

# Quakers

## The Religious Society of Friends - Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri Yearly Meeting of Aotearoa New Zealand

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11 June 2024

### **Open letter to the Prime Minister of New Zealand: Call for an urgent response to the Gaza tragedy**

Christopher Luxon  
Prime Minister

Dear Christopher Luxon

In the face of the most flagrant abuse of the people of Palestine, Quakers of Aotearoa New Zealand urge your strongest condemnation of the persistent rejection by Israel of the basic standards of human behaviour and of the increasing demands of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to cease military action in Gaza. The abuse has persisted for over seven months now, and the state of the Palestinian people become increasingly desperate.

We appreciate the position of the New Zealand Government over this time in condemning the violence, calling for a ceasefire, a negotiated settlement and access for humanitarian assistance, as well as providing assistance. These actions are in line with decisions of the ICJ, the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations General Assembly. However, the blatant disregard for these calls demands stronger action.

Subsequently, we call on your government to:

1. Call for an immediate end to the Israeli action in Gaza as demanded by the ICJ.
2. Urge, both publicly and privately, the USA and UK governments and any other governments involved to stop supplying arms to Israel.
3. Instruct our permanent representative to the United Nations in New York to join with others to develop a resolution for the UN General Assembly calling on Israel to comply with previous resolutions of the UN General Assembly, the UN Security Council and the ICJ.
4. If Israel fails to respond adequately, to call for international sanctions on Israel until it complies.
5. Actively support and contribute to international efforts to provide humanitarian aid to the residents of Gaza.
6. Work through all possible channels to influence Hamas in the return of the Israeli hostages.

The continuing abuse and marginalising of our international institutions is doing inestimable damage, not only to the people of Gaza, but also to the standards of international behaviour, our security and the reputation of the countries which are supporting this Israeli action.

We believe that the New Zealand public will be grateful for any meaningful action you can undertake to address this shameful situation.

Yours in Peace and Friendship



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