



**State of Palestine**  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates**

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**Right of Reply**

**State of Palestine – General Debate CSP11**

We listened to the claims of the representative of Israel who spoke of their “robust national regulations to control arms exports.” However, what we are witnessing is a different bloody reality on the ground.

With the full support of the Minister of National Security of Israel, Itamar Ben-Gvir, Israel has distributed more than 120,000 firearms to settlers in the occupied Palestinian territory. He himself declared: “*we armed settlers and we will continue to do so until victory.*”

In addition, a new “First Response Unit” has been created, composed entirely of armed settlers and operating under the Israeli police in the West Bank. This unit was announced at the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron and is explicitly tasked with strengthening Israel’s grip on occupied land. This is a clear step towards de facto annexation.

Mr. President, this is not theoretical risk. We are witnessing the very consequences of arms diversion today. Illegal armed settlers, shielded and supported by occupation forces, are terrorizing Palestinian communities on a daily basis. Since the beginning of this year alone, over 1,000 attacks have been documented in 230 Palestinian communities. Just yesterday, settlers uprooted thousands of olive trees, the livelihood of countless Palestinian families.

These crimes are not new. The burning alive of young Mohammad Abu Khdeir in 2014 and the burning of Al-Dawabsheh family in 2015, remain an unforgettable reminder of the violence illegal settlers are capable of when armed and protected by the state.

At the same time, the occupying power continues to advance the E1 settlement plan near East Jerusalem, a move that will fragment the West Bank, displace entire Palestinian communities, deny our people their right to self-determination, and amount to unlawful annexation.

Mr. President,

We must be clear: denying the occupying power further access to weapons is a necessary step to prevent further atrocities. For decades, Israel has used Palestine as a testing ground for new weapons and surveillance technologies, marketing them globally as “battle-tested” in their genocidal war on Gaza.



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Over 100,000 tons of explosives have been dropped on Gaza, resulting in the mass killing, starvation, displacement of civilians, and the collapse of health and education systems.

The International Court of Justice has already ruled that Israel is “plausibly” committing genocide. This must compel the international community to act.

We therefore call upon all States Parties to:

1. **Impose an immediate arms embargo on Israel.**
2. **Halt all trade and cooperation with illegal settlements.**
3. **Ensure accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity.**

Finally, if Israel claims to uphold the principles of this Treaty, isn't it the time to demonstrate that by exceeding to the treaty as a State Party and submitting to its obligations.

Mr. President,

Palestine comes to this conference with a simple message: uphold the Treaty, protect international law, and prevent further suffering. The credibility of this treaty depends on it.

Thank you.