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## 2024 G7 Apulia Summit Interim Compliance Report

15 June 2024 to 20 December 2024

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,  
*in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit*

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### 3. Regional Security: Two-State Solution for Israel and Palestine

“We reiterate our unwavering commitment to the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and in this regard stress the importance of unifying the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.”

*Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué*

#### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00 (100%)	

#### Background

Following Israel’s declaration of independence in 1948, which triggered the first Arab-Israeli war and the Nakba – the mass displacement of Palestinian refugees – decades of conflict ensued, including major wars in 1956, 1967, and 1973.<sup>170</sup> The Oslo Accords of the 1990s introduced hope for peace through a two-state solution, but ongoing settlement expansion, the earlier rise of the terrorist organization Hamas, and the Second Intifada (2000-2005) fueled renewed violence and deepened distrust. Since 1988, G7 leaders have consistently emphasized the need for a negotiated settlement between Israel and the Palestinians, recognizing that the conflict poses significant risks to regional stability and global security.<sup>171</sup> However, a critical turning point occurred on 7 October 2023, when Hamas launched a large-scale and coordinated attack on Israel, marking a significant escalation in the Israel-Palestinian conflict.<sup>172</sup> At the 2024 Apulia Summit, G7 members condemned the attacks and called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, as outlined in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2735.<sup>173</sup> The G7 has long advocated for the creation of a viable, democratic Palestinian state living peacefully alongside Israel, in accordance with international law and relevant UN resolutions, including Resolutions 242 and 338.<sup>174</sup> This commitment to a two-state solution, which includes addressing critical issues such as borders, security, and the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, has been reiterated at various summits.<sup>175</sup> For G7 members, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict represents a multifaceted international concern. In addition to the humanitarian toll, the conflict has broader implications for global security, economic stability, and diplomatic relations.

<sup>170</sup> Arab-Israeli Wars, Britannica (Chicago) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Arab-Israeli-wars>

<sup>171</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair’s Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto). 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>172</sup> Arab-Israeli Wars, Britannica (Chicago) 29 July 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Arab-Israeli-wars>

<sup>173</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 15 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communication.html>

<sup>174</sup> <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>175</sup> G8 Statement: Gaza Withdrawal and the Road Ahead to Mideast Peace, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2004. Access Date: 12 September 2024. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/mideast.html>

At the 1981 Ottawa Summit, G7 leaders reiterated their commitment to finding a resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.<sup>176</sup> The leaders urged all parties involved to show restraint and avoid retaliatory actions that could further escalate the conflict and lead to more violence in the region.

At the 1988 Toronto Summit, G7 leaders expressed concern about the growing instability in the Near East, noting that the ongoing violence in the Occupied Territories highlighted the unsustainability of the current situation.<sup>177</sup> They emphasized the need for a timely negotiated settlement to address the Arab-Israeli conflict and endorsed the convening of an international conference as the most effective framework for direct negotiations.

At the 1989 Paris Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their concern regarding the situation in the Near East.<sup>178</sup> Leaders cited recent partisan declarations in Israel, ongoing violence in the occupied territories, and worsening living conditions in the West Bank and Gaza as clear indicators of the need for a solution that addresses the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people and the security of all states in the region, including Israel. They emphasized the importance of opening a dialogue between the Parties with the goal of negotiations and acknowledged that the proposed elections in the occupied territories may serve as a positive step toward mutual recognition. Additionally, they expressed support for an international conference as a suitable framework to facilitate direct dialogue and address the issues critical to achieving peace in the Near East.

At the 1990 Houston Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged differing perspectives on the Middle East but reached a consensus on the need for progress in the peace process.<sup>179</sup> They expressed hope that the ongoing cycle of violence and repression would soon be replaced by dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians, leading to democratic elections and constructive negotiations.

At the 1991 London Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the importance of launching a peace process between Israel, the Palestinians, and Arab neighbors, based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the principle of territory for peace.<sup>180</sup> They endorsed the idea of a peace conference to facilitate direct negotiations and expressed continued support for the American-led initiative as the best path forward. The leaders urged all Parties to adopt confidence-building measures and show flexibility to enable the conference, calling for the suspension of the Arab boycott and Israel's settlement expansion in occupied territories.

At the 1993 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their full support for efforts to achieve lasting peace in the Middle East and urged both Israel and Arab states to take additional confidence-building measures.<sup>181</sup> They reiterated the call for an end to the Arab boycott and emphasized the importance of Israel fulfilling its obligations concerning the occupied territories.

At the 1994 Naples Summit, G7 leaders welcomed the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and the Gaza-Jericho agreement as important steps forward.<sup>182</sup> They emphasized the need to accelerate aid delivery to

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<sup>176</sup> Chairman's Summary of Political Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 1981. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1981ottawa/chairman.html>

<sup>177</sup> Chairman's Summary of Political Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1988. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1988toronto/chairman.html>

<sup>178</sup> Statement on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 July 1989. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/arab\\_english.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1989paris/arab_english.html)

<sup>179</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1990. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1990houston/chairman.html>

<sup>180</sup> Political Declaration: Strengthening the International Order, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 1991. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1991london/political.html>

<sup>181</sup> Tokyo Summit Political Declaration: Striving for a More Secure and Humane World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 1993. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1993tokyo/political.html>

<sup>182</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 1994. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1994naples/chairman.html>

improve living conditions. Additionally, the leaders stressed the importance of progress in bilateral and multilateral negotiations to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

At the 1995 Halifax Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their strong support for the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and urged both parties to finalize election arrangements for the Palestinian Autonomous Territory and the redeployment of Israeli Defence Forces.<sup>183</sup>

At the 1996 Lyon Summit, G7 leaders welcomed the progress in the Middle East peace process, including key agreements between Israel and the Palestinians and growing ties between Israel and its neighbors.<sup>184</sup> Leaders emphasized the need for democratic institutions, rule of law, and human rights under the Palestinian Authority.

At the 1997 Denver Summit, G7 leaders expressed their determination to revive momentum in the Middle East peace process, emphasizing the need to restore security and confidence between Israelis and Palestinians.<sup>185</sup> They committed to reinvigorating the implementation of the Oslo Accords and upholding the land-for-peace principle from the Madrid talks. Both sides were urged to avoid actions that could hinder negotiations.

At the 1998 Birmingham Summit, G8 leaders voiced deep concern over the deadlock in the Middle East peace process and urged efforts to revive it.<sup>186</sup> Both Israeli and Palestinian leaders were urged to avoid unilateral actions that could undermine final status talks. The leaders also emphasized the importance of resuming negotiations to restore momentum and achieve comprehensive peace with Israel, the Palestinians, Syria, and Lebanon. They warned that continued stalemate could threaten regional security.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a negotiated Middle East peace, highlighting the importance of implementing existing commitments and principles, such as land for peace, UN Security Council resolutions, and the Madrid and Oslo Accords.<sup>187</sup> They welcomed encouraging statements from Israel's Prime Minister-elect and called on all parties to engage in the peace process with renewed effort and good faith. The leaders urged Israel and the Palestinians to fully implement the Wye River Memorandum, stressing the need to combat terrorism, prevent violence, and avoid actions that could prejudice the outcome of Permanent Status negotiations.

