

Alessandra Menegon, Head of ICRC Delegation [tel\\_tel-aviv@icrc.org](mailto:tel_tel-aviv@icrc.org)  
Sara Davies, spokesperson [sadavies@icrc.org](mailto:sadavies@icrc.org),  
Ola Ulmo, Rep & Head of Operations [jer\\_jerusalem@icrc.org](mailto:jer_jerusalem@icrc.org)  
William Schomburg, Head of Sub-delegations  
Hisham Mhanna, Spokesperson [lmhanna@icrc.org](mailto:lmhanna@icrc.org)  
Arnaud Meffre, head of Sub-delegation  
Rula Tabari, spokesperson [rtabari@icrc.org](mailto:rtabari@icrc.org)

Dear ICRC Delegation in Israel & Occupied territories:

I write to you as a member of Oak Life Church in Oakland, California (USA). Our church is deeply concerned about the human rights and safety of Palestinians in Israeli prisons and the families of released detainees.

**We demand immediate action, accountability, and greater transparency from the International Red Cross (ICRC).**

We are grateful for the outrage expressed by the ICRC in the February issue of the [Palestinian Chronicle](#) ; however, we need more than words. We need clear, decisive, bold actions. The ICRC must address the grave concerns surrounding the ongoing torture and abuse of Palestinian prisoners as well as the role of The International Red Cross in ensuring their protection and well-being.

Prisoners released from the cease fire exchange show visible signs of torture on their bodies, underscoring the severe violation of their fundamental human rights. It has come to light through testimonies from these released detainees that they were subjected to brutal beatings and other forms of inhumane treatment in the presence of ICRC representatives, leaving a stark question about the organization's action, or lack thereof, in these critical moments.

The silence or inaction of the ICRC when it comes to these atrocities is unacceptable and raises concerns about the effectiveness of its advocacy for prisoner rights under occupation. As an international human rights organization, the ICRC is mandated to monitor and intervene in situations where prisoners are being subjected to torture, degrading treatment, and unlawful detention Therefore, I urge the International Red Cross to:

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- Immediately investigate the accounts of torture, and abuse reported by former prisoners
  - Demand full accountability from the occupying power for the ongoing violations of international law, including the Geneva Conventions and the United Nations Convention against Torture.
  - Ensure that IRC personnel are present during the detention and release (exchange) procedures to prevent further abuse, and to act as independent witnesses to these human rights violations
  - Publicly report all incidents of mistreatment and torture of Palestinian prisoners, providing transparency and pressure for an immediate end to such practices.
  - Advocate for immediate access to all detention centers, to ensure the physical and psychological integrity of detainees and to hold those responsible for abuses accountable under international law

**We URGE the IRC to act decisively and without delay to uphold its obligations to protect those who are most vulnerable under occupation.** The lives, dignity, and rights of Palestinian detainees must

not continue to be disregarded. The world is watching. And we, as people of faith, are mandated to not be silent nor allow agencies of the UN and IRC to be silent or inactive. We expect you to respond to this letter by spelling out the **SPECIFIC ACTIONS that the IRC is taking to uphold its mandate.**

Respectfully,

**YOUR NAME**

Cc: Dr. Alice Jill Edwards, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, [hrc-sr-torture@un.org](mailto:hrc-sr-torture@un.org)

Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations, [undesa@un.org](mailto:undesa@un.org)

Friends, [peacebuildersacademy@gmail.com](mailto:peacebuildersacademy@gmail.com)

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