

A Statement by Current and former Australian Elected Representatives on the Situation in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories

As current and former Australian elected representatives from all levels of government, we make the following statement in support of an immediate, permanent ceasefire and a just and lasting peace:

1. All states have an obligation to contribute to upholding international law, including human rights, international humanitarian law and the other universally accepted norms of the international legal system.
2. For too long the human rights of the Palestinian people have been grossly violated, in the context of broader circumstances that also breach international law and pose a grave threat to international peace and security.
3. These violations began in 1948 with the violent displacement of some 700,000 Palestinian people from their homeland. These people, and hundreds of thousands more displaced since, have all been denied a right of return.
4. The occupation by Israel of the West Bank and Gaza, ongoing since 1967, continues to involve military occupation, illegal settlement expansion, land theft, violence, discrimination, restrictions on movement and the subjugation of the Palestinian people. The situation is intolerable and to the shame of the international community.
5. While Gaza was cleared of illegal Israeli settlements in 2005, the ongoing blockade clearly constitutes an occupation under applicable international law standards.
6. It is beyond dispute that Israel is committed to policies designed to entrench the domination of one people over another in the territories of Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Attempts to deny this, or smear those who allege it, are an attempt to defy truth and reality.
7. These events and policies have involved the destruction of Palestinian society and the denial of the legitimate national aspirations of the Palestinian people.
8. On 3 March 2021 the International Criminal Court announced it had opened an investigation into Israel and certain Palestinian armed groups. The Chief Prosecutor of the Court has announced it, “encompasses conduct that may amount to Rome Statute crimes committed since 13 June 2014 in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem”.
9. We note Australia is a state party to the International Criminal Court and bound by its statute which makes criminal the gravest international crimes.
10. The deliberate or reckless killing of innocent civilians is never defensible, whatever the context, and both the horrific acts of Hamas on 7 October and the horrendous scale of the civilian death toll caused by the Israeli military response will properly form part of that investigation.
11. We call on the Australian Government to publicly advocate for an immediate permanent ceasefire, to continue to call for the release of all hostages and urge that all parties fully comply with international standards.
12. We call on the Australian Government to recognise Palestine as a state that is entitled to be free of occupation.
13. We call on the Australian Government to examine its relationship with Israel, with a focus on positively contributing to the resolution of this intolerable and dangerous situation that threatens the people of Israel and Palestine and the entire international community.
14. We stand with Palestine, the Palestinian people, including Palestinian Australians and with all others who support truth and justice, including the many Jewish people protesting Israeli violence against Palestinians.

Signatories:

