

March 1, 2023

To: The Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

We witnessed the terrifying and ongoing actions of illegal settlers in the Occupied West Bank under the protection of the Israeli armed forces attacking innocent native civilians. This caused hundreds of injuries, killing people, and the burning and destruction of numerous properties. According to international law, the occupiers are responsible for protecting the people under their occupation, yet Israel has failed to fulfill this obligation. Israel's actions demonstrate a disregard for International Law, International Humanitarian Law, and moral law. This disregard has once again, yielded no consequence for Israel. The silence of both the international community and the Canadian government has empowered the newly elected extremist government of Israel to defend the perpetrators of these crimes which accrued under their protection and cover to these groups of criminal settles.

Canadians have already expressed their opposition to these violations of International Law. Therefore, we implore you and your government to condemn these crimes in the strongest possible terms and to hold the Israeli government accountable for its actions. The Canadian government has consistently demonstrated its willingness to support Ukraine in opposing the Russian occupation of their land. However, if they do not extend the same obligation to protect Palestinian civilians from similar crimes, it would be deemed hollow and indicative of embracing double standards.

As Canadian citizens, we have eagerly awaited our government's stance on the ongoing conflict in Palestine for several days. Unfortunately, to date, no official statement has been made on the matter. Therefore, we, the Canadian citizens of Palestinian descent and our allies, respectfully implore you to take a clear and immediate stance in support of the people of Palestine, denouncing the egregious human rights violations being perpetrated against them.

Regards Mousa Zaidan National Coordinator Coalition of Canadian Palestinian Organizations <u>www.CanadaPalestine.ca</u> info@CanadaPalestine.ca