

# Australia must act to stop Israel's mass murder of Gaza Palestinians



**Update, 12 December: 193 members, including Australia, vote for a ceasefire at the United Nations General Assembly, but the genocide continues**

At the first of a two-day emergency meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on 12 December, 193 members voted for Resolution A/ES-10/L.27 "demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire."

Only 10 members voted against the resolution and 23 abstained. However, in spite of this overwhelming vote, the UN is still unable to act effectively - with oil embargoes and other trade sanctions, travel bans and financial restrictions - to make Israel end its genocide. Only the 15 member UN Security Council can require UN members to act. However, at the UN Security Council meeting of Friday 8 December, the US alone exercised its veto by voting against a similar motion. 13 members voted in favour, whilst the UK abstained.

So, against the wishes of the overwhelming majority of humanity, the US alone has voted to allow Israel to continue to kill Palestinian civilians, of which 20,000, mostly women and children, have already died since 7 October, bomb their residences, churches, mosques, hospitals and schools and kill UN aid workers, 133 of which had been killed by 10 December.

## **Words alone won't convince Netanyahu to end his mass murder**

Since the United Nations General Assembly vote, Netanyahu has not even blinked. Israel Defence Forces (IDF) continue to kill medical staff, UN workers, journalists and Palestinian civilians whilst continuing to raze Gaza to the ground. If the UN, as a body won't take effective action against Israel, then individual countries, including Australia, must. Israeli ships which dock in Australian ports should be impounded, Israel's embassy should be closed and flights to and from Israel should be stopped. Such actions by Australia and other countries could well make Netanyahu desist from his mass killing.

## **7 October , Israel's war against 2.2 million in Gaza commences**

The latest round in Israel's war against the people of Gaza commenced on 7 October, following the Al-Aqsa Flood operation by Hamas fighters,

Since that day, the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) have, in full view of the whole world and in real time, killed as many Palestinians in Gaza as they were able to.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has openly stated that his goal is to drive the 2,200,000 Palestinians living in the 220 square kilometres of Gaza into the Sinai Desert. He has given them a choice - head south or be killed by bullets, rockets, tank shells, artillery shells, aerial bombardment or even banned white phosphorous. Many Palestinians, who have followed this advice have still been killed by the IDF.



*Israel's saturation bombardment of housing, hospitals and schools continues*

## How could the killing of so many civilians possibly be justified?

What could possibly justify the killing of so many Palestinian civilians alongside the destruction of their homes, possessions and infrastructure necessary for their health and well-being?

According to Netanyahu, this is all necessary to protect Israel from further attacks like that which occurred on 7 October, when Hamas fighters captured Israeli civilians at the Supernova Music Festival and supposedly murdered 260 of them. Only by the IDF killing or capturing all the Hamas fighters within Gaza, and their leader, can Israelis be safeguarded in future from further attacks like this.

### Did Hamas fighters kill 260 Israeli civilians on 7 October?

Unfortunately, many who have spoken out very movingly in support of Palestine [3] have still failed to challenge this lie. Because Israel included the deaths of IDF personnel in the death toll, the number of civilians killed on that day is widely believed to be even more – 1,200. This makes the apparently monstrous killing of 260 civilians on that day seem even more monstrous. This could lead many to believe that actions by IDF in Gaza are understandable in the circumstances.

In fact, as even reported by testimony from surviving Israelis, the IDF and not Hamas fighters, first opened fire on that day. Hamas fighters were attempting to take the hostages back to Gaza to exchange for several hundred Palestinian prisoners illegally imprisoned in Israel. Under the Hannibal Directive, under which the IDF does not willingly allow any Israeli to be captured, the IDF soldiers on the scene were ordered to kill all of the Hamas fighters regardless of the consequences for their hostages. [2]

Then the killings were attributed to Hamas. The Hamas fighters were armed solely with Kalashnikov assault rifles and grenades, but injuries to the festival attendees showed that they were shelled from helicopters and tanks. Surrounding settlement infrastructure was also destroyed by aerial bombing and tank-fire, with bodies there found burned alive, buried under rubble. How could Hamas have caused all of this destruction without planes, helicopters or tanks?

**How you can help:** Download, print and hand out this leaflet. Attend weekly protests for Palestine in the Melbourne CBD, starting 12pm

*The PDF, from which this was printed, can be downloaded from <https://candobetter.net/james-sinnamon/blog/6762/australia-must-act-stop-israels-mass-murder-gaza-palestinians>. See also <https://candobetter.net/palestine>*

### Footnotes

[1] *Gaza death toll from Israeli attacks tops 14,800 - Victims include 6,150 children, 4,000 women, government media office says* (24/11/23) | Anadolu Ajansi by Muhammed Sabry at <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/gaza-death-toll-from-israeli-attacks-tops-14-800/3063063>

[2] See *VIDEO: What really happened on October 7?* (18/11/23) | The Grayzone by Max Blumenthal at <https://thegrayzone.com/2023/11/18/video-what-happened-october-7/> and *Why is Israel trying to HIDE this hostage interview?* (26/10/23) | Redacted News at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HugMS0k0kB4>

[3] This includes Spanish MP Lone Bellara, former Spanish Social Rights Minister (Twitter handle @loneBellara), who still condemns Hamas whilst she is very outspoken against Israel.