

B-R3: Resolution for Peace and Justice in the Middle East

The European Green Party (EGP) and its member parties are gravely concerned by the ongoing developments in the Middle East and the escalating situation that was already addressed in the resolution "<u>The European Greens Stand for a Lasting End</u> to Violence in Israel and Palestine" adopted at the EGP Congress of December 2023 after October 7th and the subsequent explosion of violence calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

[AM1] The horrific terrorist attack committed by Hamas caused immense trauma in the Israeli population and the whole Jewish community and we continue to condemn all violent attacks on Israel. While respecting Israel's right to self-defence, the response of the Israeli government has been disproportionate, and the civilian cost of the current conflict is unacceptable. We continue to stand in undivided solidarity with the civilian population in Israel and Palestine and express our deepest sorrow with the victims and their families.

[AM1] Since the adoption of the mentioned resolution, our concern has increased in the light of the [AM3] nationalist far-right Israeli government's flagrant disregard of the ICJ's [AM4] order that Israel must halt its military operations in Rafah and Gaza on the grounds that such actions could lead to conditions conducive to genocide. [AM 5-8] The Israeli government's escalation in the use of force since their initial response in self-defence to terrorist attacks by Hamas in October 2023 has led to a humanitarian situation that has continued to worsen with catastrophic consequences, especially for civilians, leading to starvation, deprivation of water and fuel. Israel shall refrain from launching indiscriminate attacks and obstructing humanitarian aid under all circumstances. Israel shall act according to the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ of 2024. Meanwhile Hamas, recognised by the EU as a terrorist organisation since 2001, has continued violence since the October 7th massacre of Israeli civilians and continues to hold hostages under horrific conditions. The hostages must be released immediately and unconditionally. [AM 9] The Israeli government has not prioritised the release of the hostages. Furthermore, the Israeli government has to stop any arbitrary and unlawful administrative detention of Palestinians.

Over the past year, the escalation has spread across the region due to military attacks *[AM 5-8] by the different actors* in the region which also resulted in the



killing of innocent civilians. All actors must stop conducting military operations in the territory of sovereign countries. The Israeli government must immediately cease military strikes, ground operations, and indiscriminate acts against civilians, UN staff and peacekeepers, medical workers and journalists. These attacks as well as those of Hamas, are not aligned with international law. Hezbollah and other **[AM 10]** *militant terrorist proxy groups* must enact an immediate cessation of missile and drone strikes and indiscriminate acts against civilians. The escalation on the Israeli-Lebanese border must cease so that the *[AM 12] great* numbers of internally displaced people on both sides can return home. We *[AM13] strongly* condemn Iran's attacks in April and October 2024 against Israel as well as Iran's policy *[AM13] of destabilizing* the region *[AM13] through its proxies and their continued attacks. [AM 89(2)] This conflict caused severe damage to the natural environment which is deeply concerning.*

[AM 14] We welcome the most recent announcement of a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah and implore all actors to respect the agreement as well as reiterate the European Greens' fundamental belief that political solutions can bring long-lasting peace to the region.

As European Greens, without reservation, we consider it essential to take action to stop all violence and the crimes that we condemn with this resolution. It is borne out of the recognition that the EU and all European countries bear [AM 15] not only a historical responsibility [AM 15] but also a positive obligation - as enshrined in the 1948 Convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide - to do everything in their power to prevent [AM16] war crimes and genocidal developments in the world and help work towards peace. In line with different views across Europe, some Member Parties of the European Green Party [AM 19] see sufficient evidence of the Palestinian people to be the victim of genocide, others consider that this [AM 19] evidence needs to be ruled by an international court. [AM 20] We all stand united in condemnation of all crimes that are listed in this resolution, including the crimes against humanity and calling war crimes that are the grounds on which the International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants for the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, the country's former defense minister Yoav Gallant and the Hamas military leader Mohammed Deif. [DELETED, see AM 21-22] We call for a fair, just and lasting solution that includes the respect for the self-determination of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples.



[AM 21-22] As European Greens, we recognise the right to self-determination of Palestinians and Israelis, we call for a just political solution for a lasting peace, including the recognition of the State of Palestine, as an important step towards the two-state solution.

Therefore, the European Green Party, adopts the following points so that decisive, immediate actions can address the ongoing human rights violations and support the cessation of hostilities.