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the opportunity for achieving comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, along with the Madrid and Oslo Accords.<sup>188</sup> They reaffirmed their strong support for efforts to advance the peace process and emphasized the need for a peaceful resolution of disputes. They welcomed the decision to continue talks and pledged their support for implementing any peace agreements, urging the international community to contribute to these efforts.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 leaders expressed deep concern over the worsening situation in the Middle East, noting the tragic loss of lives and the urgent need for action.<sup>189</sup>

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<sup>183</sup> Chairman's Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 17 June 1995. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/chairman.html>

<sup>184</sup> Chairman's Statement: Toward Greater Security and Stability in a More Cooperative World, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1996. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1996lyon/chair.html>

<sup>185</sup> Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>

<sup>186</sup> Political Statement – Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 May 1998. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/regional.htm>

<sup>187</sup> G8 Statement on Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/regional.htm>

<sup>188</sup> G8 Statement on Regional Issues, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 2000. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/region.htm>

<sup>189</sup> G8 Statement on the Middle East, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 21 July 2001. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/middleeast.html>

At the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to achieving peace in the Middle East, and envisioned two states, Israel and Palestine, coexisting within secure and recognized borders.<sup>190</sup> They emphasized the urgency of reforming Palestinian institutions and its economy, along with the need for free and fair elections.

At the 2003 Evian-les-Bains Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the acceptance of the Quartet Roadmap by both Israel and the Palestinians and expressed their commitment to supporting its implementation.<sup>191</sup> The Quartet Roadmap, a plan proposed by the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, and Russia, aimed to establish a two-state solution by outlining key steps for both parties, including ending violence, building Palestinian political institutions, and resuming negotiations for a final peace agreement.<sup>192</sup> The leaders directed their ministers to explore measures to revitalize and rebuild the Palestinian economy, with a focus on encouraging private investment as part of the broader Middle East Peace Process.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the prospect of Israel's withdrawal from Gaza settlements and parts of the West Bank, following the Israeli Cabinet's approval of Prime Minister Sharon's plan.<sup>193</sup> They saw this as an important opportunity for advancing peace and achieving the goal of two states, Israel and a viable, democratic Palestine, living peacefully side by side. Leaders reaffirmed the Quartet Roadmap as the path to comprehensive peace and urged all parties to fulfill their obligations. They also emphasized the importance of enhancing Palestinian humanitarian conditions, rebuilding institutions, and ensuring security in the areas Israel plans to withdraw from.

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the importance of resolving the Middle East conflict for global peace and regional prosperity.<sup>194</sup> Their shared goal remained a final settlement that would establish a viable, democratic Palestinian state coexisting peacefully alongside a secure and recognized Israel. They also welcomed Israel's planned withdrawal from Gaza and parts of the northern West Bank, noting that its success would require close coordination between the parties.

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders expressed deep concern over the escalating situation in the Middle East, highlighting the growing civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure.<sup>195</sup> The leaders outlined key steps toward a sustainable ceasefire, including the return of Israeli soldiers, the cessation of military operations, and the resumption of dialogue between Israel and the Palestinians. The leaders also encouraged regional actors such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan to continue their efforts to restore peace.

At the 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East.<sup>196</sup> They expressed full support for the Middle East Quartet's central role in advancing peace and emphasized their hope that ongoing talks would pave the way for negotiations to establish a Palestinian state. legislature.

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<sup>190</sup> The Kananaskis Summit Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 June 2002. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/summary.html>

<sup>191</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 3 June 2003. Access Date: 7 September 2024. [https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique\\_en.html](https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communique_en.html)

<sup>192</sup> Middle East Quartet, Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (New York) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://unsco.unmissions.org/mideast-quartet>

<sup>193</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/summary.html>

<sup>194</sup> Middle East Peace Process, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2005. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/mepp.pdf>

<sup>195</sup> Middle East, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/mideast.html>

<sup>196</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2007. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2007heiligendamm/g8-2007-summary.pdf>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their full support for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations aimed at reaching an agreement by the end of 2008.<sup>197</sup> They urged all parties to avoid actions that could undermine the talks and to fulfill their obligations under the Quartet Roadmap, including freezing settlement activities and ending violence, terrorism, and incitement. They also committed to continuing their assistance to the Palestinians and supporting the strengthening of Palestinian institutions, while expressing hope for a comprehensive peace between Israel and its neighbors.

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their strong support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and called for a swift resumption of direct negotiations between the parties.<sup>198</sup> The leaders also emphasized their commitment to fully supporting the Palestinian Authority, and once a peace agreement is achieved, they pledged to launch a comprehensive plan aimed at developing infrastructure and promoting economic growth in a future Palestinian state.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the start of talks between the Palestinians and Israel and urged conditions for direct negotiations toward a peaceful two-state solution.<sup>199</sup> The leaders expressed regret over the 31 May Gaza incident, supported Israel's independent commission, and stressed the need to implement UN Security Council Resolution 1860. They praised Israel's new Gaza policy, emphasizing full implementation to address humanitarian needs and security. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening Palestinian institutions, developing the economy, and supporting the West Bank and Gaza for future peace.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders reiterated their support for a two-state solution, envisioning an independent, democratic, and viable Palestinian state living peacefully alongside Israel and its neighbors.<sup>200</sup> The leaders called for necessary trust-building measures and urged both parties to resume direct negotiations without preconditions, referencing the 23 September 2011 statement from the Middle East Quartet. They also reaffirmed their support for the Palestinian Authority and its state-building efforts, encouraging the international community to provide extensive assistance to help revitalize the Palestinian economy.

At the 2014 Brussels Summit, G7 leaders expressed strong support for the United States' efforts to achieve a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>201</sup> They regretted the lack of significant progress by both parties and urged them to find the political will and common ground necessary to resume negotiations. The leaders reiterated that a negotiated two-state solution is the only viable path to resolving the conflict. They also called on both sides to exercise maximum restraint and refrain from unilateral actions that could further undermine peace efforts and jeopardize the viability of a two-state solution.

At the 2015 Schloss Elmau Summit, G7 leaders urged both parties in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to pursue a negotiated solution with the support of the international community.<sup>202</sup> They emphasized the goal of achieving two states living in peace and security.

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<sup>197</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 July 2008. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-summary.html>

<sup>198</sup> Chair's Summary, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 July 2009. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-summary.pdf>

<sup>199</sup> G8 Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/communique.html>

<sup>200</sup> G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

<sup>201</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2013. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>202</sup> Leaders' Declaration: G7 Summit, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders called on both sides to prevent further escalation and avoid actions that could jeopardize the two-state solution.<sup>203</sup> They expressed strong support for international efforts, including those by the Middle East Quartet, to move towards a negotiated solution.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders expressed ongoing concern over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>204</sup> They called for the immediate resumption of meaningful peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians to reach a negotiated solution that ensures peace and security for both sides. The leaders also emphasized the urgent need to address the worsening humanitarian and security situation in the Gaza Strip.

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders called on Israelis and Palestinians to take meaningful steps to build trust in pursuit of a two-state solution.<sup>205</sup> They urged all parties to refrain from unilateral actions, such as settlement activities and incitement to violence. They welcomed recent discussions involving Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, and the United States, expressing hope that the commitments made would be honored in good faith. Additionally, they pledged continued support for Palestinian economic self-reliance and the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

At a virtual summit on 6 December 2023, G7 leaders condemned the terror attacks launched by Hamas and other groups across Israel on 7 October 2023, and affirmed Israel's right to self-defence under international law.<sup>206</sup> They called for the release of hostages, increased humanitarian efforts for Gaza, and protection of Palestinian civilians and infrastructure. Leaders announced over USD600 million in aid for the Palestinian people and urged the international community to fully support the UN's flash appeal. Leaders condemned extremist settler violence against Palestinians in the West Bank and denounced antisemitism and Islamophobia. The summit reiterated support for a two-state solution and the need for broader peace talks to ensure safety, dignity, and peace for both Israelis and Palestinians.

