



# General Assembly Security Council

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**General Assembly**  
**Tenth emergency special session**  
Agenda item 5  
**Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the  
rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory**

**Security Council**  
**Seventy-seventh year**

## **Identical letters dated 5 August 2022 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**

I write to draw your attention to the critical situation in Occupied Palestine due to the ongoing aggression perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, as Israeli warplanes are bringing more death and destruction to the 2 million Palestinians inhumanely besieged in Gaza.

Israeli warplanes are bombarding the besieged Gaza Strip as Israel, the occupying Power, intensifies its attacks and violence perpetrated ruthlessly against the Palestinian people. Israeli bombardment has killed 10 Palestinians, including a child, and injured more than 60 people in a series of horrific scenes reminiscent of Israel's previous military aggressions on besieged Gaza.

Palestine and its people continue to mourn and grieve as devastating news of repeated killings continues to mount due to Israel's intensifying attacks and violations. The current Israeli military aggression against the besieged Gaza Strip is targeting residential buildings, vehicles, and main roads leading to hospitals, displaying the cruelty of Israel's heinous crimes perpetrated daily against the Palestinian people.

And today, Alaa Qaddum, a 5-year-old Palestinian girl, was brutally killed when Israeli warplanes bombed residential areas during a series of air strikes targeting multiple cities and neighbourhoods throughout Gaza. Alaa is the nineteenth Palestinian child to be killed by Israel in 2022, whose killing reminds the international community of the 67 Palestinian children killed during Israel's 11-day aggression against Gaza in May 2021.

Israel has proven that its latest aggression was unprovoked, claiming that it unleashed the aggression based on feeling threatened. There is absolutely no justification for such use of force against civilians, especially as the Palestinian people continue to be deprived of international protection ensured under international humanitarian law. The insecurities of an occupying Power cannot be prioritized over the lives and rights of an occupied people. In this regard, the Security Council must rise to its overdue responsibilities to stop Israel from repeating such acts of aggression and to protect human lives.



Two million people in Gaza are suffocating, having nowhere to go as the humanitarian impact of Israel's land, air and sea blockade has literally devastated all aspects of life. As stated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, "The Gaza blockade (through the land, air and sea) is a denial of basic human rights in contravention of international law and amounts to collective punishment."

We reiterate our calls for the full lifting of the 15-year land, air and sea blockade imposed on the besieged Gaza Strip, in line with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions. Moreover, we call upon the Security Council to overcome its prolonged paralysis regarding the Palestine question and to act without further delay to uphold its duty under the Charter of the United Nations and resolutions in order to lead international efforts in this regard.

Just days before the ongoing aggression against besieged Gaza, Israeli occupying forces launched deadly raids throughout the occupied West Bank in order to deliberately escalate an already tense situation. Predictably, Israel's barbaric attacks against Palestinians, wherever they may be, are intensified as Israeli officials and candidates cynically compete over who can do more harm to the Palestinian people.

On 2 August, Israeli occupying forces shot and killed a Palestinian boy during an Israeli military raid on the Jenin refugee camp. Dirar al-Kafrayni, age 17, was shot in the back by an Israeli sniper located on top of a residential building in the refugee camp. According to Defense for Children International – Palestine, the sniper shot and killed Dirar from a distance of approximately 295 feet. The bullet entered his back right shoulder and expanded in his body, causing severe internal bleeding.

It is important to note that the Jenin refugee camp continues to be at the centre of large-scale Israeli military raids, as Israeli occupying forces have launched overnight raids against the refugee camp for consecutive weeks. Predictably, civilians continue to be targeted during Israeli military raids, including Shireen Abu Akleh, who was shot and killed by Israeli occupying forces not far from where Dirar was killed.

It is time to end this criminal impunity. The lack of accountability has proven to be the cause and effect of Israel's impunity. As Israel seeks to repeat the crimes of the past, the Security Council must follow through on its long-neglected and mandated responsibility by ensuring that accountability will be at the centre of the present and the future. The long-running practice of making Israel an exception at the Security Council has only fuelled its impunity, allowing it to behave as a State above the law.

However, today's reality once again proves that the repeated cycle of selectivity and exceptionalism is not in line with the true responsibilities of the Security Council: accountability and implementation. The Security Council must uphold its duty under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security without exception and must make it clear: no country, big or small, is above the law. Therefore, the Council must build on its duty under the Charter by upholding its legal, political and moral obligations and implementing its own resolutions to protect human lives and bring an end to this injustice, which remains the longest-standing item on the Security Council agenda.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 760 letters regarding the ongoing crisis 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 29 July 2022 ([A/ES-10/909-S/2022/589](#)), 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, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be 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*) Riyadh **Mansour**  
Minister  
Permanent Observer

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