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Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the  
rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council  
Seventy-eighth year

## **Identical letters dated 3 July 2023 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council**

When a civilian population under foreign occupation is attacked and terrorized by the occupying Power, which is armed to the teeth and acting in flagrant breach of international law and absolute disregard for human life, is the international community not duty-bound to act?

Is the Security Council, which is mandated by the Charter of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and which is committed, through countless resolutions, to protect civilians in armed conflict, including women and children, not duty-bound to act?

Is it not clear for all the world to see that Israel's terrorism and aggression against the Palestinian people is escalating and becoming ever more brutal, invasive and hateful as it becomes ever more emboldened by the inaction of the international community, believing that no words of condemnation or calls for respect for the law will ever lead to consequences in spite of its blatant war crimes and crimes against humanity?

Absent such accountability and absent the protection for our people that we have continually appealed for, Israel, the occupying Power, has once again attacked the Jenin refugee camp in the occupied West Bank and perpetrated a large-scale aerial and ground invasion, wantonly causing death and destruction.

Israeli occupying forces, numbering over 1,000 soldiers and backed by military aircraft and drones, raided the camp, firing missiles, artillery bombardment and live ammunition, killing and injuring civilians, destroying homes and civilian infrastructure and terrorizing our people. Israeli occupying forces have besieged the camp, cutting off electricity and water and worsening the dire humanitarian situation, obstructing and attacking medical personnel trying to aid the wounded and once again also attacking journalists.



Eight Palestinians were murdered in the Israeli assault, among them three children (Noureldin Husam Marshoud, 16 years of age; Majdi Ararawi, 17 years of age; and Ali Hani Al-Ghoul, 17 years of age) and five youth (Husam Mohammad Abu Theeba, 18 years of age; Aws Hani Hanoun, 19 years of age; Sameeh Firas Abu Al-Wafa, 20 years of age; Ahmad Mohammad Amer, 21 years of age; and Mohammad Muhannad Al-Shami, 23 years of age). Among the casualties, at least 50 people have been seriously wounded, some of whom are in critical condition and struggling to survive, and are now added to the dozens of civilians wounded in prior Israeli attacks on the camp in recent weeks.

Also, yesterday, another young Palestinian was killed by Israeli occupying forces at a checkpoint near Ramallah. Mohammed Imad Hasanein, 21 years of age, was shot point-blank by Israeli soldiers, bringing the death toll to nine Palestinians in less than 24 hours.

This pattern of wanton and wilful killing exposes, in particular, once again, Israel's blatant targeting of Palestinian children and youth, and yet somehow it continues to evade being listed as a serial violator of children's rights. There can be no justification for such barbaric actions, nor for any pretexts that excuse such crimes and fail to bring accountability.

This grave escalation and the spiralling descent of the situation on the ground call for immediate action by the international community. From its actions and the declarations of its leaders, including depraved politicians in its government, it is clear that Israel is pursuing all-out war against the defenceless people of Palestine in their homes, villages, towns, cities, refugee camps – wherever they may be.

We thus call again for serious and urgent efforts, regionally and internationally, to stop this brutal Israeli aggression against our people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

We call on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities to stop this aggression by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population and to act forthwith to implement its relevant resolutions, including resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) and resolution [904 \(1994\)](#) and all other resolutions relevant to the protection of civilians, including the protection of children and women.

We call on the Secretary-General to use his good offices to help to de-escalate this dangerous situation and to act urgently to mobilize United Nations capacities to ensure protection of the Palestinian people.

We call on the International Criminal Court to expedite its investigation into the situation in Palestine, stressing the exigency of holding all perpetrators, including all liable Israeli political and military officials and settlers, to account for their crimes and of deterring further crimes against our people.

We call on all peace-loving nations to translate their long-standing solidarity with the Palestinian people into tangible actions aimed at ensuring protection and supporting them in their ongoing, legitimate quest to realize self-determination and all other inalienable human rights, including by enacting measures to hold Israel accountable for its crimes, including an arms embargo and the withholding of any assistance that can be exploited to sustain its colonization schemes, with a view to ending this illegal, deplorable situation.

The Palestinian people are entitled to protection in accordance with international law, including humanitarian and human rights law. They are entitled to defend themselves against the aggressions of this illegal, inhumane, colonial, apartheid regime. They must not be left to the mercy of Israel and its military forces

and settler militias, who have taken the paralysis of the international community as a green light to carry on with their crimes and terror against them.

The Palestinian leadership strongly condemns these heinous crimes, massacres and atrocities against our people and reiterates its standing appeals for accountability to save lives, uphold the rule of law, ensure justice and salvage the prospects for peace and security for our people and region, which Israel is destroying by the minute.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 795 letters regarding the ongoing historic injustice against the Palestinian people and the crimes being perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 21 June 2023 (A/ES-10/943-S/2023/460) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Riyad Mansour**  
Minister  
Permanent Observer

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