

September 2025

Re: Binding obligation on the U.S. to prevent and punish Israeli genocide in Gaza

Dear Senator Mike Lee, Senator John Curtis, Congressman Blake Moore, Congresswoman Celeste Maloy, Congressman Mike Kennedy, and Congressman Burgess Owens:

Israel is committing genocide in Gaza. As a signatory to the 1948 [Genocide Convention](#) and having ratified it in 1988, the U.S. is legally obligated to prevent and punish genocide. (Article 1.) Israel is also a signatory to the Genocide Convention.

It is time to stop Israeli impunity for genocide, for war crimes, and for crimes against humanity. It is time to stop U.S. complicity in these egregious violations of international law.

The U.S. must stop shielding Israel in the UN Security Council.

We request a **meeting** with you to discuss this important foreign policy issue.

The evidence is in that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza (see hyperlinks below):

- **Amnesty International** concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Human Rights Watch** concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **B'Tselem** (Israeli human rights group) concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Physicians for Human Rights-Israel** concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Omer Bartov**, noted Israeli-American scholar of genocide and Holocaust studies at Brown University, concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **The University Network for Human Rights** (a consortium of human rights centers at colleges across the world) concludes Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Jeremy Ben-Ami**, the president of J Street, concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **The European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)** concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Itamar Mann**, Professor at the University of Haifa, Faculty of Law, concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Legal Tribune Online** surveyed the opinion of eleven international legal experts, the majority of whom conclude that Israel is committing genocide. [Same hyperlink as above.]
- **Raz Segal**, an Israeli scholar of Holocaust and genocide studies, concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).

- **Melanie O'Brien**, president of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- **Seven experts interviewed by NRC**, a newspaper in the Netherlands, all conclude that Israel is committing [genocide](#). They include Raz Segal, Ugur Umit Ungor, Shmuel Lederman, Melanie O'Brien, Rutger Bregman, and Dirk Moses.
- **Doctors Without Borders** concludes that Israel is committing [genocide](#).
- The list above is illustrative and not complete. See the expanding list of U.S. politicians (14), nations of the world (38), organizations (8), genocide scholars and experts (13), and other notable figures (5) who have all concluded Israel is committing [genocide](#). This list is being continually updated by **Zeteo**.

The International Court of Justice has issued three sets of [provisional measures](#) relating to South Africa's Dec. 29, 2023 case against Israel under the Genocide Convention:

1. January 26, 2024: Ordered Israel to "take all measures within its power" to stop acts of genocide and incitement to genocide from being committed and to take "immediate and effective measures" to allow aid into Gaza.
2. March 28, 2024: Added more provisional measures demanding humanitarian assistance should be allowed to enter.
3. May 24, 2024: Ordered the Israeli offensive on Rafah to cease and the Rafah crossing from Egypt to be reopened to aid deliveries.

Israel is flagrantly ignoring these provisional measures.

In the words of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights in its [July 2025 report](#) "The Ongoing Genocide in Gaza: Q&A on the Law and Recent Developments":

"Under the Genocide Convention, states must ensure that Israel is not committing or preparing to commit violations of the Convention. States must also prevent or punish genocide. States that are engaged in any transfer or trade to Israel that contributes to Israel's military capability have even more heightened obligations in this regard. Thus, the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory has recommended that **any state engaged in such transfer or trade to Israel must cease its transfer or trade until the state is satisfied that the goods and technology subject to the transfer or trade are not contributing to the commission of genocide.**"

The so-called "Gaza Humanitarian Foundation" is staging death traps for Palestinian civilians in Gaza through its so-called aid distribution sites. On August 7, 2025, Doctors without Borders issued a [report](#) titled "This Is Not Aid. This Is Orchestrated Killing." The report "draws on medical data, patient testimonies and first-hand medical witnessing to demonstrate that what has been branded as 'aid distribution' is in fact a system of institutionalized starvation and

dehumanization. MSF calls for an immediate cessation of the GHF distribution mechanism and urges states and private donors to refrain from funding what is essentially a death trap.”

In a 8/19/2025 [news update](#) by the United Nations, a spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights “stressed that reaching humanitarian aid ‘can be a deadly pursuit’ with latest data indicating that 1,857 Palestinians were killed while seeking food from 27 May, when the U.S. and Israel-backed militarized aid distribution scheme known as the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation started its operations. Out of that number, he said that 1,021 were killed in the vicinity of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation sites and 836 on the routes of supply trucks. ‘Most of these killings appear to have been committed by the Israeli military,’ Mr. Al-Kheetan said.”

As of [August 19, 2025](#), Israel has killed more than 62,000 Palestinians in Gaza. Of these, 18,885 are children. Gaza has the [highest rate of child amputees](#) of anywhere on the planet.

A [joint investigation](#) by *The Guardian* newspaper, the Israeli-Palestinian publication *+972 Magazine*, and the Hebrew-language outlet *Local Call* – based on figures from a classified Israeli military intelligence database – indicates that “five out of six Palestinians killed by Israeli forces in Gaza have been civilians, an extreme rate of slaughter rarely matched in recent decades of warfare.” This mean 83% of casualties in Gaza are civilians.

August 2025 [polling by YouGov](#) shows that 43 percent of adults in the U.S. now recognize Israel’s action in Gaza as genocide. Also, 49 percent of Americans think that Palestinians should have their own state. And 78 percent of Americans strongly or somewhat support a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. According to a [Quinnipiac University poll](#) released 8/27/2025, 60 percent of U.S. voters oppose the U.S. sending more military aid to Israel for its war on Gaza. Fifty percent of voters think Israel is committing genocide in Gaza. A [Gallup poll](#) released 7/29/2025 found that 60 percent of U.S. respondents disapprove of Israel’s military action in Gaza. A [Reuters/Ipsos poll](#) released on 8/20/2025 found that 58% of Americans believe that every country in the United Nations should recognize Palestine as a nation.

Sincerely yours,

The undersigned Utah constituents: