



Security Council

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Letter dated 13 October 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you in response to the letter dated 7 October 2023 from the representative of the Israeli regime addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2023/742](#)). In the letter, the representative of the Israeli regime has once again endeavoured to justify and cover up the ongoing heinous crimes against the vulnerable and defenceless people of Palestine by making baseless allegations against my country.

The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically and explicitly rejects any unfounded claim about its involvement in Palestine's response to Israeli occupation and aggression. The recent decisions and measures taken by Palestine's resistance groups are solely determined by the Palestinians themselves and are firmly rooted in the fundamental principle of self-determination.

The international community unambiguously recognizes that the Palestinian people have endured 75 years of relentless aggression, violence, racial discrimination and apartheid policies imposed by the Israeli regime. The occupation of their land persists, marked by city blockades, property and farmland destruction and confiscation, and the forced displacement of residents from their homes. These persistent atrocities blatantly violate the peremptory norms of international law, including the unequivocal prohibition of acquiring territory through force, the inherent right to self-determination and the prohibition on racial discrimination and apartheid, which stand as blatant evidence of such occupation. It is regrettable that the international community's response to these severe violations has fallen short in holding those responsible accountable. The absence of accountability and the deafening silence of the Security Council have reduced long-standing United Nations resolutions to mere words. And now the world is witnessing yet another horrific uptick in atrocities and collective punishment against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip that qualify as crimes against humanity and war crimes, orchestrated by the Israeli regime. Failure of the international community to intervene promptly could lead to a full-fledged humanitarian crisis with far-reaching consequences.

The Islamic Republic of Iran urges the international community, States Members of the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council to shoulder their responsibilities and take decisive action, compelling the Israeli regime to put an end to its occupation, atrocities and aggressive actions and to steadfastly comply with its international obligations, including those under international humanitarian law and human rights law.



I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Amir Saeid **Iravani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
