

FAO: Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office King Charles Street London, SW1A 2AH

12th February 2025

Subject Re: Ongoing Situation in Gaza

Dear Foreign Secretary

I am writing to you with the utmost concern regarding the recent comments made by U.S. President Donald Trump about Gaza. His description of Gaza as a "demolition site" and suggestion to "resettle" Palestinians elsewhere are deeply alarming. Trump and his officials are attempting to frame this as a humanitarian gesture, claiming there is no alternative for Palestinians given the scale of destruction. However, under international law, any attempt to forcibly transfer populations is strictly prohibited. Palestinians, as well as Arab nations, will rightly view this as a clear proposal aimed at their expulsion and the removal of Palestinians from their land.

Trump's rhetoric not only affirms the devastating consequences of the Israeli military campaign in Gaza but also legitimises actions that constitute as serious violations of international law. The withdrawal of the U.S. and Israel from the UN Human Rights Council only underscores the complete disregard for international accountability. We need firm reassurances that the UK will not follow this dangerous trajectory and will continue to uphold human rights and international law.

The situation remains dire, with reports of alleged breaches of the ceasefire in Gaza, where Israeli forces have killed Palestinian civilians despite the truce. The UN Secretary-General António Guterres has stated settler violence in the West Bank has escalated dangerously, which is often carried out with the backing or tacit approval of IDF forces. The ongoing pattern of displacement, intimidation, and destruction must be challenged, and the UK must push for accountability under international law.

Trump's proposals for Gaza are dangerously irresponsible and in violation of international law. I call on you and the UK government to take decisive action, including:

- Enacting a total arms embargo on Israel to prevent further escalation and harm to civilians.
- Pushing for the continued implementation of the ceasefire, including the release of all Israeli hostages
- Condemning Trump's statements unequivocally and rejecting any proposals that legitimise forced displacement or ethnic cleansing.
- Recognising Palestine as a state on 1967 lines as part of advancing a two-state solution
- Allow Parliamentary time for Layla Moran's Recognition of Palestine No 2 Bill
- To ensure humanitarian aid is allowed to enter into Gaza

It is imperative that the UK takes a firm stand against war crimes and forced displacement. Please provide assurances that the UK government will take meaningful steps to address these urgent issues.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Morrison

Member of Parliament for Cheadle

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