

## **Written evidence submitted anonymously for the UK Parliamentary Committee on Israel-Palestine Conflict (IPC0083)**

### Introduction

I am a medical doctor who has worked in many specialties and am now working in mental health post COVID-19. I am submitting this evidence anonymously.

The reason for my submission is the systematic targeting of the Palestinian healthcare system by the Israeli state, there have been over 491 attacks on the Palestinian healthcare system, over 1000 medical personnel have been killed, 19 of Gaza's 36 hospitals are now no longer functioning. Hospitals and healthcare workers have always benefitted from the protection of international law until now. The right of hospitals and medical staff not be targeted has been erased in this conflict. A dangerous precedent has been set and this will be followed by other states unless there are consequences for Israel's serial violations of International Humanitarian law, ICJ, ICC rulings and Security Council resolutions.

International law and human rights have been sacrificed so that Israel can continue a genocide with the full complicity of the UK, US and EU. The U.N. High Commissioner's Office for Human Rights (OHCHR) has concluded that the Israeli attacks on the Gazan healthcare system amount to crimes of extermination.

1. What can and should the UK government do...to help bring about a ceasefire?
  - 1.1. Arms embargo on Israel to prevent it from continuing genocide. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and Medecins Sans Frontieres have concluded that israel's conduct has reached the threshold for genocide as have genocide scholars like Professors Raz Segal, Omer Bartov, Amos Goldberg.
  - 1.2. In May 2024, Hamas agreed the US proposal for a ceasefire put forward by Bill Burns, the CIA director, only for Israel to reject it. This would have resulted in a ceasefire and a release of all the Israeli captives in exchange for some of the thousands of Palestinians held hostage by

Israel, including many take after October 7<sup>th</sup>. Clearly taking Palestinian land is more important to Israel than the return of its captives. Clearing killing as many Palestinians directly through AI systems such as ‘Where’s Daddy’ that target Palestinian militants in their homes so that their families are also killed is more important than rescuing Israeli civilians. There is a famous quote by David Ben Gurion, that he would rather save half the Jewish children in Germany and send them to Israel than all the children and send them elsewhere. This is the *raison d’être* of Israel, its *modus vivendi* and its *modus operandi*. Economic sanctions on Israel until it agrees to the ceasefire proposal put forward by the US

2. What can be learned by the record of the UK government policies to date
  - 2.1. You cannot have a system of international law if one state does not have to comply with any obligations under international law. The UK, the US and the EU have permitted Israel to become a serial violator of international law, including the Security Council resolutions and the rulings of the ICJ. The ICJ has ruled that Israel’s occupation of the 1967 Palestinian lands is illegal and ordered Israel to withdraw by September 2025. The ICJ has also ruled that there is a plausible case that Israel is committing genocide and ordered it to take interim measures to prevent genocide. Since international law is not enforce against Israel, it is not bound by international law or any law. This means that it has the ability to act as it wishes and does so. States not bound by law, have no limits on their exercise of violence, so Israel can and does act in a fascistic manner and is a rogue state because its conduct is not regulated by laws.
  - 2.2. Israel must have the same rights as any other state and have the same obligations as any other state, otherwise the system of international law fails and International Law becomes nothing more than a charade.
3. How can the UK Government assure the resilience of efforts to bring about a lasting peace...

3.1. The UK, US and EU governments are more to blame for October 7<sup>th</sup> than the leaders of Hamas. There have been repeated Arab peace initiatives backed by Saudi Arabia and Iran offering full normalisation with Arab states in exchange for a Palestinian state on 1967 borders. This is unacceptable to the Israelis since they want all the Palestinian land plus land from other Arab countries to comprise a Greater Israel. Netanyahu brags about preventing a Palestinian state, Oslo allowed the Israelis to continue stealing Palestinian land under the cover of negotiations leading to nowhere. Even statelet offered by Yitzhak Rabin was less than a state as admitted by Israeli ambassador Mark Regev. Israel does not need to enter into negotiations for less of historic Palestine when the US, UK and EU will allow it to take all of it. Since the Palestinians have no rights enforceable against Israel and Israel has no enforceable obligations towards Palestinians, can we be surprised that Israel ignores International law or that the Palestinians having no recourse to legal means, try extra-legal means? What legal means did the Haitian slaves led by Toussaint Louverture have to enforce their rights against France? What recourse other than armed rebellion did they have? We don't blame them now over 200 years later, but we certainly would have blamed them at the time. A lasting peace can only happen if the Palestinian rights and Israeli obligations are enforced in International Law, otherwise Israel can act with impunity and perpetuate historic injustices done to the Palestinians.

***31<sup>st</sup> December 2024***