



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

Honourable Melanie Joly
Minister of Foreign Affairs
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Ottawa, 1 February 2022

Re: Amnesty International's landmark report: "Israel's Apartheid against Palestinians"

Prime Minister Trudeau,
Minister Joly,

Today, Amnesty International is releasing a landmark report: ["ISRAEL'S APARTHEID AGAINST PALESTINIANS: CRUEL SYSTEM OF DOMINATION AND CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY"](#), enclosed.

This report is the result of four years of rigorous and extensive research by Amnesty International. It builds on decades of documentation of human rights violations in the IOPT and due consideration of international legal frameworks.

Our research analysed Israel's intent to create and maintain a system of oppression and domination over Palestinians and examined its four key components: territorial fragmentation; segregation and control; dispossession of land and property; and denial of economic and social rights. It further documents unlawful acts committed by the Israeli state against Palestinians with the intent to maintain this very system, including forcible transfers, administrative detention and torture, unlawful killings, denial of basic rights and freedoms and persecution. Together, these acts form part of a systematic and widespread attack directed against the Palestinian population. Our report concludes that this system amounts to apartheid, a crime against humanity under international law.

Amnesty International is calling on Israel to dismantle this cruel system of domination and oppression and urges for its full investigation and recognition. Our findings corroborate a growing body of research and evidence conducted by independent human rights organizations inside Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territories and globally.

This report is a call to action on the international community and demands a new approach to the systemic denial of Palestinian basic human rights.

312 LAURIER AVENUE EAST
OTTAWA, ON K1N 1H9

50, RUE STE-CATHERINE OUEST, BUREAU 500
MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC H2X 3V4

We specifically call on:

- Israel to dismantle the apartheid system, including by ending home demolitions, granting refugees the right to return, ending draconian movement restrictions;
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) to consider the crime of apartheid in its current investigation in the OPT;
- All states, including Canada, to exercise universal jurisdiction and bring perpetrators of apartheid crimes to justice;
- The UN Security Council to impose a comprehensive arms embargo on Israel and targeted sanctions against officials;
- Canada and all states to ban products from Israeli settlements

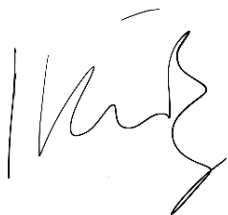
As a first step forward, we would like to draw your attention to the practice of home demolitions. In Israel and OPT around 150,000 Palestinians are at risk of losing their homes, some for the second or third time. Meanwhile, the Israeli government continues to build settlements in occupied territory for Jewish citizens of Israel in violation of international law.

Amnesty International calls on the Israeli government to cancel all outstanding orders for forced evictions and demolitions and introduce a moratorium on future forced evictions and demolitions.

Prime Minister, Minister Joly, we urge you to not only read this landmark report but to act upon it and set Canada on the right side of history. For too long the international community has failed to respond to the cruel and inhumane violations which prevent Palestinians from living with equal rights and dignity. We call on you to ensure that human rights are central to your government's engagements with Israeli authorities, and that Canada's businesses do not contribute to maintaining apartheid.

We request an opportunity to meet with you and provide further details of Amnesty International's conclusions and recommendations to Israel. Agnes Callamard, Amnesty International's Secretary General launched the report in East Jerusalem earlier today, with Israeli and Palestinian civil society and families of victims. We would be pleased to arrange a meeting with her at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Ketty Nivyabandi
Secretary General
Amnesty International Canada
knivyabandi@amnesty.ca

312 LAURIER AVENUE EAST
OTTAWA, ON K1N 1H9



France-Isabelle Langlois
Directrice générale
Amnistie Internationale Canada francophone
filanglois@amnistie.ca

50, RUE STE-CATHERINE OUEST, BUREAU 500
MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC H2X 3V4