



**WORKING TOGETHER:**  
Justice Can Prevail. Peace Is  
Possible.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Washington, D.C. - October 15th, 2024**

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**Northern Gaza is being erased – global leaders must act now**

Washington, D.C.

October 15, 2024

Northern Gaza is being erased – global leaders must act now to end Israel’s atrocities

The Israeli forces’ assault on Gaza has escalated to a horrifying level of atrocity. Northern Gaza is being wiped off the map. Under the guise of “evacuation,” Israeli forces have ordered the forced displacement of an estimated 400,000 Palestinians trapped in northern Gaza, including Gaza City. This is not an evacuation—this is forced displacement under gunfire. Since 1 October, no food has been allowed into the area, and civilians are being starved and bombed in their homes and their tents.

Hospitals, already overwhelmed, are being ordered to evacuate. They are running out of fuel and essential supplies, while doctors and nurses battle to save lives with what little they have left. The wounded flood in - children, older people, victims of Israeli airstrikes - but with no resources to treat them.

Dr. Mohammed Salha, acting director of Al-Awda Hospital in northern Gaza, described the dire situation: “The Israeli military has contacted us more than once to evacuate the hospital... [All] the departments are full of wounded people and we are discharging even the wounded who have minor or moderate injuries, because we do not have [enough] beds for them. I [told the Israeli military] clearly that we would not evacuate the hospital unless there are ambulances that can preserve the

lives of the wounded people we have and reach another hospital that provides better service to the wounded.”

The world cannot continue to stand by as the Israeli government commits these atrocities. Global leaders have both a legal and moral duty to act now. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has ordered Israel to take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of Article II of the Genocide Convention including “killing members of the group; causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; and imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group”. There is no evidence that Israel has adhered to these orders, and the killing of Palestinians has only intensified.

Any attempt to alter the territorial integrity of Gaza constitutes a blatant violation of international law. This is especially egregious in light of the recent ICJ advisory opinion, which significantly heightens the obligation of third states to take decisive action. Failure to do so risks their complicity in perpetuating the illegal occupation.

All parties must allow unimpeded access for humanitarian organisations to deliver aid based on need, without restricting types, volumes, or locations. Aid delivery must remain impartial and independent of military objectives to prevent its instrumentalisation or politicisation. Civilians must not be forced to flee to receive aid; those choosing to stay in their homes must be protected under international law.

We demand an immediate ceasefire and an end to Israel’s illegal occupation. Global leaders must act in line with the UN General Assembly Resolution on the ICJ Advisory Opinion and fulfill their obligation not to facilitate or support Israel’s illegal occupation. Third states must halt now the transfer of all weapons, parts, and ammunition that could be used to commit further violations of international humanitarian law.

This is not a time for silence - this is a time for action. The people of Gaza cannot wait. The world must intervene now before more innocent lives are lost.

Signatories:

ActionAid

Action For Humanity

Afri (Action from Ireland)

Amos Trust

Bloody Sunday Trust

Centre for Global Education

CESVI

Children Not Numbers

Christian Aid

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP)

Comhlamh Justice for Palestine

Council for Arab-British Understanding (Caabu)

Embrace the Middle East

Feminist Humanitarian Network (FHN)

Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS)

Global Justice Now

HelpAge International

Interpal

Ireland-Palestine Solidarity Campaign

Islamic Relief

KinderUSA

Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)

Médecins du Monde Spain

Middle East Children's Alliance

Muslim Aid

Novact Institute for Nonviolence

Oxfam

Plan International Jordan

Sabeel-Kairos UK

Sadaka-The Ireland Palestine Alliance

TDH Italy

Trócaire

Trinity College Dublin Students' Union/ Aontas Mac Léinn Choláiste na Tríonóide (TCDSU/AMLCT)

Vento di Terra

War Child

War on Want

WeWorld

Welfare Association

See the [Statement HERE](#).

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*Formed in 1984, Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) is a coalition of more than 30 national church communions and organizations, including Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, and Evangelical traditions that works to encourage US policies that actively promote a comprehensive resolution to conflicts in the Middle East with a focus on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. CMEP works to mobilize US Christians to embrace a holistic perspective and to be advocates of equality, human rights, security, and justice for Israelis, Palestinians, and all people of the Middle East.*

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Recent CMEP Statements and Press Releases:

**October 9, 2024: [Gaza Humanitarian Snapshot #6](#)**

A year into the devastating war on Gaza the humanitarian situation in Gaza continues to worsen. Medical supplies, hygiene kits, building supplies, fuel, and more continue to be in rare supply as Israel impedes aid deliveries. Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) and leading humanitarian agencies outline the delay of aid distribution, safety concerns, forced displacement orders, and logistical constraints in this latest Humanitarian Snapshot.

**October 7, 2024: [Churches for Middle East Peace Commemorates the One Year Anniversary of Oct. 7th](#)**

As we commemorate this tragic anniversary, let us renew our commitment to peace, to the end of the occupation, and to a future where all people in the region can live in security, free from fear and repression, and with their full rights and dignity.

**September 25, 2024: [Churches for Middle East Peace calls on the UNGA Resolution Calling for an End to Israel's Occupation of Palestine to be Upheld](#)**

Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) supports last week's United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution, which affirms the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) advisory opinion that calls

for Israel to end its decades-long occupation of East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip within one year. This resolution represents the minimum required for any meaningful steps toward justice, peace, and reconciliation in the region.

See all of our [public statements](#) and [press releases](#).

## Contact Us

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