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UN General Assembly ruling: Israel unlawful presence in West Bank, Gaza, and member states

August 1, 2025

A year has passed since the International Criminal Court confirmed that that Israel’s occupation of the Palestinian Territories was illegal. On 18 September 2024, the UN General Assembly adopted an historic resolution calling for the end, within a year, to Israel's "unlawful presence" in the West Bank and Gaza and member states. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/09/1154496>

Most importantly, the General Assembly called upon **all UN Member States to comply with their obligations under international law and take concrete steps to address Israel’s ongoing presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory**. Accordingly, the UN stated:

The Assembly urged States to refrain from recognizing Israel’s presence in the Territory as lawful and to ensure that they do not provide aid or assistance in maintaining the “companies, and entities under their jurisdiction from engaging in activities that support or sustain Israel’s occupation.

Additionally, the Assembly called on States to cease importing products originating from Israeli settlements and to halt the transfer of arms, munitions, and related equipment to Israel in cases where there are reasonable grounds to suspect they may be used in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Moreover, the resolution urged States to implement sanctions, such as travel bans and asset freezes, against individuals and entities involved in maintaining Israel’s unlawful presence in the Territory. This includes addressing issues related to settler violence and ensuring that those engaged in these activities face legal and financial consequences.

I commend Canada’s stated commitment to recognize the state of Palestine at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025. Recognition of Palestine is integral to a lasting and just peace between Israel and Palestine. https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/statements/2025/07/30/statement-prime-minister-carney-canadas-recognition-palestinian-state

I urge Canada to also carry out at minimum a boycott, divestment, and sanction of any and all activities that involve the illegal settlements as per its responsibilities as a member state of the UN. Canada must ACT if it is to genuinely support a lasting and justice peace for all in the region.

Sincerely,

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