



## NEWS STORIES

# Palestine: Funding UNRWA is an investment in two-state solution, High Representative said announcing new funding



EU will add €40 million to its contribution to UNRWA, Mogherini announced following meetings on the margins of the UN General Assembly. Overall contribution of EU and Member States to UNRWA reaches approximately €1.2 billion in three years.

The Palestinian refugees will continue to be assisted by the UNRWA, also thanks to an additional contribution by the EU. High Representative Federica Mogherini announced €40 million in new EU funding to the UN Agency following a meeting with Jordan, Turkey, Germany, Japan and Sweden.

“This is crucial especially for schools and hospitals in Gaza, but also in Lebanon, in Jordan, in Syria, to avoid adding problems to those already existing,” Mogherini said.

The European Union and Member States are already providing half of the budget of UNRWA and their overall contribution has reached approximately €1.2 billion in the past three years.

A meeting co-hosted by the EU was organised to relaunch the financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

The UN agency had warned earlier this summer that it might not have had enough funds to operate schools for 500,000 children across Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. The new funding mobilised reduces the funding gap enormously.

“We will continue to invest in that because we think this is a key, not only humanitarian duty, but also investment in the two state solution,” the High Representative said.

The High Representative also co-chaired a meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee with Norway. The purpose of the meeting was to keep the two state solution alive, 25 years after the Oslo Agreement was signed in the White House.

Mogherini said: “We have to avoid that this perspective fades away, or rather that it is dismantled, piece by piece. Because if you seriously think of any alternative, you realise that there is no alternative, unless you believe that one state for all those who are living on the territory could be a solution. But I gather this would not be a solution acceptable for the Palestinians nor the Israelis.”

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