1. Senator Penny Allman-Payne, Greens, Queensland
2. Councillor Richard Ammoun, Liberal, Liverpool City Council (NSW)
3. Councillor Khal Asfour, Labor, former Mayor, Canterbury Bankstown (NSW)
4. Mr Alan Ashton, Labor, former Member for East Hills (NSW Parliament)
5. Councillor Liz Atkins, Greens, Inner West Council (NSW)
6. Councillor Hassan Awada, Liberal, Sutherland Shire Council (NSW)
7. Councillor Monika Ball, Greens, Hornsby Council (NSW)
8. Mr Adam Bandt, Member for Melbourne and leader of the Australian Greens, Federal Parliament
9. Mr Stephen Bates, Greens, Member for Brisbane, Federal Parliament
10. Mr Michael Berkman, Greens Member for Maiwar, Queensland Parliament
11. Councillor Joshua Black, Labor, Dubbo Regional Council (NSW)
12. Councillor Cath Blakey, Greens, Wollongong City Council (NSW)
13. Councillor, Sue Bolton, Socialist Alliance, City of Merri-bek (VIC)
14. Ms Abigail Boyd, Greens, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
15. Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery AM, Independent Lord Mayor, Wollongong City Council (NSW)
16. Mr Andrew Braddock Greens, Member for Yerrabi, ACT Legislative Assembly
17. Councillor Phil Bradley, Greens, City of Parramatta (NSW)
18. Bob Brown, former Leader, the Australian Greens; Federal Parliament
19. Ms Liza Butler, Labor, Member for South Coast, NSW Parliament
20. The Hon Mark Buttigieg, Labor, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
21. Mr Sam Byrne, Greens, former Mayor, Marrickville Council (NSW)
22. Ms Fiona Byrne, Greens, former Mayor, Marrickville Council (NSW)
23. The Hon Doug Cameron, Labor, former Senator in the Federal Parliament
24. Mr George Campbell, Labor, former Councillor, Auburn City Council (NSW)
25. Mr Carlo Carli, Labor, former Member of the Victorian Parliament
26. The Hon Bob Carr, Labor, former Premier of NSW, fmr Member for Maroubra, fmr Foreign Minister
27. Mr Max Chandler-Mather, Greens, Member for Griffith, Federal Parliament
28. Mr Craig Channells, Greens, former Councillor, Leichhardt Council (NSW)
29. Councillor Kym Chapple, Greens, Councillor, Randwick City Council (NSW)
30. Ms Jo Clay Greens Member of ACT Legislative Assembly
31. Councillor Belinda Coates, Greens, City of Ballarat (VIC)
32. Dr Amanda Cohn, Greens, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
33. Councillor Cliff Collinson, Independent, Town of East Fremantle (WA)
34. Dr Diane Colman, Labor, Councillor, Cumberland City Council (NSW)
35. Ms Katherine, Copsey, Greens, Member for Southern Metropolitan, Victorian Parliament
36. Councillor Gideon Cordover, Greens, Kingborough Council (TAS)
37. Senator Dorinda Cox, Greens, Senator for Western Australia, Federal Parliament
38. Councillor Mithra Cox, Greens, Wollongong City Council (NSW)
39. Councillor Chris Crabbe, Independent, City of Unley (SA)
40. Mr Jordan Crugnale, Labor, State Member for Bass, Victorian Parliament
41. Councillor Ned Cutcher, Greens, Burwood Council (NSW)
42. The Hon Anthony D'Adam, Labor, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
43. Councillor Jessica D'Arienzo, Labor, Inner West Council (NSW)
44. Councillor Marghanita da Cruz, Greens, Inner West Council (NSW)
45. Ms Emma Davidson Greens Minister, ACT Legislative Assembly
46. Mx Gabrielle de Vietri, Greens, Member for Richmond, Victorian Parliament
47. Dr Richard Di Natale, Greens, former Senator, Federal Parliament

