



State of Palestine
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Mr President,

We take the floor today as the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory—particularly in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank—continue to suffer the devastating consequences of an arms trade that too often disregards its humanitarian and legal obligations.

Since the beginning of the Israeli aggression, over 60,000 Palestinians have been killed in the Gaza Strip, the vast majority of whom are women and children. Entire neighborhoods have been flattened. Homes, schools, hospitals, refugee camps, cultural heritage sites, and critical civilian infrastructure have all come under attack. The loss of tens of thousands of innocent lives is utterly deplorable and cannot, under any circumstances, be justified.

Attacks on UN personnel, journalists, and medical staff, alongside the denial of food and humanitarian aid, constitute deliberate violations of international law. The assault on Nasser Hospital this morning, the killing of four journalists, and the direct targeting of civil defense teams while performing life-saving work illustrate a clear pattern of intentional destruction of civilian protection systems.

At the same time, settler terrorism has escalated in the West Bank. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, more than 1,423 incidents were documented in the past year—an average of four incidents per day—including shootings, property destruction, and intimidation. According to OCHA, Israeli settler violence has reached its highest level in at least two decades.

Mr. President

Despite the provisions set in Article 6 and 7, we are witnessing the continued and, in many cases, increased export of arms to Israel, arms that have been repeatedly and demonstrably used in ways that violate international law and the core tenets of this Treaty.

The consequences of illicit arms transfers to Israeli settlers are evident in the recent killing of a Palestinian activist who was shot dead in broad daylight by an armed settler in the occupied West Bank. The terrorist settler, Yinon Levi, had previously been sanctioned by the US and the EU for leading violent groups that terrorized Palestinian



State of Palestine
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

communities, yet he continued to enjoy access to firearms. Video evidence clearly documented him firing live rounds during the attack, yet despite the gravity of this crime, he was swiftly released to house arrest—exemplifying the entrenched culture of impunity settlers benefit from under the protection of the occupying power.

Mr President, distinguished delegates,

The Israeli genocidal aggression against Palestinians in Gaza has been marked by an extraordinarily high civilian casualty ratio compared with other armed conflicts in the last decade. The UN estimated that there were approximately 54,000 Palestinian fatalities at the end of May 2025. In February 2025, The Lancet reported that fatalities in Gaza have likely been underreported by approximately 41%.

In her recent report, the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls called for immediate global action to halt what she described as an unfolding “femigenocide” in Gaza, noting that the scale and nature of the crimes inflicted on Palestinian women and girls by Israeli forces are so extreme that existing concepts in legal and criminal frameworks can no longer adequately capture them. She stressed that what is happening to Palestinian women and girls is not collateral damage of war; it is the intentional destruction of their lives and bodies—for being Palestinian and for being women.

We demand the respect of the ICJ advisory opinion on July 19, 2024 in respect of the legal consequences arising from the policies and practices of Israeli occupation in Palestine.

Silence and inaction only embolden further violations. We call on all States to uphold their obligations under international law and hold the perpetrators accountable.