

Luxembourg, 7 May, 2025

## Title: Enforcing EU law – Citizens' demand for the Gymnich meeting in Warsaw

To the attention of Mister Xavier BETTEL, Minister of Foreing Affairs of Luxembourg

As EU Ministers for Foreign Affairs are meeting today in Warsaw for an informal meeting in the Gymnich format, Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs - Caspar Veldkamp - demanded from the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs, Kaja Kallas, review of Israel's compliance with the EU-Israel Association Agreement, notably regarding Article 2: Israel's obligations under humanitarian law. Respect for human rights constitutes an "essential element" of the EU Association Agreements with partner countries, including Israel. Already last year Ireland and Spain publicly demanded this assessment of Israel's compliance with art 2 from the European Commission - with no reply till now. <u>Over 250 parliamentarians denounced</u> the Commission's failure to act in this regard.

In the last 19 months Israeli forces have killed over 70,000 Palestinians in Gaza (including 20,000 children). Since March 2, Israel blocked entry of all humanitarian aid and food to Gaza Strip, using starvation as a weapon against 2,2 mln Gaza inhabitants.

Numerous reports from UN bodies, the UN Commission of Inquiry, special rapporteurs, and leading human rights organisations have documented Israel's structural policies of forcible transfer, starvation, and deprivation of water in Gaza.

Only days after the EU held the EU-Israel Association Council meeting in Brussels on February 24, the Israeli government showed its complete disrespect for the EU's core human rights law and humanitarian rights law requests made to Israel that day and just a week later, Israel has enforced a <u>complete</u> <u>blocking of humanitarian aid into Gaza</u> to <u>use starvation of civilians as a weapon</u>, which is considered by the International Criminal Court (ICC) as war crime and crime against humanity, for which the ICC has issued arrest warrants against Israel's Prime Minister and former Minister of Defence.

Despite the ICJ rulings, ICC arrest warrant issued against Israeli leaders, numerous UN reports - the EU has failed to condemn the Israeli targeting of civilians and denial of humanitarian access in Gaza in violation of IHL and uphold its legal obligations.

Third states have the obligation not to aid and assist Israel's unlawful conduct, lest being complicit.

We urge you to take a stand at the Gymnich meeting in Warsaw and **support the Dutch government position on the revision of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. We urge you to demand from the European Commission - as a Guardian of the Treaty - full suspension of the treaty** 



## in light of the unprecedented scale of the crimes committed by the State of Israel and the current threats to international law and UN institutions.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW! Palestinian people in occupied Gaza and the West Bank are facing the risk of complete ethnic cleansing. YOU have the power to stop it!

We thank you for your attention and remain sincerely yours,

Michel LEGRAND

On behalf of the CPJPO Board of Directors

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