

**MESSAGE OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN
REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE**

Ankara, 27 November 2019

**Dear Mr. Cheikh Niang
Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the
Palestinian People**

Dear Mr. Chair,

On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, I would like to reiterate our strong support for the just cause of our Palestinian brothers and sisters.

Today the Palestinian territories under Israeli occupation comes first amongst the regions in the world where injustice is most experienced, felt and endured and has become a routine practice. The Palestinian people's fundamental rights, including their right to security and freedom, are usurped before the eyes of the world. The vision of a two-state solution, which is a prerequisite for a lasting peace in the region, has been under unprecedented threat in recent times. Israel's illegal policy of occupation, atrocity and destruction, coupled with unilateral interventions by certain external actors, undermine hopes for peace.

While Palestine, which has time and again demonstrated its desire for peace is being punished; the Government of Israel, which seeks to perpetuate its occupation and restrict the Palestinians' rights and freedoms, is being rewarded. Emboldened by this double standard, Israel continues its inhumane blockade in Gaza and speeds up its illegal settlements, as well as its attempts to erode the historical and legal status of Jerusalem. Harassments and provocations against Haram al-Sharif have increased seriously in recent days. In the past few weeks, approximately 40 Palestinians, including children and women, were brutally murdered as a result of Israel's attacks against Gaza.

That being the case, we observe that many resolutions adopted by the UN on Palestine could not be implemented. In particular, it is a shame for humanity that the UN Security Council has become a mere spectator to oppression and massacre. Today, the immediate establishment of an independent, sovereign and contiguous State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital and based on the 1967 borders, the established UN parameters and Arab Peace Initiative is not a choice, but a necessity. It is not possible for any peace plan which neglects the inalienable rights of Palestinians to be considered as fair, be accepted or implemented.

It is absolutely unacceptable that Palestinians have been deprived of their country, land and state for decades in their own homeland. The fact that the Israeli people established their state in 1948, whereas the Palestinians have been deprived of this right for many years cannot be explained. The independence of Palestine is a historical, conscientious and humanitarian obligation, as well as a duty of the international community to the people of Palestine. In this critical period that we are going through, we call upon all countries which have not yet recognized the State of Palestine to take this step as soon as possible.

We are closely following the recent developments within the scope of intra-Palestinian dialogue and the well-intentioned efforts regarding the elections intended to be held in Palestine. It is vital for our Palestinian brothers and sisters to act in unity and with a single voice for the future of their just cause.

All members of the international community, in particular the UN, should now give the Palestinian people concrete support beyond their promises. It is imperative to restore the peace process on a firm ground. In this regard, it is of capital importance that the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People should continue its work effectively.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for their successful work and wish success for the Committee from Allah the Almighty. I would like to affirm that Turkey will continue to be one of the strongest advocates of the cause of Jerusalem and the Palestinian issue, as has been the case up until today. I call upon the international community to support our Palestinian brothers and sisters living in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza in their struggle, and on this occasion, I reiterate my most sincere wishes for the well-being and prosperity of the brotherly people of Palestine.

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN
President of the Republic of Turkey