At the 2024 Apulia Summit, leaders committed to “the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions,” and stressed “the importance of unifying the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.”<sup>207</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

This commitment comprises three main dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

### **Definitions and Concepts**

“Two-state solution” refers to the “proposed framework for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by establishing two states for two peoples: Israel for the Jewish people and Palestine for the Palestinian people.”<sup>208</sup>

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<sup>203</sup> G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

<sup>204</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>205</sup> G7 Hiroshima Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231206-communique.html>

<sup>206</sup> G7 Leaders' Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 6 December 2023. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/231206-statement.html>

<sup>207</sup> Apulia G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 June 2024. Access Date: 31 August 2024.

<https://g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2024apulia/240614-apulia-communique.html>

<sup>208</sup> Two-state solution, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/two-state-solution>



“Democratic” is understood to mean “using the principles of democracy in elections and government.”<sup>209</sup>

“State” is understood to mean “a country or its government.”<sup>210</sup>

“Peace” is understood to mean “not only the absence of conflict, but also [requiring] a positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.”<sup>211</sup>

“Secure and recognized borders” refers to the clause in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, that calls for all states in the region to have boundaries that are both recognized and secure from threats.<sup>212</sup>

“International law” is understood to mean “a body of rules that control or affect the rights of nations in their relations with each other.”<sup>213</sup>

“UN resolutions” refers to “formal expressions of the opinion or will of United Nations organs.”<sup>214</sup>

“Unify” is understood to mean “to bring separate parts of something together so that they are one.”<sup>215</sup>

“Gaza strip” refers to the “territory occupying 140 square miles (363 square km) along the Mediterranean Sea just northeast of the Sinai Peninsula.”<sup>216</sup> The Gaza Strip is one of the regions that comprise the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>217</sup> Since 2007, it has been under the de facto governing authority of Hamas.<sup>218</sup>

“West Bank” refers to the “area of the former British-mandated (1920–47) territory of Palestine west of the Jordan River, claimed from 1949 to 1988 as part of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan but occupied from 1967 by Israel.”<sup>219</sup> The West Bank (along with East Jerusalem) is one of the regions that comprise the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>220</sup> It is under partial administrative control of the Palestinian Authority, with the majority of it under Israeli military occupation and administrative control.<sup>221</sup>

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<sup>209</sup> Democratic, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/democratic>

<sup>210</sup> State, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/state>

<sup>211</sup> Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace: resolutions / adopted by the General Assembly, United Nations General Assembly (New York) 6 October 1999. Access Date: 6 September 2024.

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/285677?ln=en&v=pdf>

<sup>212</sup> Resolution 242 (1967) / [adopted by the Security Council at its 1382nd meeting], of 22 November 1967, United Nations (New York) 22 November 1967. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/90717?ln=en&v=pdf>

<sup>213</sup> International Law, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/international%20law>

<sup>214</sup> Resolutions and other formal decisions of United Nations organs, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/editorial-manual/res-dec-index>

<sup>215</sup> Unify, Cambridge Dictionary (Cambridge) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/unify>

<sup>216</sup> Gaza Strip, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 7 September 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Gaza-Strip>

<sup>217</sup> Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), European Council on Foreign Relations (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

[https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping\\_palestinian\\_politics/opt/](https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping_palestinian_politics/opt/)

<sup>218</sup> Gaza Strip – The World Factbook, CIA (Langley) 23 August 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/gaza-strip/>

<sup>219</sup> West Bank, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 7 September 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

<https://www.britannica.com/place/West-Bank>

<sup>220</sup> Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), European Council on Foreign Relations (Berlin) n.d. Access Date: 7 September 2024.

[https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping\\_palestinian\\_politics/opt/](https://ecfr.eu/special/mapping_palestinian_politics/opt/)

<sup>221</sup> West Bank – The World Factbook, CIA (Langley) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 7 September 2024. <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/west-bank/>

“Palestinian Authority” refers to the “governing body of the Palestinian autonomous regions of the West Bank and Gaza Strip established in 1994 as part of the Oslo Accords peace agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization.”<sup>222</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that take strong action in all three commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Examples of strong actions include but are not limited to: actively engaging in diplomatic efforts that promote the two-state solution, such as sponsoring or supporting UN resolutions, initiating and participating in peace talks or signing multilateral negotiations; providing support for initiatives that promote peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine, such as funding projects and/or facilitating dialogues and demonstrating support for the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority through financial aid; or diplomatic conflict mediation efforts.

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be assigned to G7 members that take strong action in fewer than three commitment dimensions, or to members that take weak action in two or more commitment dimensions. Reaffirmation of the commitment or its goals more broadly, such as in a speech, is an example of a weak action.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that do not take strong action in any commitment dimension, or members that take weak action in one or fewer dimensions.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has not taken action in any commitment dimension: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority or the G7 member has taken weak action in only two commitment dimensions.
0	The G7 member has taken strong action in two or fewer commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority or the G7 member has taken weak action in all three commitment dimensions.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in all three commitment dimensions: 1) supporting the two-state solution, 2) promoting peaceful coexistence within secure and recognized borders, and 3) supporting the unification of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

*Compliance Director: Jennifer Lee  
Lead Analyst: Rameen Azmat*

### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly, announced new sanctions on individuals affiliated with the attacks carried out by Hamas on 7 October 2023, per the Special Economic Measures Regulations.<sup>223</sup> The imposed sanctions demonstrate Canada’s dedication to combatting Hamas and its terrorist activities.

<sup>222</sup> Palestinian Authority, Encyclopedia Britannica (Chicago) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 6 September 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Palestinian-Authority>

<sup>223</sup> Canada imposes additional sanctions in response to Hamas’ terrorist attacks against Israel, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-imposes-additional-sanctions-in-response-to-hamas-terrorist-attacks-against-israel.html>

On 27 June 2024, Minister Joly announced an additional set of sanctions following the Special Economic Measures (Extremist Settler Violence) Regulations on Israeli extremist settlers who engage in violence against Palestinian civilians and property.<sup>224</sup> Minister Joly recognized the harm extremist settler violence brings to Palestinian land, and condemned the illegal expansion of settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, acknowledging how these violent acts compromise the two-state solution and peace in the region.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and reaffirmed their support for the proposal advocating the release of hostages, an immediate ceasefire, increased aid to Gaza and a lasting resolution to the conflict.<sup>225</sup>

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers alongside the UN released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>226</sup> They reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 19 August 2024, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen issued a statement on World Humanitarian Day advocating for the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers in conflict zones such as Gaza.<sup>227</sup>

On 17 September 2024, Minister Joly imposed a third round of sanctions under the Special Economic Measures (Extremist Settler Violence) Regulations targeting individuals and entities involved in violence against Palestinian civilians in the West Bank.<sup>228</sup> These sanctions highlight Canada's commitment to fostering peace and security in the region.

On 18 September 2024, Global Affairs Canada issued a statement explaining Canada's abstention from a United Nations General Assembly resolution on the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) advisory opinion regarding Israel's actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.<sup>229</sup> Global Affairs Canada condemned violence by extremist settlers, supported Palestinian self-determination, and opposed permanent Israeli control over occupied territories, thereby bringing conditions conducive to peace and stability.

