



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

147th IPU Assembly

Luanda, Angola
23–27 October 2023



Assembly
Item 2

A/147/2-P.2-rev
24 October 2023

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

**Request for the inclusion of an emergency item
in the agenda of the 147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegations of Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group,
Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group**

On 23 October 2023, the IPU Secretary General received from the delegations of Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 147th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“Stopping the war and violations of human rights in Gaza”.

Delegates to the 147th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 147th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group on Tuesday, 24 October 2023.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution, which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The IPU Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted.
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted.
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject.
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.

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#IPU147

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE IPU SECRETARY GENERAL BY THE
DELEGATIONS OF ALGERIA AND KUWAIT ON BEHALF OF THE ARAB GROUP,
INDONESIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), AND SOUTH AFRICA
ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP**

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The Parliaments of Algeria and Kuwait, on behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group, wish to propose the inclusion of the following emergency item in the agenda of the 147th IPU Assembly to be held from 23 to 27 October 2023 in Luanda, Angola:

“Stopping the war and violations of human rights in Gaza”.

A draft resolution, along with an explanatory memorandum, is attached herewith, with the request that the IPU Secretariat circulate these documents to the delegates participating in the work of the Assembly pursuant to the Statutes and Rules of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Members of Parliament of Algeria and Kuwait on
behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic
Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the
African Group

STOPPING THE WAR AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN GAZA

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group

The conflict and war in Palestine have escalated following the full-scale military attack on the Gaza Strip on 7 October 2023. Israel blindly and openly committed a war crime, killing civilians including infants, children and women. They also indiscriminately attacked journalists, patients in hospitals, UN staff, medical workers and even refugee convoys. Homes, hospitals, schools and other public infrastructures were destroyed in the attack. As a result, at least 4,000 Palestinians were killed, more than 8,714 people wounded, and more than 1 million people displaced.

Israeli war crimes against Palestinian people are visibly shown through the use of white phosphorus bombs in its attack against Gaza, putting civilians at the highest risk of serious and long-term injuries. On top of that, Israel is determined to fully besiege and isolate Gaza, cutting off more than 1.1 million Gazan people from supplies of food, water, electricity, fuel and other basic necessities. The Gazan people are facing a complete extinction and ethnic cleansing by the so-called “apartheid regime” of the Israeli Government.

The mounting crisis in Gaza in particular, is a continuation of the violation of human rights and commission of crimes by the Israeli authority. It includes decades of violence against and intimidation of Palestinian people, the annexation of Palestinian land and illegal occupation, desecration of the Al-Aqsa Complex, provocation of anti-Palestinian sentiment, ethnic cleansing, and torture of Palestinian prisoners. Moreover, the blockade and isolation of the Gaza Strip has lasted for more than a decade since 2006, without any exception for humanitarian access and without any progress in negotiations. These acts violate international humanitarian law and the Charter of the United Nations.

The situation in Gaza is the result of the international community’s continuous silence and double standard views in assessing the conflict in Palestine. Regrettably, some countries outspokenly declare their willingness to provide support to this unlawful regime while also ignoring the peace process negotiations, which have been stalled since 2014. At the same time, the United Nations, especially the United Nations Security Council, is not working effectively in resolving the conflict. Its efforts are inadequate in diminishing the tension and implementing its 1947 mandate to establish an independent Palestine State under a two-State solution mechanism. Likewise, it has also proven that the current international system failed in international law enforcement and also failed to uphold global justice, protect the lives of people and the fulfillment of human rights.

It is believed that there will be no world peace, including in Palestine, unless everyone is living in peace, regardless of their nation, ethnicity, religion and faith. Under the spirit of global peace and in keeping with the Charter of the United Nations and international laws, the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, together with Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group have therefore decided to submit a draft resolution entitled “*Stopping the war and violations of human rights in Gaza*” to be included as the emergency item for this 147th IPU Assembly. This resolution emphasizes the importance of global solidarity in ending the military aggression and giving humanitarian access to the Palestinian people in Gaza.

