



Brussels, 5 August 2025

Ursula von der Leyen
President of the European Commission
António Costa
President of the European Council
Kaja Kallas
High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Subject: Urgent action needed to end the massacre in Gaza and uphold international law.

Dear President von der Leyen,
Dear President Costa,
Dear High Representative Kallas,

We are writing to you, as the highest representatives of the European institutions, to express our deep concern at the European Union's continued inaction in the face of the catastrophic situation in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territories, and to urge immediate action.

Since the brutal terrorist attacks carried out by Hamas on 7 October 2023, which left 1,195 Israelis dead and 251 kidnapped, the Israeli government has unleashed a devastating military campaign resulting in the deaths of over 60,000 Palestinians, the displacement of nearly two million people, and the systematic destruction of civilian infrastructure. Hunger is being used as a method of war. More than 6,000 humanitarian trucks remain blocked, while hundreds of civilians have been shot dead while seeking food. In parallel, the Israeli government has advanced plans to expel the entire population of Gaza and to militarily conquer the territory with the intention of maintaining a permanent occupation, in clear violation of international law. In the West Bank, almost 1,000 people have been killed, and settler violence has reached unprecedented levels.

This situation can no longer be regarded as a mere emergency: there is clear evidence that a genocide is being committed in Gaza. The European Commission and the European Council have so far failed to respond with the urgency and resolve that our treaties, values and responsibilities demand.

The European External Action Service itself has concluded that Israel is violating Article 2 of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, yet the agreement remains in force. No arms embargo has been introduced. No sanctions have been imposed on those responsible. Meanwhile, the EU's moral voice in the world is growing weaker by the day.

The European Parliament has consistently demanded decisive action. Now is the time to respond.

We urge you to:

- Demand and support an immediate and permanent ceasefire and the unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas.
- Immediately suspend the EU-Israel Association Agreement.
- Terminate Horizon Europe projects that risk funding or supporting breaches of human rights by Israel, either directly or indirectly.
- Adopt targeted sanctions against Israeli authorities responsible for violations of international law.
- Enforce a comprehensive arms embargo against Israel, without prejudice to our commitment to Israel's security in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.
- Expand sanctions on settlers in the West Bank and prohibit trade in goods from the occupied territories.
- Guarantee unhindered humanitarian access and reinstate UNRWA's full mandate and funding.
- Reaffirm the EU's commitment to a two-state solution, with concrete political steps towards its realization, ahead of the United Nations General Assembly in September and in line with the *New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution*.

We cannot afford more delay. We cannot afford more bloodshed. History will not forgive silence in the face of mass suffering and impunity.

The European Union must take responsibility and act now.

Yours sincerely,
Iratxe García Pérez
Bas Eickhout
Terry Reintke
Manon Aubry
Martin Schirdewan