



Cairo Institute
for Human Rights Studies
Institut du Caire pour les études des droits de l'Homme
مركز القاهرة لدراسات حقوق الإنسان

UN Human Rights Council: 61st Session

Item 2 ID with High Commissioner on OPT

Oral Intervention

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)

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Delivered by: Mayssa Achek

The High Commissioner's report on the human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territory calls for urgent UN action

Mr President,

We thank the High Commissioner for his report, whose findings document grave violations, extensive civilian harm, and a deepening humanitarian catastrophe in a climate of entrenched impunity.

We must name what is occurring. The UN COI and the SR on the OPT have both concluded that Israel is committing genocide. The High Commissioner's report documents conditions increasingly incompatible with Palestinians' continued existence as a group in Gaza, and confirms that famine is the direct result of Israeli government actions. The ICJ found sufficient plausibility to order provisional measures, to which Israel has not complied. The Council cannot respond with language calibrated not to disturb..

We are equally alarmed by the increasingly dire prospect for Palestinian self-determination in the West Bank. Israel's systematic use of force, mass demolitions, and settler violence amount to apartheid, and Israeli practices constitute an accelerating campaign

to consolidate annexation. Israeli cabinet decisions in early 2026 have further reinforced the expanding settlement and military enforcement into areas A and B, and stripping Palestinian planning authority. This is rendering what remains of the Oslo framework functionally inoperative.

We stress the binding force of the ICJ's provisional measures, the obligations under the Genocide Convention, and the October 2025 Advisory Opinion obliging all States not to recognise, aid, or assist the unlawful occupation.

Thank you, Mr. President.