



**For immediate release,**

*Press release by the Minister of the Interior in order to inform the public on preparations in event of a refugee crisis as a result of an ongoing conflict*

I believe the situation in Gaza will worsen as people are moved away from their homes, and I wish for us to have a plan with regard to a possible refugee crisis, as this is a criteria which fits that situation, I will be putting into using Sections 26(a) of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, in order to designate Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport for the purpose of accepting refugees should the situation in Gaza be worsened. This will be done conditionally as we continue to watch the situation unfold in the region. I will be using Section 26.1 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, in order to ensure that the Port of entry has the required services. The government will work to ensure that the Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport continues to be able to operate with its normal schedule.