48. Ms Meryl Dillon, Labor, former Councillor, Moree Plains (NSW)
49. Ms Christine Donayre, Greens, former Councillor, Burwood Council (NSW)
50. Councillor Linda Downey, Labor, Canterbury Bankstown City (NSW)
51. Ms Trish Doyle, Labor, Member for Blue Mountains, NSW Parliament
52. Councillor Mark Drury, Labor, Inner West Council (NSW)
53. Ms Samantha Dunn, Greens, former Member of the Victorian Parliament
54. Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Greens, City of Sydney (NSW)
55. Councillor Glenn Elmore, Labor, Cumberland City Council (NSW)
56. Mr David Ettershank, Legalise Cannabis, Member of the Legislative Council, Victorian Parliament
57. Professor the Hon Gareth Evans, Labor, former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Federal Parliament
58. Councillor Ludovico Fabiano, Greens, Waverley Ward Councillor, Waverley Council (NSW)
59. Ms Cate Faehrmann, Greens, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
60. Senator Mehreen Faruqi, Greens, Senator for NSW, Federal Parliament
61. The Hon Amanda Fazio, Labor, former President of the NSW Legislative Council
62. Mr Laurie Ferguson, Labor, former Member for Reid and Werriwa, Federal Parliament
63. Ms Julia Finn, Labor, Member for Granville, Co-convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Palestine, NSW Parliament
64. The Hon Tammy Franks, Greens, Member of the Legislative Council, SA Parliament
65. Councillor Rhonda Garad, Greens, City of Greater Dandenong (VIC)
66. Councillor Stephen Gardner, Independent, Mount Alexander Shire Council (VIC)
67. Ms El Gibbs, Independent, former Councillor, Blue Mountains City Council (NSW)
68. Ms Hannah Gissane, Greens, former Councillor, Lake Macquarie City Council (NSW)
69. Councillor Kristyn Glanville, Greens, Northern Beaches Council (NSW)
70. The Hon Alan Griffin, Labor, former Minister for Veterans Affairs & Defence Personnel, Federal Parliament
71. Councillor Dylan Griffiths, Greens, Inner West Council (NSW)
72. Mr David Grove, Independent, former Councillor, City of Northcote (Darebin)
73. Mr Nathan Hagarty, Labor, Member for Leppington, NSW Parliament
74. Ms Sylvia Hale, Greens, former Member, NSW Legislative Council (MLC)
75. Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny, Labor, Member for Thomastown, Co-convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Palestine, Victorian Parliament
76. Ms Jill Hall, Labor, former Member for Shortland, Federal Parliament;
77. Deputy Mayor Ola Hamed, Labor, Deputy Mayor, Cumberland City Council (NSW)
78. Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Greens, Senator for South Australia, Federal Parliament
79. Councillor Georgie Hart, Independent, City of Unley (SA)
80. Mr Ross Hart, Labor, former Federal Member for Bass, Federal Parliament
81. Ms Colleen Hartland, Greens former MP Western Metro Region Victoria, Victorian Parliament
82. Ms Sarah Hathway, Socialist Alliance, Councillor, Greater Geelong City Council (VIC)
83. Mr Jack Herry, Independent, Councillor, Rural City of Wangaratta (VIC)
84. Mr Colin Hesse, Greens, former Councillor, Inner West Council (NSW)
85. Mr Sam Hibbins, Greens, Member for Prahran, Victorian Parliament
86. Ms Sue Higginson, Greens, Member of NSW Legislative Council & Solicitor
87. Councillor Brent Hoare, Greens, City of Blue Mountains (NSW)
88. The Hon Mr Brian Howe, Labor, former Deputy Prime Minister, Federal Parliament
89. Councillor Mohamad Hussein Labor, Cumberland City Council (NSW)
90. Councillor Charles Jago, Greens, City of Canada Bay Council (NSW)
91. Ms Charishma Kaliyanda, Labor, Member for Liverpool, NSW Parliament
92. Ms Linda Kelly, Labor, former Deputy Mayor, former Leichhardt Municipal Council (NSW)
93. Mr Tom Kiat, Greens, former Councillor, Inner West Council (NSW)

