Honourable Anita Anand Minister of Foreign Affairs Houses of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6 anita.anand@international.gc.ca

 Targeting and murder of Gazan aid seekers

July 18, 2025

Dear Minister Anand:

I am writing to express my deepest concern for the targeting of aid seekers in Gaza by Israeli forces. According to the UN, 800 civilians have been killed since May while seeking humanitarian aid including seven children killed last week while queuing for water. At what point does the government of Canada set a red line for the state of Israel? <https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/un-ghf-aid-hubs-deaths-israel-gaza-1.7582652>

We didn’t do it when Gaza became the deadliest war to report on given that more journalists have now been killed than in both world wars, Vietnam, Yugoslavia and Afghanistan combined according to Costs of War Project. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/4/2/gaza-war-deadliest-ever-for-journalists-says-report>

We didn’t do it when we realized that Israeli forces were intentionally targeting the healthcare system and personnel with more than 1000 Palestinian healthcare workers now killed, detained or disappeared and 94% of all hospitals damaged or destroyed.

And we haven’t done it with the rising death toll now surpassing 60,000, the majority being women and children. According to the World Health Organization, 25% of the 105,000 civilians injured now face life-changing injuries. Who will care for them and where will they be able access care? Who will care for them and where will they be able access care? <https://news.un.org/en/story/2025/01/1158741>

Did Israel finally cross the line this week when it struck Holy Family Church, the only Catholic church in Gaza or when it stood by and allowed / enabled illegal settlers to repeatedly attack the Christian community of Taybeh? Even US Ambassador Huckabee has expressed his outrage.

It is critical that the government of Canada denounce these egregious war crimes, implement a comprehensive two-way arms embargo, actively aid in the delivery of safe humanitarian aid in Gaza and comply with our legal responsibility as member states to NOT SUPPORT Israel’s illegal settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (see 19 July 2024 ICJ ruling).

Sincerely,

Printed Name: Postal Code: