialogue, justice, and respect for international law.

**United Nations Watch (UN Watch)** notes that Agenda Item 7 is the Council's only item targeting a specific country, Israel. No other country in the world, not even the dictatorships nor the state sponsors of terror have their own agenda item. They do not speak of peace. They come only to





scapegoat and demonize the Jewish state. When this Item was created, even the UN Secretary-General denounced it. On 20 June 2007, Ban Ki-moon said he was disappointed at the Council's decision to single out Israel given as he put it the range and scope of human rights violations throughout the world. If the UNHRC truly cares about universal rights, why is there no Agenda Item on China which denies basic human rights to 1.5 billion of its own people? Why no item on the Islamic Republic in Iran which beats women for showing their hair? Why not on Syria where half a million were slaughtered? Why not on North Korea which runs political prison camps and starves its own people? Why not on Russia which poisons dissidents and bombs innocents in Ukraine? Why not on the Cuban police state which holds a thousand political prisoners? Agenda Item 7 does not advance peace. The UN was founded on universal standards. When applied so selectively, turned into weapons of discrimination, they cease to become standards at all.

### RIGHT OF REPLY

**Cuba** exercises its right of reply to respond to the false and rude comments on Cuba made by **United Nations Watch**. UN Watch attempts to pose before the Council as a legitimate NGO, but no one is fooled. All know perfectly well that it is a lobby group for the Israeli regime, poorly disguised as an independent organization. UN Watch has no interest in contributing to the cause of human rights. Its sole objective is to defend and support criminal practitioners and attack anyone, like Cuba, who raises their voice in defence of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. This organization is wasting its time if it believes that by attacking Cuba it will silence the country's firm voice of support and solidarity with Palestine. UN Watch uses its presence at the Council to carry out its shameful agenda of harassment, signalled from Tel Aviv. Its reprehensible public support for the barbarity committed against the Palestinian people, its attempts to justify the illegal occupation, and its refusal to acknowledge the suffering of millions of human beings make it a direct accomplice to the ongoing genocide. This organization is a disgrace to genuine international civil society. Cuba reiterates its deep respect and support for the true representatives of civil society for their key role in supporting just causes and their tireless work to promote and protect human rights throughout the world.

### FACTS & FIGURES ON ID PARTICIPATION

#### 7 Regional and Cross-Regional Groups

##### 56 State Delegations

- 18 Middle East and North Africa
- 8 Africa
- 12 Asia and the Pacific
- 9 Latin America and the Caribbean
- 2 Eastern Europe
- 7 Western Europe and Others

##### 1 International Organization

##### 1 National Human Rights Institution

##### 13 Non-Governmental Organizations