

July 31, 2025

**BY EMAIL**

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The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons  
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Anita Anand  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
House of Commons  
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Carney and Minister Anand:

**Re: End the Genocide in Gaza**

On behalf of the undersigned trade unions, representing over 1 million members, we are urgently calling on you to take immediate action to end the genocide in Gaza. Canada has legal obligations to prevent a genocide and to ensure it is not complicit in violations of international law. Statements are not enough.

Israel's use of starvation as a weapon of war has reached a level of depravity that is beyond comprehension. People in Gaza are dying from malnutrition and hunger-related illnesses. A joint statement issued by 100 humanitarian organizations last week expressed the following: "As the Israeli government's siege starves the people of Gaza, aid workers are now joining the same food lines, risking being shot just to feed their families".<sup>1</sup> Over 1,000 Palestinians in Gaza have been killed near aid distribution sites, run and managed by an American contractor and The Israel Defense Forces (IDF), since May. The Canadian government must impose sanctions on Israel, calling on the government or the authorities to stop blocking access to aid and to end the siege on Gaza.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.ca/palestine-as-mass-starvation-spreads-across-gaza-our-colleagues-and-communities-we-work-with-are-wasting-away/>

For 21 months, we have witnessed horrific scenes of violence, sanctioned by the Israeli State and perpetrated by the IDF, in Gaza. More than 60,000 people have been killed. As stated in an open letter sent to you on June 9, 2025, by a distinguished group of 532 concerned Canadians, “Israel’s actions in Gaza are broadly understood by international law experts and leading human rights organizations as constituting genocide.”<sup>2</sup>

The five priority recommendations to the Canadian government remain critical:

- Work actively towards an immediate, permanent ceasefire and the release of all Israeli and Palestinian captives.
- Insist on full humanitarian access to Gaza and demand that the Israeli ban on the UN Relief and Works Agency be completely lifted.
- Publicly support the role of and fully comply with international courts in holding to account those who violate international law.
- Pursue all possible domestic measures, including immediately withdrawing from the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement, imposing sanctions on Israeli leaders, initiating investigations under the *Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act*, enforcing a full and comprehensive two-way arms embargo, and stripping charitable status from organizations found to be complicit in crimes under international law.
- Join, without further delay, the 149 states who recognize the State of Palestine and support all efforts for Palestine to be admitted as a full member of the United Nations.

Massacre after massacre is being livestreamed before us. Bombs being dropped on schools, civilian homes and hospitals, and children being dismembered and left “with no surviving family”, are daily occurrences. Palestinians are being forcibly displaced. This is an attempt to ethnically cleanse Palestinians from the land. There is no justification for this collective punishment or this level of violence and destruction.

As leaders on the world stage, your actions have an impact.

We commend you for your joint statement with leaders of France and the United Kingdom calling for a complete stop to military operations in Gaza, the immediate facilitation of humanitarian aid, and for an end to any attempt to expand settlements in the West Bank. However, at this point, statements without concrete action from the international community signifies complicity.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.alexneve.ca/blog/prime-minister-carney-must-take-decisive-action-to-end-genocide-in-gaza>

A report released on July 29, 2025, has exposed significant Canadian complicity in the Israeli genocide in Gaza to date. Despite claiming otherwise, the report shows that Canada continued to export military goods to Israel throughout 2024 and 2025, including bullets, military equipment, weapons parts, aircraft components, and communication devices. As a signatory to the Geneva Conventions and the Arms Trade Treaty, this is in violation of our responsibility under international law to “employ all reasonable means” to prevent and punish the crime of genocide.

The Canadian government must impose a two-way arms embargo on Israel to end Canada’s complicity and implement targeted and escalating sanctions on the Israeli State, and Israeli leadership and military personnel responsible for war crimes. We must also exert pressure on other Western nations to do the same.

Canada should recognize the Palestinian State today, without conditions. Furthermore, it should not detract from the need to end all Israeli military operations in Gaza and the West Bank and for humanitarian aid to be allowed to urgently enter Gaza under the guidance of the UN Relief and Works Agency and other independent and reputable organizations.

Yours truly,



**NATHAN PRIER**  
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(CAPE)



**MARK HANCOCK**  
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**BERT BLUNDON**  
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cc: D. J. McGuinty, Minister of National Defence, Liberal Party of Canada; S. Fuhr, Secretary of State (Defence Procurement), Liberal Party of Canada; R. Sarai, Secretary of State (International Development), Liberal Party of Canada; M. Chong, Vice-Chair, Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, Conservative Party of Canada; A. Scheer, Interim Leader, Conservative Party of Canada; Y.-F. Blanchet, Leader, Bloc Québécois; D. Davies, Interim Leader, New Democratic Party of Canada; H. McPherson, MP; B. Bruske, President, Canadian Labour Congress