

Press Release calling on Canadian officials to denounce Israel's baseless designation of six Palestinian human rights groups as terrorist organizations

OTTAWA (27 October 2021) - The Coalition of Canadian Palestinian Organizations (CCPO) strongly condemns Israel's decision to label six prominent Palestinian human rights and civil society groups as "terrorist organizations".

The groups are Addameer, Al-Haq, Defense for Children Palestine, the Union of Agricultural Work Committees, Bisan Center for Research and Development, and the Union of Palestinian Women Committees. This designation authorizes Israeli authorities to close their offices, seize their assets, arrest and jail their staff members, and prohibits funding or publicly expressing support for their activities.

Many government officials around the world have courageously spoken out denouncing this unfounded move by Israel. The United Nations (UN) Higher Commissioner for Human Rights [called this action](#) "an attack on human rights defenders, on freedoms of association, opinion and expression and on the right to public participation, and should be immediately revoked". Two of the world's prominent human rights organizations, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International also released a [joint statement](#) that strongly echoed the same criticism.

The CCPO denounces this action by Israel and views it as a deliberate attempt to silence and censor Palestinian human rights voices that report on Israel's violations of international law. As we welcome our new Cabinet Ministers for the 44th Parliament, we urge the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mélanie Joly, to take a principled stance in defending international human rights.

The Coalition of Canadian Palestinian Organizations (CCPO)



The Coalition of Canadian Palestinian Organizations (CCPO) consists of 21 non-partisan and not-for-profit Canadian Palestinian organizations from coast-to-coast across Canada, united nationally on protecting Palestinian human rights in Canada and abroad. The Coalition operates in 12 major cities and focuses its projects on two fields: Humanitarian projects and Political advocacy.