STOPPING THE WAR AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN GAZA

Draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Algeria and Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and South Africa on behalf of the African Group

The 147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Noting with deep concern* the dire situation in the Gaza Strip impacted by full-scale deliberate Israeli military attacks that have killed thousands of civilians, including women, children and the elderly, which amount to war crimes, and which have also displaced more than one million residents, destroyed public infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, mosques, churches and water infrastructure, and cut electricity supplies,
- (2) *Expressing* deep condolences to the victims of the military attacks in the Gaza Strip and *extending* solidarity and sympathy with the Palestinian people affected by blatant war crimes, the loss of their families, homes and shelters, and hopes of a future life,
- (3) *Strongly condemning* the brutal and unlawful decision to isolate the Gaza Strip and cut electricity and energy supplies, and block humanitarian assistance, as well as medical access to the Palestinian people,
- (4) *Bearing in mind* that the worsening situation in Palestine, especially in the Gaza Strip, is the result of the international community's continuous silence and selective use of a double standard policy on the relentless oppression, aggression, violence and intimidation against the Palestinian people and illegal annexation of Palestinian land,
- (5) *Recalling* all relevant international legal instruments which prohibit the use of force against the territorial integrity of any state, including illegal annexation, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,
- (6) *Recalling also* all resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council regarding the protection of the Palestinian people,
- (7) *Recalling further* the IPU resolution *Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace* (144th IPU Assembly, Nusa Dua, March 2022),
- (8) *Noting* that the systematic mass killing, ethnic cleansing and forcible displacement of the Palestinian people, especially Israel's order for 1.1 million Palestinians to leave northern Gaza within 24 hours, contravene the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Geneva Conventions of 1949, and constitute the most serious international crimes under the Rome Statute,
- (9) *Stressing* that all attacks against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, historic monuments, hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided they are not military objectives, constitute serious violations of the laws and customs applicable in international armed conflicts and that they are to be considered as war crimes under the Rome Statute,
- (10) *Deeply regretting* the ineffectiveness, failure and incapability of the international system in resolving and maintaining peace and international security as evidenced from Israel's continuous and blatant violations of various United Nations resolutions on peace between Palestine and Israel,
- (11) *Taking into account* the urgent need to resolve the stalemate, which has persisted since 2014, in the Israeli–Palestinian negotiations, and that biased responses from some countries on the current conflict in the Gaza Strip will only exacerbate the situation, are counterproductive to the international humanitarian mechanism in the field, and undermine global social cohesion that can lead towards a peace process,

(12) *Reaffirming*, without delay, the Palestinian right to the creation of a sovereign, independent, viable and democratic State of Palestine, based on the pre-1967 borders, with Al Quds as its capital city in keeping with the two-State solution, and their inalienable right to self-determination, independence and right to return to their homes and property from which they were displaced in 1948,

1. *Urges* the international community to put pressure on Israel to stop its military aggression by way of a complete ceasefire;
2. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its relevant bodies to act immediately to protect civilians, including by lifting the humanitarian aid blockade of the Gaza Strip;
3. *Urges* the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to investigate in depth the current situation as part of his ongoing investigation which focuses on crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court allegedly committed in connection with the situation in Palestine since 13 June 2014;
4. *Encourages* the international community to be more objective and fairer in assessing the situation in Palestine, and refrain from resorting to double standards and hypocritical views, as such responses will not solve the root cause of the problem or help resume the peace process negotiations, which have been stalling since 2014;
5. *Urges* all countries not to provide assistance to Israel, whether in the form of war equipment, weapons or economic assistance, as providing aid to the attacker is tantamount to supporting war crimes and human rights violations;
6. *Also urges* all countries to use their influence to urge Israel to stop and refrain from taking actions that violate human rights, as well as to lift the total blockade of Gaza;
7. *Calls for* the protection of human rights defenders and journalists who are documenting the conflict situation on the ground;
8. *Calls upon* the United Nations and all parties to agree on long-lasting solutions to end hostilities and conflict through the establishment of a sovereign and independent State of Palestine, based on the pre-1967 borders, with Al Quds as its capital city in keeping with the two-State solution;
9. *Urges* the international community to reform international mechanisms, in particular those enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to provide a prompt and swift response, without political bias, to actions against and threats to international peace and stability;
10. *Calls for* a thorough reform of international systems, particularly the United Nations and its Security Council, in order to strengthen their international law enforcement role in resolving all conflicts, including in Palestine.