The European Green Party calls on all parties to the conflict:

- [AM23] Immediately and unconditionally release all hostages, implement an immediate and permanent ceasefire, and protect all civilians from indiscriminate violence by any party.
- [AM31] Recognise the right to self-determination of Palestinians and Israelis and call for a just political solution for a lasting peace, including the recognition of the State of Palestine, as an important step towards the two-state solution
- Abide by international treaties promoting peace and security, including
- the Geneva Convention and the 1951 Refugee Convention
- VOTE [AM 33 vs compromise wording] Negotiate a just solution for Palestinian refugees OR Facilitate the Palestinians' right of return, while respecting their right to self-determination
- VOTE [original text vs AM37] Cooperate with all ICC arrest warrants OR Cooperate with national governments, international institutions, and law enforcement to ensure the domestic enforcement of all ICC arrest warrants, including those which have been issued for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and Hamas leader Mohammed Diab Ibrahim Al-Masri ("Deif").
- [AM 25, 38, 117] Guarantee full human, civil, and political rights for all, including the right to a fair trial, regardless of religion or ethnicity. This means that Palestine must provide safeguards for Israelis, Israel must provide safeguards for Palestinians, and both must provide safeguards for vulnerable or marginalised groups such as children, women, and the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Respect and promote a tolerant environment for the free practice of all
- religious denominations, including the physical integrity of and access to
- religious buildings and spaces



- Respect the freedom of opinion and expression for parliamentarians,
- journalists, artists and all other civilians and make sure that people are
- freely able to exercise these rights in a safe and respectful environment

The EGP calls upon the EU, member states and other European states to:

- [AM 40] Recognise and support politicians, individuals, and non-governmental actors, both in Israel and Palestine, striving for peacebuilding and respecting international law and human rights.
- Recognise [AM 41] and condemn the gravity of the ongoing breaches of international, [AM 41] humanitarian and human rights law and take action to prevent further breaches
- VOTE [AM 43(2) vs 44] [AM 43(2)] Condemn all violations of international law, specifically violence against civilians, aid workers, medical staff, journalists, and a record number of UN staff OR [AM 44] Condemn all violations of international law, specifically violence against civilians, and Israel's indiscriminate attacks which resulted in the killings of aid workers, medical staff, journalists and a record number of UN staff
- VOTE [original text vs 43(3)] [original text] Call OR [43(3)] Condemn Israeli bombings in Lebanon and call for accountability regarding the attacks on UNIFIL peacekeepers in Lebanon
- [AM 43(4)] Condemn the use of famine as a weapon of war
- [AM 43(5)] Urge to increase humanitarian aid for Palestine by all means necessary and increase support for UNRWA to end the increasingly dire famine and health conditions affecting Palestinian people, especially and urgently after the Knesset's vote to ban UNRWA
- [AM 47] Condemn the occupation of the Palestinian territories and, in line with Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, address the implementation of the ICJ advisory opinion of 19 July 2024, including the ICJ's finding that Israel's legislation and measures in East Jerusalem and the West Bank constitute a breach of Article 3 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination VOTE [AM 47(2)], which deals with racial segregation and apartheid.
- VOTE, two-step procedure [AM 48 compromise wording vs original amendment, then outcome vs original text(no text)]
 - [compromise wording] support the work of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC). To this



end, we call on all parties to abide by the relevant ICJ and ICC orders and decisions. We urge the EU to take all necessary steps to fully implement the ICJ advisory opinion of 19 July 2024 and we call on the EU to ensure that Israel complies with the provisional measures under the ICJ orders (South Africa v. Israel).

- call on Israel, Iran and all other actors in the region to refrain from violating the obligations resulting from the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
- OR [original amendment] Officially recognise, in line with the recent findings of the United Nations Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories, and other UN and international law experts, that Israel's deliberate and purposeful attacks on Palestinians constitute genocide in violation of Article II of the UN Genocide Convention and its obligation erga omnes, to the entire international community.

VOTE [AM 48 outcome of vote vs original text (no text)]

- VOTE [AM 49 compromise wording vs. compromise wording (Israel)] Condemn any use of collective punishment, including starvation and deprivation of water and fuel as weapons of war, and any obstruction of humanitarian aid. OR Condemn Israel's use of collective punishment, including starvation and deprivation of water and fuel as weapons of war, and obstruction of humanitarian aid.
- VOTE [AM 51 vs original text] Call for accountability regarding <u>Israel's</u> attacks on UNIFIL peacekeepers in Lebanon<u>, and all attacks on UN</u> <u>structures and humanitarian aid workers</u>. OR Call for accountability regarding the attacks on UNIFIL peacekeepers in Lebanon
- [AM 52] Unconditionally support the current investigations by the International Criminal Court (ICC), to hold Israeli and Hamas leaders accountable for international crimes committed in the region;
- [AM 53] Demand full and independent investigations into all potential violations of international law by or within the territory of the ICC.
- [AM 54] Actively work to ensure that all parties responsible for violations of international law face justice through just and fair criminal proceedings, trials, and sentencing including humane detention.
- VOTE [AM 55 vs original text (no text)] Recognise that Israel's actions are a deliberate effort to displace Palestinians from their land through coercive



means, which appear to meet the definition of ethnic cleansing in violation of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibiting the forcible transfer of populations in occupied territories, disregarding the right of Palestinians to self-determination, and contravening the core principles of human rights, including the right to life, dignity, and freedom from discrimination.

- Sustain humanitarian aid for Palestine by all means necessary and increase support for UNRWA to end the increasingly dire famine and health conditions affecting Palestinian people, especially and urgently after the Knesset's vote to ban [AM 56] UNRWA
- VOTE [AM 57 compromise word vs compromise wording (Israel)] Ensure that Israel facilitates the Palestinians' right of return. OR Ensure that the Palestinians' right of return is facilitated.
- [AM 58] Recognise the right of Palestinian and Israeli people to self-determination.
- Recognise that Palestinians' right to self-determination encompasses all Palestinians, including those displaced and/or who are not in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and includes their right to establish and recognise a sovereign and independent Palestinian state, which must be recognised and welcomed by the United Nations.
- [AM 59] Call for a just political solution for a lasting peace, including the recognition of the State of Palestine, as an important step towards the two-state solution.
- VOTE [AM 62 vs original text (no text)] Demand compensation for those Palestinians who do not return or those Palestinians who have lost land and property since 1948, including their survivors, UN General Assembly Resolution 194 (III); and restitution to Palestinians and Palestinian institutions who have had their land, property, assets, and cultural artifacts, including archives and documents, unlawfully taken or destroyed by Israeli authorities or Israeli settlers.
- Impose targeted [AM 66] economic and diplomatic sanctions on [AM 63] all actors implicated implicated in war crimes, crimes against humanity, human right abuses, [AM 67] or genocide. Such sanctions [AM 66] may include travel bans, asset freezes, and restrictions on financial transactions
- [AM 66] Condemn the escalation of violence by settlers in the West Bank



- Ensure Israel abides by Article 2 of the EU-Israel association agreement, respecting human rights and democratic principles, and establish a pathway to terminate the agreement if deemed necessary over concerns for human rights and democratic principles
- [AM 79] Comply with the EU common position on arms exports (2008/944/CFSP) which establishes eight criteria for exporting arms outside the EU, and aims to prevent arms exports that contribute to aggression, forceful territorial claims, violation of international law and violation of human rights, and call on other countries to align with that position.
- Increase funding for political education about the conflict, antisemitism, and anti-Muslim racism, and strengthen youth exchange programmes between Europeans, Israelis, and Palestinians
- Condemn antisemitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes, in public and online
- Condemn the criminalisation and police violence against pro-Palestine protestors in Europe

Furthermore, we call upon the Israeli government to:

- Facilitate humanitarian aid and supplies into Palestine and ensure unimpeded access for humanitarian actors
- Reverse its recent ban on the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) whose role is crucial and irreplaceable in alleviating human suffering in Gaza and providing vital services to millions of Palestinian refugees
- End the sea and land blockade on Gaza immediately
- Cease illegal settlements and return land to rightful Palestinian owners in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 242, 252, and 446
- Address the increase in settler violence and end the use of excessive force by the Israeli military in the West Bank, which have led to killings, injuries, displacement, and increased movement restrictions
- Withdraw its forces to internationally recognized Israeli territory
- Allow Palestinians and Israelis to move freely. Safety controls must not be used as a means of discrimination
- Immediately release all Palestinians arbitrarily detained, particularly minors
- Stop using administrative detention and ensure the right to a fair trial

Finally, we call upon the international community to:



- Do everything in its power to de-escalate the conflict and prevent its further spread and to support independent civil society in Israel and Palestine that work on peacebuilding
- Carry out full and independent investigations into all potential violations of international law
- Hold those who break international law accountable and support the work of the International Criminal Court
- Pressure all countries that are directly or indirectly involved, such as Israel, USA, Iran and Qatar to join the ICC
- Enforce warrants issued by the ICC. This must begin with the end to the active blocking of ICC jurisdiction by the UK and US Governments. At the same time, Qatar, which is used as a residence by some Hamas leaders to escape justice, must cooperate with the Court.

Conclusion

The European Green Party stands firm in its commitment to justice, peace, and the protection of human rights. We call for sustainable and long-term solutions to address the root causes of the situation, and we express our solidarity with all victims. The international community must act decisively to end the violence and support a just and lasting resolution.

Background

In the light of the latest developments in the Middle East and following-up on the resolution adopted in the EGP online Congress in 2023 and the resolution adopted at the FYEG General Assembly in 2024, the EGP Committee and FYEG propose this text to take as a basis to update the Party's position on the situation in the Middle East.

The EGP Committee and FYEG consider that based on previous experience, the EGP and its members parties have largely showed a spirit for compromise and understanding, even for sensitive topics such as this one. We hope that the clear balances and nuances found in this proposal can bring us together to continue advocating for peace in the region.