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<sup>224</sup> Canada imposes second round of sanctions on perpetrators of extremist settler violence against civilians in West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/06/canada-imposes-second-round-of-sanctions-on-perpetrators-of-extremist-settler-violence-against-civilians-in-west-bank0.html>

<sup>225</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/07/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-united-kingdom-sir-keir>

<sup>226</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/07/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-situation-in-west-bank.html>

<sup>227</sup> Statement on World Humanitarian Day, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/08/statement-on-world-humanitarian-day.html>

<sup>228</sup> Canada imposes third round of sanctions on perpetrators of extremist settler violence against Palestinian civilians in West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-imposes-third-round-of-sanctions-on-perpetrators-of-extremist-settler-violence-against-palestinian-civilians-in-west-bank0.html>

<sup>229</sup> Canada abstains from United Nations General Assembly resolution on the Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences arising from Israel's policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 16 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/09/canada-abstains-from-united-nations-general-assembly-resolution-on-the-advisory-opinion-of-the-international-court-of-justice-on-the-legal-consequence.html>

On 30 September 2024, Minister Joly delivered an address at the United Nations General Assembly, calling for an immediate ceasefire and urging both Israel and Palestine to engage in peace talks.<sup>230</sup> She emphasized the importance of diplomacy to prevent further violence and promote stability in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Minister Joly issued a statement marking one year since Hamas's terrorist attacks against Israel, condemning violence and advocating for peace and security in the region.<sup>231</sup> She denounced actions that destabilize the region and emphasized its support for efforts aimed at achieving lasting peace through mutual recognition and secure borders for both Israelis and Palestinians.

On 9 October 2024, Minister Joly issued a statement reaffirming Canada's call for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of civilians in the Israel-Palestine conflict.<sup>232</sup> Minister Joly emphasized the importance of measures to reduce violence, protect civilian lives, and create conditions conducive to peace negotiations, which are essential for establishing stable borders and achieving peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine.

On 16 October 2024, Minister Joly and Minister Hussen issued a statement calling for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of civilians in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel.<sup>233</sup> Both ministers emphasized the importance of diplomatic efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution, ensure the safety of civilians, and reinforced the need for two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, to coexist peacefully within secure and recognized borders.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>234</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 26 October 2024, Global Affairs Canada along with the foreign ministers of Australia, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, and the United Kingdom released a statement condemning the legislation under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, which jeopardizes United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East's (UNRWA) operations in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem.<sup>235</sup>

On 14 November 2024, Minister Joly and Minister Hussen issued a joint statement addressing the severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza, urging the Israeli government to adhere to international humanitarian law by

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<sup>230</sup> Address by Minister Joly at the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/address-by-minister-joly-at-the-general-debate-of-the-79th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly.html>

<sup>231</sup> Statement by Minister Joly to mark one year since Hamas's terrorist attacks against Israel, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/statement-by-minister-joly-to-mark-one-year-since-hamass-terrorist-attacks-against-israel.html>

<sup>232</sup> Address by Minister Joly at the General Debate of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Global Affairs Canada (New York) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/address-by-minister-joly-at-the-general-debate-of-the-79th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly.html>

<sup>233</sup> Statement by ministers Joly and Hussen on recent events in Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/statement-by-ministers-joly-and-hussen-on-recent-events-in-middle-east.html>

<sup>234</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>235</sup> Foreign ministers' statement on legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/10/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and-works-agency-for-palestine-refugees-in-the-near-east-under-considerati.html>

facilitating immediate and sustained humanitarian aid and calling for an immediate ceasefire.<sup>236</sup> This statement highlights the importance of addressing humanitarian needs to stabilize the region and fostering peaceful conditions.

On 15 November 2024, Prime Minister Trudeau met with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders Meeting to continue establishing strong relations between the two countries.<sup>237</sup> During the meeting, the two leaders discussed the importance of regional stability in Gaza and emphasized the need for a two-state solution.

On 19 November 2024, Canada released a statement at the United Nations General Assembly reaffirming its recognition of the Palestinian Authority, emphasizing its important in governance and security of the West Bank, and paramountcy of its funds and rights.<sup>238</sup> The statement notes that Canada's current diplomatic presence in Ramallah symbolizes this recognition. Furthermore, the statement emphasized Canada's support for Palestinian self-determination, called for an immediate cease-fire, and the achievement of a two-state solution.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>239</sup>

On 29 November 2024, Minister Hussen announced the funding of CAD50 million dedicated towards humanitarian aid for Palestinian civilians living in the West Bank and Gaza.<sup>240</sup> Minister Hussen also reaffirmed Canada's commitment toward a ceasefire and the release of Israeli hostages.

On 2 December 2024, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Rob Oliphant conversed with various international members on facilitating humanitarian aid through Canada's recent allocation of CAD50 million to address the essential services and living conditions of Palestinians at the Cairo Conference on the humanitarian response in Gaza.<sup>241</sup>

On 11 December 2024, Canadian diplomatic representatives of the United Nations released an announcement regarding Canada's vote in favour of Emergency Special Session resolutions, reaffirming their support of the UNRWA and again criticizing the legislation passed by the Israeli Knesset on October 28, which jeopardizes

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<sup>236</sup> Statement by ministers Joly and Hussen on persistent risk of famine in Gaza, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/statement-by-ministers-joly-and-hussen-on-persistent-risk-of-famine-in-gaza.html>

<sup>237</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto (Lima) 15 November 2024. Access Date 21 December 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/11/15/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-president-indonesia-prabowo-subianto>

<sup>238</sup> Canada's statement at the United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee Debate on Israeli Practices in the Occupied Territories, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-reactions\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-11-19-statements-declarations.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-reactions_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-11-19-statements-declarations.aspx)

<sup>239</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>240</sup> Minister Hussen announces \$50 million for humanitarian assistance in Gaza and West Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/minister-hussen-announces-50-million-for-humanitarian-assistance-in-gaza-and-west-bank.html>

<sup>241</sup> Parliamentary Secretary Oliphant to attend Cairo conference on humanitarian response in Gaza, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 30 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2024/11/parliamentary-secretary-oliphant-to-attend-cairo-conference-on-humanitarian-response-in-gaza.html>

UNRWA's operations in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem.<sup>242</sup> Canada also emphasized their commitment to an immediate ceasefire, and the release of hostages.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Canada has taken strong action in the first two commitment dimensions by issuing statements at international forums, such as the United Nations General Assembly, where it has reiterated the need for peaceful coexistence between Israel and Palestine. Canada has also supported international resolutions that emphasize adherence to international law and condemned acts of violence that disrupt stability in the region. Canada has voiced its support for the Palestinian Authority and provided humanitarian relief.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Chloe Gergi*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 27 June 2024, President Emmanuel Macron and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>243</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 8 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning Israel's introduction of five additional settlements in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.<sup>244</sup> Additionally, France urged for a lasting and immediate ceasefire which would release hostages, protect civilians, and bring humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 8 July 2024, the French agency for development alongside the Consul General of France signed an agreement with the Palestinian Minister of Finance Shukri Bishara, that grants EUR10 million to Palestinian municipalities in the West Bank and Gaza.<sup>245</sup> The grant will allow municipalities to enhance the provision of

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<sup>242</sup> Canada votes on Emergency Special Session resolutions calling for a ceasefire in Gaza and in support of the mandate of UNRWA, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

[https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-12-11-unrwa-statement-declaration.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2024-12-11-unrwa-statement-declaration.aspx)

<sup>243</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

<sup>244</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Israeli announcements concerning settlements, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-gaza-10-jul-2024>

<sup>245</sup> France grants 10 M€ support to Palestinian municipalities to help them deliver basic services to the population, Consulate General of France in Jerusalem (Ramallah) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024.

<https://jerusalem.consulfrance.org/France-grants-10-MEUR-support-to-Palestinian-municipalities-to-help-them>

essential services to the Palestinian population as a part of France’s ongoing commitment to the Palestinian Authority.

