

October 2, 2025

Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

President Trump:

As labor unions, representing over a quarter million union members, we call on you to demand the Israeli government permanently end its military operations and blockade in Palestine, and that the United States immediately recognize the sovereignty of Palestine. Our unions concur with the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, which found that Israel has committed genocide against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.¹ The United States must intervene immediately to put an end to the violence, starvation, and injustices being inflicted on the Palestinian people.

The attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023 was an atrocity. But Israel's collective punishment of millions of Palestinians and destruction of Gaza over two years constitute a crime against humanity. More than 65,000 Palestinians have been killed,² including nearly 20,000 children,³ while 1.9 million have been displaced⁴ and countless others have been severely injured and have lost their family members since October 2023. The death toll includes many of our union siblings, including hundreds of health care workers,⁵ media workers, engineers, and civil servants killed on the job. These horrific losses also do not take into account the more than a century of oppression, including forcible dispossession of property, restricting travel, and more, inflicted upon the Palestinian people culminating into apartheid. The Israeli military continues to

¹ United Nations Human Rights Council, Legal analysis of the conduct of Israel in Gaza pursuant to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 16 Sep 2025.

<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/sessions-regular/session60/advance-version/a-hrc-60-crp-3.pdf>

² United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Reported impact snapshot: Gaza Strip, 24 Sept 2025. <https://www.ochaopt.org/content/reported-impact-snapshot-gaza-strip-24-september-2025>

³ Ibid.

⁴ United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, UNRWA Situation Report #177 on the Humanitarian Crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, 27 Jun 2025.

<https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-177-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem>

⁵ United Nations, The Question of Palestine: Killing of medical professionals in Gaza – UN Human Rights in Occupied Palestinian Territory, 16 Jul 2025. <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/ohchr-press-release-16jul25/>

escalate its attacks, targeting and bombing hospitals and places of refuge,⁶ while preventing any humanitarian aid from entering. We cannot allow for these genocidal actions to continue, and we must stand in solidarity and support the Palestinian people's fight for freedom, justice, and peace.

The U.S. government has supplied Israel with billions of dollars in arms and military aid that are being used in violation of U.S. and international law to carry out a genocide. It is undeniable that the Israeli government, under Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's leadership, has made Gaza uninhabitable — two-thirds of Gaza's building structures are decimated,⁷ humanitarian aid is being blocked from entering Gaza, and numerous direct attacks on hospitals and other centers of healing are leaving people with nowhere to receive lifesaving care, all of which is enabling the starvation of innocent Palestinians. Our military armaments are creating a country of orphans and a landscape of graves.

The Israeli government has eviscerated Gaza's health care infrastructure damaging or destroying 94% of hospitals,⁸ including a recent "double-tap" bomb attack on Nasser Hospital, which killed scores of medical and rescue workers, patients, and journalists. The Israeli government has also blocked nearly all essential humanitarian aid,⁹ including food, water, and medical supplies from entering Gaza, including by detaining human rights activists aboard humanitarian aid ships¹⁰ and threatening to "take all necessary measures" to prevent aid from reaching civilians in Gaza.¹¹ As a result, major humanitarian organizations have suspended their operations in Gaza, and a famine is officially declared in parts of Gaza.

Such acts are not only morally shocking and unjust but also expressly prohibited under international law. The Israeli Prime Minister has repeatedly refused to negotiate or respect a ceasefire, and it is increasingly clear that the Israeli government intends to continue its occupation until it has complete control of the Palestinian territories. We cannot stand idly by in the face of this ongoing genocide. The government of Israel must be brought to account, and as a

⁶ United Nations Human Rights Office, UN experts appalled by relentless Israeli attacks on Gaza's healthcare system, 13 Aug 2025. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2025/08/un-experts-appalled-relentless-israeli-attacks-gazas-healthcare-system>

⁷ United Nations Institute for Training and Research, 66% of the Total Structures in the Gaza Strip have Sustained Damage, UNOSAT's Analysis Reveals, 30 Sept 2024. <https://unitar.org/about/news-stories/press/66percent-total-structures-gaza-strip-have-sustained-damage-unosats-analysis-reveals>

⁸ World Health Organization, Hostilities in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt): Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA), 10 Sept 2025. https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/emergencies/who-phsa-opt-100925.pdf?sfvrsn=367c45e4_1&download=true

⁹ OXFAM, Is humanitarian aid getting into Gaza?, 6 Aug 2025. <https://www.oxfamamerica.org/explore/emergencies/gaza-and-israel-emergency-appeal/is-humanitarian-aid-getting-into-gaza/>

¹⁰ Arraf, J. NPR, Israeli forces seize Gaza-bound boat and detain Greta Thunberg and other activists, 9 Jun 2025. <https://www.npr.org/2025/06/09/nx-s1-5427962/israel-gaza-boat-greta-thunberg-detain>

¹¹ Tondo, Lorenzo. The Guardian, IDF ordered to stop Gaza-bound aid ship carrying Greta Thunberg, 8 Jun 2025. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/jun/08/israel-katz-threatens-to-use-all-necessary-measures-to-stop-gaza-bound-aid-ship>

nation that prides itself on freedom and liberty, we must take leadership in bringing this injustice and inhumane attack on the Palestinian people to an end.

As workers and as unionists, we call on the United States to take urgent action to immediately halt military aid to Israel; secure a permanent and immediate ceasefire that ensures an end to the mass killing and starvation of innocent Palestinian civilians; ensure that the remaining hostages in Gaza and political prisoners in Israel are safely returned home; and recognize Palestinian sovereignty and restore the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Signed,

Puneet Maharaj
Executive Director
National Nurses United

Carl Rosen
General President
United Electrical, Radio, and Machine
Workers of America