



Human Rights
Institute

63rd regular session of the UN Human Rights Council

Item 7: General debate on the human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

29 September 2026
Oral Statement

Mr. President,

We should no longer remain silent as Palestinians face genocide in Gaza, as also confirmed by the COI, and we witness escalating displacement, dispossession, and de facto annexation in the West Bank where settlement expansions, demolitions, property seizure, arbitrary detention, and settler violence are driving Palestinians out of their homes, away from their livelihood. This is not isolated violence. It is the systematic and intentional erosion of Palestinian existence and their right to self-determination. Businesses also bear responsibility; companies, professional entities, must not contribute to, facilitate, or profit from genocide in Gaza and from the settlement expansion, the dispossession, and the forced displacement on the West Bank.

We welcome the United Kingdom's recent sanctions against individuals and entities financing and enabling settler violence. We urge all States to do so.

IBAHRI call on States to: (1) impose an arms embargo on Israel; (2) adopt targeted sanctions against Israeli officials responsible; (3) suspend bilateral agreements with Israel; (4) commit to enforce all ICC arrest warrants; (5) ban all trade and business with Israel's illegal settlements; and (6) recognize Israel's crimes against humanity of apartheid and persecution against the Palestinians.

This is nothing to do with antisemitism, which we abhor. This is about accountability for the most serious crimes. This is the Temple of Human Rights. We should all commit to accountability, not to impunity.

Thank you!

This statement was delivered by Francesca Restifo, Senior Human Rights Lawyer and UN Representative International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI)

On behalf of:

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