On 10 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement expressing concern regarding the multiple Israeli strikes on schools housing displaced individuals in Gaza.<sup>246</sup> France called for Israel to fully comply with international humanitarian law and emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages and aid through Gaza.

On 12 July 2024, the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York announced EUR5 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in an effort to bring humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>247</sup> France also reaffirmed their commitment to an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the importance of the two-state solution in solving the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

On 12 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel’s decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>248</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>249</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU’s Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 18 July 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement reemphasizing the importance of adopting the two-state solution and called for the creation of a “sovereign, viable, contiguous Palestinian state”.<sup>250</sup>

On 7 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning comments made by Israel’s Finance Minister, Bezalel Smotrich, in which he stated that freeing the hostages in Gaza would

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<sup>246</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Situation in Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-situation-in-gaza-10-jul-2024>

<sup>247</sup> France reiterates its support for UNRWA with an additional contribution of 5 M€, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 6 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reiterates-its-support-for-unrwa-with-an-additional-contribution-of-5>

<sup>248</sup> G7 foreign ministers’ statement on situation in West Bank, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/summits-and-global-affairs/news/article/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-situation-in-the-west-bank-12-jul-2024>

<sup>249</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

<sup>250</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-18-jul-2024>

be worth causing “two million civilians to die of hunger.”<sup>251</sup> The Ministry emphasized the importance of humanitarian aid in Gaza and conveyed the urgency of a ceasefire in order to facilitate the release of all hostages.

On 7 August 2024, President Macron spoke with Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu over the phone, expressing the need for military de-escalation and an eventual two-state solution as the keys to lasting regional stability.<sup>252</sup> Both leaders agreed to remain in correspondence, and President Macron noted that France’s focus would be on achieving unrestricted humanitarian aid to Gaza, an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages.

On 10 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement denouncing an Israeli strike targeting a school in Gaza.<sup>253</sup> The Ministry expressed concern over civilian casualties and reiterated its call for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and Israel’s adherence to international humanitarian law.

On 12 August 2024, President Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>254</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 15 August 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement condemning an Israeli settler attack in the West Bank, calling on Israel to act against the perpetrators of settler violence in order to protect Palestinian civilians.<sup>255</sup> The Ministry confirmed that it will continue striving to adopt sanctions against Israeli settlers, both on the national level and in the European Union.

On 22 August 2024, the Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Nathalie Broadhurst, addressed the UN Security Council, supporting negotiation efforts led by the United States, Egypt and Qatar aiming to reach a ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>256</sup> Ms Broadhurst stressed that a two-state solution is an essential avenue toward regional stability and called on Israel to act against illegal settler activity in the West Bank.

On 2 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement expressing mourning for the loss of six hostages murdered by Hamas in the Gaza Strip.<sup>257</sup> The Ministry restated the importance of

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<sup>251</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (7 August 2024), Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-7-aug-2024>

<sup>252</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Telephone conversation with Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of the State of Israel, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 7 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-telephone-conversation-with-benjamin-netanyahu>

<sup>253</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Strike on a school in Gaza, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 10 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-strike-on-a-school-in-gaza-10-aug-2024>

<sup>254</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>255</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Settler attack on Palestinians in the West Bank, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-settler-attack-on-palestinians-in-the-west-bank>

<sup>256</sup> Gaza: France calls on the parties to make the necessary compromises so that the war can stop, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-france-calls-on-the-parties-to-make-the-necessary-compromises-so-that-the>

<sup>257</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (2 September 2024), Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-2-sept-2024>



an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages, as well as reiterating its support for negotiation efforts spearheaded by the United States, Egypt, and Qatar.

On 11 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs condemned an Israeli drone strike against a designated humanitarian zone in Gaza and asserted the necessity of a peaceful and diplomatic resolution.<sup>258</sup> The Ministry also stressed that Israel must abide by international humanitarian law, by making provisions to protect the Palestinian population.

On 18 September 2024, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière, delivered a speech to the UN General Assembly conveying France's decision not to recognize the illegal Israeli settlements on Palestinian territory, as per Palestine's submitted draft resolution.<sup>259</sup> While France remains committed to maintaining the security of Israel, Ambassador de Rivière asserted that illegal settlements are barriers to achieving a two-state solution, which is the only way to restore lasting peace and stability in the region.

On 19 September 2024, Ambassador de Rivière delivered a speech to the UN Security Council expressing France's condemnation of illegal Israeli settlements, attacks on Palestinian schools and the attacks perpetrated by Hamas on 7 October 2023.<sup>260</sup> France maintained its dedication to protecting Israel's security while also establishing a sovereign, contiguous state under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, President Macron met with President of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas during the UN General Assembly, expressing France's full support for the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state.<sup>261</sup> President Macron emphasized the importance of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza as the only way to achieve the release of hostages, the flow of humanitarian aid and an eventual two-state solution. President Macron also stated that he was in correspondence with Prime Minister Netanyahu calling for Israel to stop inhibiting funding to the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, Minister Barrot, delivered a speech to the UN Security Council, stating that achieving a two-state solution is an urgent priority in order to reach a lasting diplomatic resolution between Israel and Palestine.<sup>262</sup> Minister Barrot also reiterated the need for a ceasefire, humanitarian aid, the release of hostages and the reconstruction of Gaza through the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 September 2024, President Macron spoke in front of the UN General Assembly, standing in solidarity with both the victims of Hamas' attack on 7 October and the Palestinian civilian casualties during the resulting war.<sup>263</sup> President Macron restated France's support for the diplomatic procedures needed to attain a ceasefire

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<sup>258</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Q&A – Extract from the press briefing, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-q-a-extract-from-the-press-briefing-11-sep-2024>

<sup>259</sup> France voted in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Palestine, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-voted-in-favour-of-the-draft-resolution-submitted-by-palestine>

<sup>260</sup> France remains committed to preventing any risk of escalation on the Blue Line, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-remains-committed-to-preventing-any-risk-of-escalation-on-the-blue-line>

<sup>261</sup> Entretien avec Mahmoud Abbas, Président de l'Autorité palestinienne, L'Élysée (Paris) 25 September 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2024/09/25/entretien-avec-mahmoud-abbas-president-de-lautorite-palestinienne-1>

<sup>262</sup> France reaffirms that the principle of humanity must prevail, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 September 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-that-the-principle-of-humanity-must-prevail>

<sup>263</sup> 79th General Assembly of the United Nations, France in the United States - Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington D.C) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article11573>

and the release of hostages and called on the UN Security Council to take concrete steps toward implementing a two-state solution.

On 26 September 2024, Deputy Representative of France to the United Nations, Jay Dharmadhikari, delivered a speech at the Economic and Social Council of the UN, bringing attention to the urgent humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank, while stressing France's commitment to a two-state solution as the only viable measure to attain regional peace.<sup>264</sup> Mr. Dharmadhikari emphasized the importance of European and Arab states in facilitating mediation efforts and expressed France's willingness to lead a joint diplomatic initiative.

On 27 September 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement denouncing multiple Israeli strikes targeting schools in Gaza, calling for Israel to adhere to international humanitarian law.<sup>265</sup> The Ministry once again highlighted the importance of an immediate ceasefire, the uninhibited movement of humanitarian aid and the release of all hostages in Gaza.

On 27 September 2024, Ambassador de Rivière spoke in front of the UN Security Council conveying France's concern over increased settler activity and called for Israel to stop blocking funding to the Palestinian Authority.<sup>266</sup>

On 2 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs released a statement expressing strong disapproval of recent Israeli strikes targeting schools, orphanages, and houses in Gaza.<sup>267</sup> The Ministry reassessed the need for a ceasefire, unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid and the release of all hostages.