94. Mr Warren Kirby, Labor Member for Riverstone, NSW Parliament
95. Mr Matthew Kirwan, Greens, former Councillor, City of Greater Dandenong (VIC)
96. Councillor Angela Knott, Greens, Tasman Council (TAS)
97. Ms Justine Langford, Greens, Inner West Council (NSW)
98. Prof John Langmore, Labor, Member for Fraser, Australian House of Representatives
99. Mr Stephen Lawrence, Labor, Member of the Legislative Council, NSW Parliament, former Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council
100. Ms Jenny Leong, Greens, Member for Newtown, Co-convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Palestine, NSW Parliament
101. Mr Scott Ludlam, Greens, former Senator for Western Australia, Federal Parliament
102. Councillor Sarah Luscombe, Independent, City of Marion (SA)
103. The Hon Paul Lynch, Labor, former Minister, NSW Parliament
104. Dr Amy MacMahon, Greens, MP for South Brisbane, Queensland Parliament
105. The Hon Ian Macphie AO, Liberal, former Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Federal Parliament
106. Mr Prabir Maitra, Labor, former Councillor, Parramatta Council (NSW)
107. Councillor David Mallard, Greens, Orange City Council (NSW)
108. Dr Sarah Mansfield, Greens, Member of Legislative Council, Victorian Parliament
109. Mr Gavin Marshall, Labor, former Senator, Federal Parliament
110. Councillor Trina Massey, Greens, Brisbane City Council
111. Councillor Kate McGrath, Labor, Gunnedah Shire (NSW)
112. Senator Nick McKim, Greens, Senator for Tasmania, Federal Parliament
113. Councillor Dr Jenny McKinnon Greens, Wagga Wagga City Council (NSW)
114. The Hon Jean McLean AM, Labor, former member for Melbourne West Victoria, Victorian Parliament
115. The Hon Leo McLeay, Labor, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, Federal Parliament, former Member for Grayndler
116. Councillor Susan McMichael, Labor, Armidale Regional Council (NSW)
117. Councillor Jim Merneti, Labor, former Mayor, City of Dandenong (VIC)
118. Ms Christine Milne AO, Greens, former Leader of Australian Greens, former Senator in the Federal Parliament
119. Councillor Anab Mohamud, Greens, Deputy Mayor, City Of Yarra Council (VIC)
120. Ms Claire Moore, Labor, former Senator, Federal Parliament
121. The Hon Shaoquett Moselmane, Labor, former Member of the NSW Legislative Council
122. Mr Cameron Murphy, Labor, Member of the NSW Legislative Council
123. Ms Kerry Nettle, Greens, former Senator, Federal Parliament
124. Mr Joey Nicita, Greens, former Councillor, Hornsby Council (NSW)
125. Mr Michael Noris, Independent, former Councillor, Bayside City Council, Victoria
126. Mr Stephen Nugent, Greens, former Councillor, Orange City Council (NSW)
127. Ms Laura Nuttall, Greens, Member of the ACT Legislative Assembly
128. Councillor Debra O'Brien, Labor, Armidale Regional Council (NSW)
129. Ms Jenny O'Connor, Independent, former Mayor, Indigo Shire (VIC)
130. Mr Ken O'Dowd Nationals, former member for Flynn, Federal Parliament 2010-2022
131. Ms Anne O'Shea, Independent, former Mayor and former Councillor, City of Stonnington (VIC)
132. Ms Cathy O'Toole, Labor, former Member for Herbert, Federal Parliament
133. Councillor Michael Olive, Greens, Randwick City Council (NSW)
134. Mr Michael Organ, Greens, former Member for Cunningham, Federal parliament
135. Councillor Lazaras Panayiotou, Greens, City of Port Adelaide Enfield (SA)
136. Councillor Rafaela Pandolfini, Greens, Randwick City Council (NSW)
137. Councillor Angelica Panopoulos, Greens, Merri-bek City Council (VIC)

