

To: Members of Parliament of Canada

From: Gail Davidson

19 November 2024

Stop Canada's Complicity in Genocide – Destruction of Palestinians by Israel

Please immediately do everything in your power as a Member of Parliament to oppose, expose, prevent and remedy the ongoing Genocide of Palestinians in Gaza, East Jerusalem and West Bank by means that include working to ensure:

1. An immediate, total embargo on the sale or export of Canadian military equipment and arms to Israel;
2. An embargo on the sale or export of military equipment, arms or parts to any state supplying arms to Israel;
3. Recognition of Palestine as a state and a full member of the United Nations;
4. Immediate suspension and investigation all charitable tax status organizations alleged to provide support for violations by Israel against Palestinians;
5. Permanent and immediate ceasefire and funding for measures to restore the habitability of Palestine Territories;;
6. Accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide against Palestinians;
7. Restoration and increase of UNRWA funding;
8. Education for MPs about Canada's legal obligations to prevent, investigate and punish known and suspected genocide, attempted genocide, incitement to genocide and complicity in genocide;
9. Halt trade with Israel until there is ceasefire.

As you know, the *Convention to Prevent and Punish the Crime of Genocide* prohibits genocide, direct and public incitement to commit genocide, attempts to commit genocide and complicity. The Convention imposes a duty on Canada to take timely and effective measures to prevent and punish acts that have genocidal potential. MPs have known since October 2023 from pronouncements by then Defense Minister Yoaz Galant and others that Israel's intention was to "kill everyone we fight against: we will use every means." Other statements ("No electricity, no food, no fuel....We are fighting human animals and will act accordingly.") made by Israeli authorities in 2023 put Canada on notice that Israel would use means that include starvation, dehydration, disease, forced displacement and destruction of all services, businesses and infrastructure necessary for human survival in Gaza.

The attached Appendix lists some of the damages caused by Israel and judicial decisions, court orders, results of investigation and recommendations by UN bodies. The damages listed are from acts committed by Israel against Palestinians in Gaza since 7 October 2023. These include acts of: killing; causing serious bodily or mental harm; inflicting conditions calculated to bring about destruction; and, imposing measures to prevent births that are absolutely prohibited by Article II of the Genocide Convention.

The duty to prevent and punish genocide extends to all states and to each elected representative. Duties of states must be put in place and directed by those elected to government. Canada has been complicit in genocide by failing to impose timely, effective and complete arms embargos. Those responsible must be held to account. Arguably Canada has also been complicit by failing to speak unequivocally against the genocide and unlawfulness of Israeli actions and to put in place sanctions and other measures allowed by the UN Charter to stop the genocide and ensure compliance with international law.

As observed by many, only states can end the genocide. Please act now to stop the genocide.

I look forward to your response and thank you for taking the measures required to stop deaths, injuries, displacements and destruction.

Sincerely,

Gail Davidson