On 9 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, articulating the urgency of reaching a political solution in Gaza in light of the worsening humanitarian situation.<sup>268</sup> Ambassador de Rivière called for Israel to cease implementing barriers for aid deliveries and reiterated its demands for an immediate ceasefire as well as the release of hostages.

On 10 October 2024, France and the United Kingdom contributed EUR18 million to a World Bank emergency fund in support of the Palestinian Authority, due to the continued obstacles that they face from the Israeli government.<sup>269</sup> French consul-general in Jerusalem, Nicolas Kassianides, explained that the funds would go towards the most pressing needs of the Palestinian population, building upon France's commitment to help establish a sovereign Palestinian State.

On 11 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement strongly condemning Israeli strikes against shelter zones for displaced persons in Gaza, also criticizing Israeli evacuation orders that

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<sup>264</sup> Gaza: L'Union européenne et les pays arabes ont un rôle essentiel à jouer pour accompagner la mise en œuvre de la solution à deux États, Mission permanente de la France auprès des Nations Unies à New York (New York) 27 September 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-l-union-europeenne-et-les-pays-arabes-ont-un-role-essentiel-a-jouer-pour>

<sup>265</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories – Attack on three schools in the Gaza Strip, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-attack-on-three-schools-in-the-gaza-strip-27>

<sup>266</sup> We strongly call upon Israel to stop escalation underway in Lebanon, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/we-strongly-call-upon-israel-to-stop-the-escalation-underway-in-lebanon>

<sup>267</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (02.10.24), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 23 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/article/israel-palestinian-territories-october-2-2024>

<sup>268</sup> Gaza: the scale of the humanitarian disaster has reached unprecedented levels, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-the-scale-of-the-humanitarian-disaster-has-reached-unprecedented-levels>

<sup>269</sup> France, Britain grant Palestinian Authority €18 million in aid, Le Monde (Paris) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. [https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2024/10/10/france-britain-grant-palestinian-authority-nearly-20-million-in-aid\\_6728998\\_4.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2024/10/10/france-britain-grant-palestinian-authority-nearly-20-million-in-aid_6728998_4.html)

would displace civilian populations in Northern Gaza.<sup>270</sup> The Ministry recalled Israel's responsibility to protect Palestinian civilians under international law and called for the immediate execution of necessary procedures to achieve a diplomatic solution.

On 11 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a statement calling on Israel to urgently renew its correspondent banking services with the Palestinian Authority for at least one year.<sup>271</sup> If not renewed, it would halt cross-border trade, causing severe economic damage to the Palestinian economy and undermining regional security.

On 15 October 2024, President Macron and Prime Minister Netanyahu engaged in diplomatic discussions with President Macron stating France's commitment to Israeli security while also calling for a 21-day ceasefire.<sup>272</sup> President Macron expressed concern over the worsening settler violence in the West Bank and condemned the barrage of Israeli strikes in Gaza and Lebanon.

On 16 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, denouncing the increasingly deadly Israeli military operation in northern Gaza and emphasizing the importance of an immediate ceasefire, release of all hostages and distribution of humanitarian aid.<sup>273</sup> He also stressed the necessity for a two-state solution, and condemned Israel's attempts to undermine the Palestinian Authority.

On 17 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement on the day of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar's death, strongly condemning his role in the 7 October attack.<sup>274</sup> The Ministry expressed hope that this event would be a turning point in the conflict, restating their calls for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire, and the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid.

On 21 October 2024, President Macron spoke with Prime Minister Netanyahu, restating France's continued commitment to maintaining Israel's security.<sup>275</sup> President Macron remarked that the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar would facilitate negotiations for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>276</sup> G7 ministers

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<sup>270</sup> Israel/Palestinian Territories (11 October 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 24 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-11-oct-2024>

<sup>271</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/e3-2682498>

<sup>272</sup> Middle East – Israel – Telephone conversation between M. Emmanuel Macron, President of the Republic, and Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of the State of Israel – Press release issued by the Presidency of the Republic, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 25 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/middle-east-israel-telephone-conversation-between-m-emmanuel-macron-president>

<sup>273</sup> The war in Gaza must end without delay, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/the-war-in-gaza-must-end-without-delay>

<sup>274</sup> Gaza – Death of Yahya Sinwar, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 3 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/gaza-death-of-yahya-sinwar-17-oct-2024>

<sup>275</sup> French President and Israeli leader discuss Gaza, Lebanon and Iran, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/President-and-Israeli-leader-discuss-Gaza-Lebanon-and-Iran>

<sup>276</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 27 October 2024, G7 foreign ministers issued a joint statement condemning legislation under consideration in the Israeli Knesset, which would add obstacles to the delivery of humanitarian aid to Palestine under UNRWA.<sup>277</sup> The foreign ministers expressed the importance of the UNRWA in addressing the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank and called for a reform of the organization in order to re-establish a civil working relationship with the Israeli government.

On 29 October 2024, Ambassador de Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, reiterating France's support for the UNRWA as well as expressing France's condemnation of Israeli settlement policy, strikes on civilian infrastructure and the ongoing displacement of civilians in Northern Gaza.<sup>278</sup> He communicated France's demands for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages and the elimination of barriers to the free flow of humanitarian aid.

On 30 October 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning an Israeli strike on a building in Northern Gaza, as well as other recent strikes on hospitals in the same region.<sup>279</sup> The Ministry expressed the urgent need for an immediate diplomatic solution and the removal of barriers to humanitarian aid deliveries.

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a joint statement calling for the Israeli government to issue a one-year renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services.<sup>280</sup> They noted that the expiry of these services would result in the inability to execute cross-border trade, harming both the Palestinian economy and wider stability in the region.

On 6 November 2024, Ambassador Rivière delivered an address to the UN General Assembly, condemning Israel's adoption of laws against the UNRWA and emphasizing the importance of humanitarian aid to provide Palestinian civilians with essential resources and services.<sup>281</sup> He Rivière also reiterated France's continued commitment to achieve the release of hostages and an immediate ceasefire.

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<sup>277</sup> Foreign ministers' statement on legislation against United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East under consideration by the Israeli Knesset, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and>

<sup>278</sup> France calls on Israel not to criminalize UNRWA's activities, Permanent mission of France to the United Nation in New York (New York) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-calls-on-israel-not-to-criminalize-unrwa-s-activities>

<sup>279</sup> Israël / Territoires palestiniens - Frappe israélienne au nord de Gaza, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 October 2024. Translation provided by Analyst. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/dossiers-pays/israel-territoires-palestiniens/actualites-et-evenements/2024/article/israel-territoires-palestiniens-frappe-israelienne-au-nord-de-gaza-30-10-24>

<sup>280</sup> E3 foreign ministries calls for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/e3-foreign-ministries-calls-for-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian>

<sup>281</sup> France reaffirms its support for the UNRWA, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/france-reaffirms-its-support-for-unrwa>

On 11 November 2024, Minister Barrot made a speech at the Paris Peace Forum regarding the conflict between Israel and Hamas.<sup>282</sup> He emphasized the importance of the release of hostages and the flow of humanitarian aid while calling for a two-state solution with peaceful coexistence.

On 12 November 2024, the Political Coordinator for France at the United Nations, Isis Jaraud Darnault, addressed the UN Security Council, highlighting the importance of massive and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza, especially considering the impending famine in the north of the region.<sup>283</sup> Coordinator Darnault expressed the essential role of UN agencies in delivering aid and restated France's support for the UNRWA.

On 13 November 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs strongly condemned comments made by Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, in which he expressed support for the annexation of the West Bank.<sup>284</sup> The Ministry affirmed that these remarks hindered de-escalation efforts, and reiterated France's commitment to achieving a two-state solution.

