

CD4PEACE – REPORT OF THE 47th REGULAR SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

July 09, 2021 : Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt).

All sources used to draft the report can be found [here](#). Report drafted by Quentin Bérod on July 12, 2021.

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Main report

Except from Palestine, all speeches respected the imposed length and were mostly similar.

Part of the 47th session of the HRC, this interactive dialogue echoes the 30th Special session of the council on the same issue. This dialogue is the opportunity for the SR Michael Lynk to present his fifth report on the situation in the oPt.

Michael Lynk, Special Rapporteur on Occupied Palestinian Territory started his statement by reporting that Israel has taken no steps to engage with his mandate and to grant him access to visit the oPt. Mr. Lynk followed by addressing the situation related to the events that occurred in May, following the eviction of Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem. Mr. Lynk therefore asked the question if the Israeli settlements are in violation of the absolute prohibition against settler implantation, found in the 1998 Rome Statute of the ICC (a war crime). Mr. Lynk outlined thereafter that he has concluded, in his report, that the Israeli settlements do amount to a war crime and affirmed that such war crime will only end with the continued activism of Palestinians and the decisive intervention of the international community. He recommended to fully support the work of the Prosecutor of the ICC in the investigation of the potential commission of wars in the oPt; to develop a set of accountability measures to be applied to Israel; and therefore, to ensure full accountability of Israeli political, military, and administrative officials responsible for grave breaches of international law in the oPt.

Palestine thanked Michael Lynk for his report and noted the absence of many States in this interactive dialogue. Palestine denounced a double standard system from which Palestinians are suffering as well as the killing of children, women, the destruction of sacred sites, of media, and of other infrastructures and schools. Palestine also depicted Israeli settlement policy and occupation as a war crime and as a violation of international law and relevant UNSC resolutions. Palestine called to impose sanctions on Israel. (Palestine stops speech, interrupted by the chair).

The European Union took note of the SR's report and regretted his inability to visit the oPt. The EU recalled its stance against the legality of the Israeli settlements. The EU pursued by advocating in favour of a two-state solution and the development of confidence-building measures.

Egypt, on behalf of the group of Arab States stated that the situation has not improved and observed how imposed restrictions are still a major problem. Egypt called on Israeli

authorities to listen to communities and to end its actions. For Egypt, it is time for the international community to intervene legally and to end the occupation.

Pakistan deplored the non-cooperation stance of Israel. For Pakistan, SR's report highlights clear international law violations, war crime and colonization. Pakistan welcomed the establishment of the commission of inquiry by the HRC in its 30th special session.

Bahrain, on behalf of Gold Cooperation Council firmly believed it is important for the international community to consider that Palestinian cause is universal. Bahrain stated the need for recovery and advocated for the existence of an independent Palestinian state. Bahrain outlined that forced evictions are illegal (no judgements basis) and they are preventing from installing a two-state solution.

Mauritania, on behalf of the group of African States, welcomed Mr. Lynk's report and questioned Israel commitment to international law. Mauritania deplored the lack of protection for Palestinian in the oPt and decades of occupation and attacks leading to civilian suffering. Mauritania insisted on the importance of Israel respecting its international obligations.

Qatar condemned Israel non-cooperation regarding the inability of SR Lynk to visit oPt. Qatar used the word ethnic cleansing and oppression to qualify Israel policy and called for the implementation of the recommendations of the SR's report. Qatar urged the need to establish an independent Palestinian state and outlined that the ceasefire will be futile if the root causes of the issue are not addressed, that are the human rights' violations from Israel.

Kuwait condemned the various violations of international law by Israel. According to Kuwait, the HRC must address the root causes of the issue by establishing legal mechanism that will ensure accountability. Koweit reiterated its support to Palestine, until the end of the occupation.

Libya condemned Israeli refusal to grant access to oPt to the SR. Lybia deplored major violations of international law and qualified them as war crime. According to Lybia, the International community must support investigations and must find a way to ensure accountability.

Luxembourg supported the EU statement and regretted that SR Lynk has not been able to visit the oPt. Luxembourg was deeply concerned by eruptions of violence and stated that the cycle of violence will continue unless root causes are addressed. Luxembourg called for the illegality of Israel actions and qualified them as war crime. Luxembourg outlined also the harmful effects of demolition on mental health and asked how the international community can support further health assistance.

Bangladesh denounced the non-cooperation of Israel with the SR and the destruction of civilian infrastructures such as building, schools and hospital. Bangladesh stated that Israel does not care for human rights and urged the need for effective accountability. Bangladesh called for addressing the root causes of the issue and for supporting Palestinian people. According to Bangladesh, solutions lie in the establishment of two-state solutions.

UAE supported international peace efforts and urged the need to respect UNSC resolutions. UAE recalled the importance of continuing actions to build trust among all

stakeholders. UAE stated that it will continue its commitment to help Palestinian (i.e. send covid-19 vaccine to Gaza).

Indonesia expressed its concerns upon the absence of accountability measures after Israel aggression against Palestine. According to Indonesia, investigation must be held in order to prevent the occupying power to commit further atrocities. Indonesia reiterated its support to the Palestinian people and to all efforts achieving long lasting peace.