138. Ms Melissa Parke, Labor, former Minister and Member for Fremantle, Federal Parliament
139. Ms Fiona Patten, Reason Australia, former Member of the Legislative Council, Victorian Parliament
140. Senator Fatima Payman, Labor, Senator for WA, Federal Parliament
141. Ms Rachel Payne, Legalise Cannabis Victoria, Member for SE Metro Region, Victorian Parliament
142. Ms Cathy Peters, Greens, former Councillor, Marrickville Council (NSW)
143. Dr Brad Pettitt, Greens, Member of the WA Legislative Council for South Metro, WA Parliament
144. Senator Barbara Pocock, Greens, Senator for South Australia, Federal Parliament
145. Mr Aiv Puglielli, Greens, Member for North-East Metropolitan region, Victorian Parliament
146. Ms Georgie Purcell, Animal Justice Party, Member for Northern Victoria, Victorian Parliament
147. Councillor Sarah Race, Independent, Mornington Peninsula Shire (Vic)
148. Ms Samantha Ratnam, Greens, Leader of Victorian Greens, Co-convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Palestine, Member for Northern Metropolitan, Victorian Parliament
149. Mr Shane Rattenbury Greens, Attorney General ACT Legislative Assembly
150. Dr Tim Read, Greens, Member for Brunswick, Victorian Parliament
151. Councillor Dr Sarah Redshaw, Greens, Blue Mountains (NSW)
152. Dr Marc Sebastian Rerceretnam, Independent, former Councillor, Ashfield Council 2004-12 (now Inner West Council) (NSW)
153. Ms Lee Rhiannon, Greens, former Senator for NSW, Federal Parliament
154. Senator Janet Rice, Greens, Senator for Victoria, Federal Parliament
155. Councillor Kathy Rice, Greens, Kiama (NSW)
156. Councillor Morgan Rickard, Greens, City of Darwin (NT)
157. Mr Peter Russo, Labor, Member for Toohey, Queensland Parliament
158. Councillor James Ryan, Greens, Cessnock City Council (NSW)
159. Councillor Hadi Saab, Independent, City of Kingston (VIC)
160. Councillor Karl Saleh, Labor, former Deputy Mayor, Canterbury Bankstown Council (NSW)
161. Ms Ellen Sandell, Greens, Member for Melbourne, Victorian Parliament
162. Councillor Philippa Scott, Labor, Inner West Council (NSW)
163. The Hon Adam Searle, Labor, Leaders of the Opposition in the NSW Legislative Council
164. Councillor Melanie Selwood, Independent, Adelaide Hills Council (SA)
165. Ms Kobi Shetty, Greens, Member for Balmain, NSW Parliament
166. Senator David Shoebridge, Greens, Senator for New South Wales, Federal Parliament
167. Mr Vincent Sicari, Independent, former Mayor, Ashfield Council (NSW)
168. Ms Irene Simms, Independent, former Mayor, Auburn Council (NSW)
169. Mr Robert Simms MLC, Greens, Member of the Legislative Council, SA Parliament
170. Ms Tamara Smith MP, Greens Member for Ballina, NSW Parliament
171. Councillor Keiran Snape, Greens, City of Adelaide (SA)
172. Councillor Sam Spinks, Greens, Greater Shepparton City Council (VIC)
173. Ms Nina Springle, Greens, former Member for South-East Metro, Victorian Parliament
174. The Hon Peter Staples, Labor, former Minister for Housing and Aged Care, Federal Parliament
175. Senator Jordon Steele-John, Greens, Senator for Western Australia, Federal Parliament
176. Councillor Tim Stephens, Labor, Inner West Council (NSW)
177. Ms Sonja Terpstra, Labor, Member for North Eastern Metro, Victorian Parliament
178. Professor Mr Philip Thalys, Independent, former Councillor, City of Sydney (NSW)
179. Mr Paul Thomas, Greens, former Councillor, Huon Valley Council (TAS)
180. Senator Lidia Thorpe, Independent, Senator for Victoria, Federal Parliament
181. Ms Huong Truong, Greens, former Upper House Member for Western Metropolitan Region, Victorian Parliament
182. Ms Pauline Tyrrell, Greens, former Councillor, City of Canada Bay Council (NSW)

183. Mr Rob Valentine, Independent, Member for Hobart, Tasmania Legislative Council
184. Ms Maria Vamvakinou, Labor, Member for Calwell, Co-convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Palestine., Federal Parliament
185. Ms Rebecca Vassarotti, Greens, Current Member of the ACT Legislative Assembly
186. Councillor Philipa Veitch, Greens, Mayor of Randwick City Council (NSW)
187. Ms Lynda Voltz, Labor, Member for Auburn, NSW Parliament
188. Councillor Sophie Wade, Greens, former Mayor, Yarra City Council (VIC)
189. Councillor David Walsh, Labor, City of Canterbury-Bankstown (NSW)
190. Councillor Maureen Walsh, Labor, former Deputy Lord Mayor, Parramatta (NSW)
191. Senator Larissa Waters, Greens, Senator for Queensland, Federal Parliament
192. Ms Elizabeth Watson-Brown, Greens, Member for Ryan, Federal Parliament
193. Councillor Dr Greta Werner, Greens, Bayside Council (NSW)
194. Councillor Danielle Wheeler, Greens, Hawkesbury City Council (NSW)
195. Mr Dylan Wight, Labor, Member for Tarneit, Victorian Parliament
196. Senator Peter Whish-Wilson, Greens, Senator for Tasmania, Federal Parliament
197. Mr Andrew Wilkie, Independent, Member for Clark (TAS)
198. Mr Leigh Williams, Greens, former Greens Councillor, Hawkesbury Council (NSW)
199. Councillor Alison Worthington, Greens, Deputy Mayor, Eurobodalla Shire Council (NSW)
200. Mr Tom Zreika OAM, Liberal, former Councillor, Cumberland City Council (NSW)