On 15 November 2024, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs denounced Israel's demolition of a Palestinian activity centre in East Jerusalem, which provided essential services for youth in the area.<sup>285</sup> The Ministry identified this action as a part of Israel's illegal settlement plan and stated that this undermined the two-state solution.

On 20 November 2024, Ambassador Rivière addressed the UN Security Council, expressing France's regret for failing to adopt the draft resolution for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>286</sup> He called on the UN Security Council to take concrete measures to attain a two-state solution and establish a sovereign and contiguous Palestinian state.

On 24 November 2024, Minister Barrot met with the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Antonio Tajani, where the two conversed about the importance of solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>287</sup>

On 25 November 2024, Ambassador de Rivière delivered a statement to the UN Security Council, calling for a lasting resolution to the conflict in Gaza, and reaffirming France's commitment to maintaining Israel's

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<sup>282</sup> Forum de Paris sur la Paix - "Israël-Palestine: un plan pour deux États et pour la paix" - Interventions de Jean-Noël Barrot, ministre de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (11 novembre 2024), Ministère de l'Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 11 November 2024. Translation Provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/societe-civile-et-volontariat/actualites/article/forum-de-paris-sur-la-paix-israel-palestine-un-plan-pour-deux-etats-et-pour-la>

<sup>283</sup> Only the end of the war can put a lasting end to the prospect of famine in Gaza, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/only-the-end-of-the-war-can-put-a-lasting-end-to-the-prospect-of-famine-in-gaza>

<sup>284</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories (13.11.24), Ministère de l'Europe et de l'Étrangères (Paris) 13 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-november-13-2024>

<sup>285</sup> Israel / Palestinian Territories – Demolition of the Al-Bustan Association centre in Jerusalem, Ministère de l'Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israel-palestinian-territories-demolition-of-the-al-bustan-association-centre>

<sup>286</sup> Gaza: France deeply regrets that the draft resolution prepared by elected members of the Security Council was not adopted, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 23 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/gaza-france-deeply-regrets-that-the-draft-resolution-prepared-by-the-elected>

<sup>287</sup> Italy – Meeting between M. Jean-Noël Barrot, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and his Italian counterpart (Rome, 24 November 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/italy/events/article/italy-meeting-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-minister-for-europe-and-foreign>

security.<sup>288</sup> He also condemned the displacement of Gaza's population and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, calling for the unfettered distribution of humanitarian aid with the help of the UNRWA.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>289</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministers of France, Germany and the United Kingdom released a joint statement reiterating their calls for Israel to renew Israeli-Palestinian reciprocal banking services for an additional one year period.<sup>290</sup> The ministers warned of the economic instability that would occur in Palestine if these arrangements were not renewed and commended the Palestinian Authority's management of these ongoing challenges.

On 2 December 2024, Minister Barrot attended the humanitarian conference for Gaza in Cairo. At the conference, Minister Barrot announced an additional EUR50 million for the UNRWA to provide necessary services for Palestinians.<sup>291</sup> Additionally, Minister Barrot also reiterated France's emphasis on a need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a two-state solution.

France has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. France advanced strong action in all three commitment dimensions, by issuing joint statements condemning violence, calling for a ceasefire and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. France has also given funding to the Palestinian Authority, supported a proposed resolution to delegitimize illegal settlements in the West Bank and initiated talks with regional leaders to mediate the conflict.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isra Omar*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 24 June 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Annalena Baerbock, delivered a speech emphasizing Israel's right to self-defence and stated the importance of the two-state solution in creating peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians, as well as the need for an immediate ceasefire and release of hostages.<sup>292</sup>

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<sup>288</sup> Middle East: There is an urgent need for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip as well as in Lebanon, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/middle-east-there-is-an-urgent-need-for-an-immediate-and-permanent-ceasefire-in>

<sup>289</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>290</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services-e3-foreign-ministers-joint>

<sup>291</sup> M. Jean-Noël Barrot participates in the international humanitarian conference for Gaza's civilian population (Cairo, 2 December 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024.

<sup>292</sup> Speech of Foreign Minister Baerbock at the Herzliya Conference 2024, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/herzliya-conference/2664674>

On 27 June 2024, Chancellor Olaf Scholz and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>293</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 28 June 2024, Minister Baerbock met with the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs Nasser Bourita to discuss bilateral cooperation and relations between Germany and Morocco.<sup>294</sup> The Ministers voiced their concern regarding the situation in Gaza and reached an agreement on continuing their efforts to achieve an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages and prisoners, and use the two-state solution as a groundwork for sustained peace. They also recognized the importance of the Palestinian Authority in bringing peace to the West Bank and Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>295</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister Baerbock and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>296</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 19 July 2024, Minister Baerbock issued a statement on the situation in Gaza, where she called for a humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza and urged the Israeli military to uphold international humanitarian law in response to the displacement of the Palestinian civilian population.<sup>297</sup>

On 22 July 2024, the EU foreign ministers, including Minister Baerbock, met in Brussels to discuss the conflict in the Middle East.<sup>298</sup> Minister Baerbock shared her remarks on her recent visit to Israel, and the Foreign Affairs Council continued to discuss delivering aid to Gaza and recognized the importance of a sustainable ceasefire.

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<sup>293</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

<sup>294</sup> Joint statement on the Moroccan-German Strategic Dialogue, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2665270>

<sup>295</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2666760>

<sup>296</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

<sup>297</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock on the situation in Gaza, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2667428>

<sup>298</sup> Final EU Foreign Affairs Council before the summer focuses on Ukraine and the Middle East, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 22 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/europa/-/2667446>

On 11 August 2024, Chancellor Scholz called for a ceasefire in Gaza, and the release of hostages.<sup>299</sup> The Chancellor urged a solution and called upon the involved parties to negotiate and work towards a ceasefire.

On 12 August 2024 Chancellor Scholz, French President Emmanuel Macron, United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>300</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 14 August 2024, the German government condemned the actions of Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir during his visit to Al-Aqsa.<sup>301</sup> The German government spoke against the actions, viewing it as a further provocation in already tense circumstances. This demonstrates an effort and commitment to navigating a peaceful solution to the conflict.

On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock made a statement reiterating the importance of a two-state solution.<sup>302</sup> The Minister advocated for the release of hostages and discussed the necessity of a ceasefire in order to attain the goal of a two-state solution and stated that a two-state solution is the way to end the violence and destruction occurring.

On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock departed for the Middle East to engage in political discussion with involved parties to work toward a humanitarian ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>303</sup> The minister, prior to her departure, made a statement reiterating that the purpose of the visit would be to promote peace through engaging in political conversations with surrounding regional actors, hoping to achieve mediation and the release of hostages.

On 4 September 2024, Minister Baerbock departed for the Middle East to meet with regional officials to discuss further supply of humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and facilitate discussion regarding a ceasefire.<sup>304</sup> Through regional partnership building, the minister aims to achieve goals that have been discussed, to achieve peace and to come to a solution through diplomatic means. These talks will aid in the progression of peace in the conflict while supplying aid and facilitating humanitarian pursuits.

