

Media Release

Canada must condemn ALL violence between Israelis and Palestinians



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Canada's Palestinian community is deeply troubled by Canada's continued disregard for Palestinian civilian deaths and asks the government to condemn ALL violence – whether Israeli or Palestinian – around Gaza. On Nov. 13, Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland made a tweet which condemned recent Palestinian violence, but ignored Israel's much more lethal violence, saying, “Canada strongly condemns the unacceptable firing of rockets at civilians in #Israel. Immediate de-escalation is necessary. We fully support the efforts of Egypt and the UN in this regard.”

Canadian Palestinians understand and appreciate the intent behind the Canadian government's statement in “support of the efforts of Egypt and the UN” aiming to de-escalate the hostility in the Israeli-besieged Gaza Strip. Nevertheless, the Palestinian Canadian Community decries the government's failure to condemn Israel's reckless violence, considering it one-sided and biased. This disappointing statement condemns the Palestinian rockets, which have resulted in ZERO Israeli fatalities, but ignores Israel's strikes, which have killed AT LEAST 34 Palestinians. Such a statement blindly and knowingly ignores the facts of the conflict.

More than 2.3 million Palestinians in Gaza live under Israeli siege and suffer repeated waves of violence, human rights violations and war crimes committed by Israel. In addition to the 34 Palestinian dead, including the Sawarkeh family of 6 (including 3 children), Israel's indiscriminate bombardments in Gaza in the last few days have also resulted in more than 100 Palestinian injured.

The Palestinian Canadian community calls upon Prime Minister Trudeau to follow through with his 2018 call to investigate Israeli violations of international law against Palestinian civilians. Moving forward, the Palestinian Canadian community calls on the government of Canada to establish a balanced policy on Israel-Palestine that respects and values ALL human life, whether Palestinian or Israeli.

PALESTINIAN LIVES MATTER

Respectful,

On Behalf of the Coalition,

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With support of

Mr. Thomes Woodley, President (Candia for Justice & Peace in the Middle east)

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