

**MESSAGE OF HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH  
MU'IZZADDIN WADDAULAH,  
SULTAN AND YANG DI-PERTUAN OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY  
WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE**

**29 NOVEMBER 2018**

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On this day, the Government and People of Brunei Darussalam join me in expressing our long-standing solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The people of Palestine have endured more than half a century of hardship in their struggle to realise their legitimate rights to self-determination.

We remain deeply concerned with actions inflicted upon the Palestinians which have further aggravated their plight. The Occupying Power, Israel, has continued to blatantly disregard international law and all relevant UN resolutions through its aggressive practices and policies. It is disheartening to see the deteriorating conditions of the Palestinians, especially in Gaza as a result of the oppressive blockade.

Brunei Darussalam firmly believes that the only way to ensure genuine progress towards peace and security is by ending all forms of discrimination and human rights violations against the Palestinians. Hence, we join the international community in calling the Occupying Power to cease its prolonged occupation of Palestine and comply with international law, including the UN Charter and relevant resolutions.

We commend the Palestinian leadership's commitment to diplomacy, international law and negotiations as a means to realise the inalienable rights of its people. It is very much encouraging to see the increasing global recognition of the State of Palestine, including their membership to important organisations and accession to various international conventions. Recently, in the General Assembly, Brunei Darussalam is pleased to have joined with many other Member States in supporting Palestine to chair the Group of 77 in 2019.

Brunei Darussalam appreciates the invaluable work of the UN Secretary-General and UN relevant agencies in addressing issues related to Palestine. We reiterate our support for all efforts to promote and protect the rights and dignity of the people of Palestine, and in realising the two-state solution.

Brunei Darussalam believes that with the Palestinians' strength, strong will and determination, they can overcome all the adversities. It is our hope that Palestine will one day be a fully independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital and can finally fulfil their aspirations to achieve lasting peace, security and justice.

**SULTAN HAJI HASSANAL BOLKIAH  
OF BRUNEI**