

SUPPORT SOUTH AFRICA IN CHARGING ISRAEL WITH GENOCIDE

Dear United Nations Signatory to the UN Genocide Convention:

We urge your country to immediately submit a “Declaration of Intervention” to support South Africa’s invocation of the Genocide Convention at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to charge Israel with genocide in Gaza. South Africa filed this case on December 29, 2023, giving your country an opportunity to follow its lead.

Over 22,000 dead, 51,000 wounded, almost two million displaced. Our heart aches for Gaza.

Your UN mission, government leaders and populace have rightfully expressed outrage at Israel’s bombing of hospitals, clinics, apartments, UN refugee centers and escape routes, disproportionately killing civilians, more than 8,000 of them children, in Gaza’s densely packed coastal strip.

We ask your country to take the next step—to file a “Declaration of Intervention” under the UN Convention on the Prohibition and Punishment of Genocide—to join South Africa in holding Israel accountable for the crime of genocide.

According to the UN treaty, the crime of genocide is defined as acts perpetrated with the intention to bring about the physical destruction, in whole or in part, of a national, ethnical, racial or religious group. Israel’s imposition of collective punishment on Gaza, relentlessly bombing civilians, denying an imprisoned population water, food, medicine and fuel – making life unlivable—meets the criteria for the crime of genocide as defined under international law.

If the judges for the World Court (ICJ) conclude that Israel is responsible for the crime of genocide, the UN General Assembly—even if the US and Israel object—can back the court’s ruling to demand Israel stop its slaughter, take action to protect Gazans and influence the International Criminal Court to also pursue prosecution.

If a majority of the world’s nations call for a ceasefire, yet fail to press for prosecution of Israel – what is to stop Israel from ethnically cleansing all Palestinians? For that matter, what is to stop other nations from repeating the same horror?

We, the undersigned, urge your government to join South Africa to submit a “Declaration of Intervention” and invoke the Genocide Convention to demand Israel be charged and prosecuted. Take Israel to court for turning Gaza into a graveyard for children. STOP the genocide!

Sincerely,

The attached 30,000 signatories



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