

We the undersigned call on the British government to support an independent investigation into Israel's extrajudicial shooting of Palestinians protesting within Gaza and to take immediate action to bring an end to Israel's siege of Gaza

Following the deaths of 22 Palestinians during protests that started in the Gaza Strip on the 30th of March and the injuring of at least 1,400 others, including 758 with live ammunition, **we call upon the British government to support the UN's call for an independent and effective investigation to be launched immediately into Israel's unlawful use of lethal force against unarmed protesters presenting no imminent threat to life.**

Tens of thousands of Palestinians have been peacefully demonstrating for their right of return as enshrined in UN Resolution 194. The protests are scheduled to last until the 15th of May, to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Nakba. Israel has warned that it will not change its open-fire policy. Israel must respect the human right to life and to peaceful protest, but without international pressure, it will continue targeting innocent Palestinians.

We also call on the British government to take immediate action to end Israel's blockade of Gaza, which is illegal as a form of collective punishment. Gaza is on the brink of a humanitarian crisis with the UN warning that it will become uninhabitable by 2020 unless the blockade is lifted. We, the undersigned, call for an end to the manmade crisis in Gaza and for:

- the immediate lifting of the blockade of Gaza and allowing of imports and exports;
- the UK government to abide by their obligations under international law to end the siege;
- the removal by Israel of all obstacles to the exercise of human rights by Palestinians in Gaza, including the right to travel and trade.

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