

State of Palestine

Permanent Observer Mission to the United
Nations
Geneva



دولة فلسطين

البعثة المراقبة الدائمة لدى الأمم
المتحدة
جنيف

HRC 45: Statement by the State of Palestine -Item9 - General Debate **1 October 2020**

Thank you Madam President,

Racially-motivated violence should not merely be condemned, we have a moral and legal obligation to speak for the silenced voices and ensure effective concrete responses to contribute to fight systemic racism and the legacies of colonialism and apartheid.

Since its inception, Israel, the occupying colonial power, has blatantly violated international law, disregarding the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self determination, in violation of Israel's obligations under the UN charter.

Israel's record of racism, violations and disrespect of UN resolutions, is well documented. However, Israel continues to enjoy impunity for those crimes and violations.

Israel continues to pursue an illegal policy of population transfer aimed at altering the demographic composition of Palestine through settler colonialism and institutionalized racial oppression and domination thereby entrenching its illegal occupation and imposing apartheid over the Palestinian people.

In 2019, CERD recognized the continuity of Israeli policies and practices of racial segregation and apartheid over the Palestinian people.

As annexation looms, forty-seven UN rights experts have warned that "The morning after annexation would be the crystallization of an already unjust reality. This is a vision of a 21st century apartheid.

It is in this context that we ask the International Community to pursue international justice and accountability for widespread and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, including the crime of apartheid, by supporting a full, thorough, and comprehensive investigation by the ICC into the Situation in Palestine.

I thank you.