Senegal thanked the SR for his report. Senegal recalled how women and children are the most touched by the humanitarian situation in the oPt and deplored that access to basic human needs is denied. Senegal urged the need to revitalize the peace process and advocated for a two-state solution.

Cuba deplored the impunity following the events of last May and qualified it as violations of the UN charter and international. Cuba advocated for a two-states solutions and outlined the need to identify and agree on borders.

Republic of Korea qualified the Israel policy as a war crime and a crime against humanity. The Republic of Korea urged the need for strong international condemnation and for peaceful solutions to the issue and called for the end of all form of human rights violations in the oPt.

Iraq stated the any continuation of the colonization in the oPt is a war crime and called the international community to combat such action and to oblige the occupying power to respect its obligations. Iraq advocated for a two-State solution and asked for the development of a database monitoring the implementation of any new settlements.

Syrian Arab Republic affirmed that no support should be provided to Israel settlement policy. States should also stop to provide weapons to Israel. The Syrian Arab Republic thus asked what the HRC can do in order to ensure intense monitoring of Israel actions.

China condemned all violence against civilians and stated that Israel should stop demolishing houses, evicting people, and expanding settlements. China urged the need for confidence building measures and advocated for a two-states solution.

Maldives condemned the human rights violations by Israel in the oPt. Maldives urged the need for action and called the occupying power to respect its legal obligation to protect all people in the oPt. Maldives called for dignity, peace, and security.

Morocco thanked the SR for the report and stated that the two-State solutions is the key and that negotiations are the only effective means to reach it. Morocco called for restoring the legitimate rights of Palestinian people.

Lebanon thanked the SR for the report and deplored the lack of efficiency of international mechanisms. Lebanon condemned barbaric attacks on Holy sites and was shocked by the revenge against Palestinian and cases of arbitrary detention. Lebanon qualified Israel policy as a policy of apartheid.

Algeria condemned the racist and institutional repression against Palestinian people as well as the inhuman siege against Gaza and called for its end. Algeria advocated for using the available accountability tools and welcomed the international commission of inquiry

established by the HRC in its 30th special session. Algeria advocated for a two-state solution.

Iran denounced the systematic violations of human rights and the apartheid structure supporting it. Iran denounced the absolute impunity enjoyed by Israel and by war criminals.

Venezuela thanked the SR for the presentation and called for a firm condemnation of the actions of military forces of Israel. According to Venezuela, such actions are a war crime and a crime against humanity. Venezuela urged the need for accountability mechanisms and advocated for a two-states solution.

Jordan stated that any solution requires genuine and effective negotiations leading to two-state solution. Jordan denounced the war crime of Israel.

Saudi Arabia outlined how Palestinians continue to suffer, in addition with the pandemic and stated that the solution to the conflict is one of its top priority.

Botswana reiterated its long-lasting support to Palestinian people and advocated for a two-states solution.

Namibia thanked the SR for its report and regrated that the occupying power was refusing access to oPt to the SR. Namibia stated that the Israel settlements are illegal and urged the need to take concrete measures to ensure Israel compliance with international law. Namibia also expressed its support to the work of the ICC in the area.

Malaysia qualified the situation as a war crime and as unacceptable. Malaysia urged the need to ensure accountability and to update the OHCHR database on companies benefiting for the Israeli settlement policy. Malaysia urged the need to grant access to medical facilities, to covid test and to vaccines. Malaysia called for the respect and the observance of the ceasefire agreement.

South Africa denounced all forced displacements and agreed with the SR's report. South Africa called for supporting the d OHCHR database on companies benefiting from Israeli settlements.

Sri Lanka urged the need to provide vaccines and medical facilities.

Sudan 5422 advocated for two-states solutions.

Ireland was concerned by the scale and pace of the Israeli settlement policy, which is illegal. According to Ireland, such policy retains any progress toward a two-state solution. Ireland condemned all attacks on civilians and urged the need to find solutions for accountability.

Turkey stated that Israel is responsible for the escalation of violence in the oPt.

Russian Federation asked the SR to provide report timelier. The Russian Federation was concerned by the expansion of Israeli settlements and displacement of people. The Russian Federation advocated for a two-states solutions and noted the importance of a meaningful peace process.

Outcomes

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967

Composition of the HRC :

States Members of the Human Rights Council (1 January – 31 December 2021)					
Argentina	Brazil	Eritrea	Libya	Philippines	Ukraine
Armenia	Bulgaria	Fiji	Malawi	Poland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Austria	Burkina Faso	France	Marshall Islands	Republic of Korea	
Bahamas	Cameroon	Gabon	Mauritania	Russian Federation	
Bahrain	China	Germany	Mexico	Senegal	Uruguay
Bangladesh	Côte d'Ivoire	India	Namibia	Somalia	Uzbekistan
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Cuba	Indonesia	Nepal	Sudan	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
	Czechia	Italy	Netherlands	Togo	
	Denmark	Japan	Pakistan		