On 19 September 2024, a Federal Foreign Spokesperson made a statement addressing the UN General Assembly's resolution regarding the International Court of Justice.<sup>305</sup> In addressing the resolution, the spokesperson reiterated the necessity of a two-state solution required for long lasting peace, and called for assistance from other bodies and organizations to aid in the establishment of a two-state solution. The

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<sup>299</sup> Scholz calls for cease-fire in talks with Netanyahu, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 11 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/scholz-calls-for-cess-fire-in-talks-with-netanyahu/a-69913368>

<sup>300</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>301</sup> Berlin condemns 'provocation' after Ben-Gvir's Al-Aqsa visit, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 14 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/berlin-condemns-provocation-after-ben-gvirs-al-aqsa-visit/a-69943216>

<sup>302</sup> Foreign Minister Baerbock prior to her departure for Saudi Arabia, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2674402>

<sup>303</sup> For a humanitarian ceasefire and the release of all hostages: Foreign Minister Baerbock travels to the Middle East once again, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/-/2674392>

<sup>304</sup> Germany's Baerbock to visit Middle East in cease-fire push, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024 <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-baerbock-to-visit-middle-east-in-push-to-end-gaza-war/a-70135085>

<sup>305</sup> Statement on the resolution of the UN General Assembly on the ICJ's advisory opinion regarding the legal consequences of Israel's policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territories, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2676262>



spokesperson emphasized that the solution must come from Germany, as well as other organizations and states to bring about peace.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers reaffirmed the efforts of mediation and the work towards a ceasefire.<sup>306</sup> The statement expressed concern regarding the current situation, and firmly re-established their commitment to working to create a two-state solution. Unification of the Gaza strip under Palestinian authority was also emphasized as a point of urgency for all G7 members, and the members demonstrated support for the European Union's EUR40 million emergency package to Palestinian authorities, urging that multilateral action is crucial to achieving the two-state solution.

On 6 October 2024, Minister Baerbock wrote an article establishing Germany's commitment to bringing about a hostage release and bringing peace to the Middle East.<sup>307</sup> The Minister affirmed Germany's continuous efforts over the past year to release hostages, provide aid to the people suffering from the situation, and ultimately achieve peace in the Middle East.

On 10 October 2024, Minister Baerbock delivered a speech, during which she outlined the efforts to hold and maintain peace in the Middle East.<sup>308</sup> The Minister also outlined German policy goals were also outlined, emphasizing the goal of achieving long lasting peace and security in the region through multilateral discussion.

On 11 October 2024, the foreign ministries of Germany, France and the United Kingdom released a statement calling on Israel to urgently renew its correspondent banking services with the Palestinian Authority for at least one year.<sup>309</sup> If not renewed, it would halt cross-border trade, causing severe economic damage to the Palestinian economy and undermining regional security.

On 16 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz made a statement emphasizing the need for more humanitarian aid supplied to Gaza, as well as continued promotion of a two-state solution.<sup>310</sup> In the statement, the Chancellor assured that the German government remains determined in providing humanitarian aid, as well as reaching a two-state solution diplomatically and lawfully.

On 16 October 2024, Chancellor Scholz delivered a speech reaffirming a two-state solution and called for a ceasefire.<sup>311</sup> The speech touched base on the ultimate means of achieving peace, advocacy for a two-state solution, aiding in the advocacy and support for a two-state solution to bring peace to the region.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>312</sup> G7 ministers

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<sup>306</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting - Chair's Statement, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 23 September 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2677180>

<sup>307</sup> "7 October 2023 marked a rupture" – Article by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock in Bild am Sonntag, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 6 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/baerbock-bams/2679438>

<sup>308</sup> Speech by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock during the agreed debate in the German Bundestag on the first anniversary of the terrorist attack on Israel on 7 October, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2679832>

<sup>309</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 October 2023. Access Date: 19 December 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/e3-2682498>

<sup>310</sup> Government statement issued by the Federal Chancellor "We must fight for every job in the industrial sector", German Federal Government (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/government-statement-federal-chancellor-oct24-2315592>

<sup>311</sup> Scholz affirms Israel weapons exports in wide-ranging speech, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 16 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-scholz-affirms-israel-weapons-exports-in-wide-ranging-speech/a-70514053>

<sup>312</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of France, Germany and the United Kingdom, released a statement advocating for the reinstatement of Israeli-Palestinian banking services.<sup>313</sup> The Ministers recognized the harm the lack of renewal would bring to the Palestinian economy and the West Bank.

On 18 November 2024, the German government opposed the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell's proposal that EU member states suspend their dialogue with Israel regarding the free trade agreement between them.<sup>314</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>315</sup>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministers of Germany, France, and United Kingdom issued a joint statement calling on Israel to extend banking arrangements between Israeli and Palestinian banks for at least an additional year.<sup>316</sup> The ministers stated that ending banking ties would jeopardize economic stability and security in the West Bank, Israel, and the wider region.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Germany advanced strong actions in all three dimensions by attending and hosting multilateral discussions supporting and advocating for the two-state solution, aiming to ensure the Palestinian Authority remains adequately funded and engaging in discussions to supply humanitarian aid and achieve a ceasefire.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Addrita Yousuf*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 27 June 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>317</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned

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<sup>313</sup> E3 foreign ministries calls for urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 30 Octobre 2024. Access Date: 1 November 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/israel-palestinian-territories/news/2024/article/e3-foreign-ministries-calls-for-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian>

<sup>314</sup> EU ministers reject suspending dialogue with Israel, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. <https://www.dw.com/en/eu-ministers-reject-suspending-dialogue-with-israel/a-70807176>

<sup>315</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>316</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (Berlin) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/2687806-2687806>

<sup>317</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>

the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

On 8 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss the ongoing situation in Gaza and the broader region.<sup>318</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reaffirmed Israel's right to self-defence and conveyed her hope for a sustained ceasefire and the release of hostages. Both Ministers concurred on the importance of increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>319</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs Antonio Tajani and the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>320</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 18 July 2024, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the landing of the aircraft carrying over 60 tons of humanitarian aid in the form of non-perishable food, health and hygiene kits, medical supplies and tents in Amman, Jordan as part of its "Food for Gaza" program.<sup>321</sup>

On 18 July 2024, Minister Tajani wrote a letter to Israel's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Israel Katz, the Palestinian National Authority, Mohammed Mustafa, and Jordan's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ayman Safadi.<sup>322</sup> Minister Tajani brought attention to the importance of achieving a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and aid for Gaza, as well as highlighted the cooperation between Italy, the Israeli government and Palestinian authorities to deliver the "Food for Gaza" initiative.

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<sup>318</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with the Prime Minister of Israel, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-telephone-conversation-prime-minister-israel/26193>

<sup>319</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on situation in West Bank, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-situation-in-west-bank/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-situation-in-west-bank/)

<sup>320</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

<sup>321</sup> Food for Gaza Initiative. Flight carrying 60 tons of humanitarian aid lands in Amman, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/iniziativa-food-for-gaza-arrivo-ad-amman-di-un-volo-umanitario-con-60-tonnellate-di-aiuti/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/iniziativa-food-for-gaza-arrivo-ad-amman-di-un-volo-umanitario-con-60-tonnellate-di-aiuti/)

<sup>322</sup> Middle East, Tajani writes to his three colleagues in the region: "Gaza cannot wait, the war must end", Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/medio-oriente-tajani-scrive-ai-tre-colleghi-nella-regione-gaza-non-puo-attendere-la-guerra-deve-finire/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/medio-oriente-tajani-scrive-ai-tre-colleghi-nella-regione-gaza-non-puo-attendere-la-guerra-deve-finire/)

On 21 July 2024, Minister Tajani visited Brussels to attend the meeting held by the Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union, to discuss the situation in the Middle East.<sup>323</sup> Italy confirmed its willingness to collaborate with Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and the UN to continue advancing the “Food for Gaza” initiative.

On 25 July 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the President of Israel, Isaac Herzog, where she affirmed Italy’s commitment to reducing regional tensions and expressed concern over the situation in Gaza.<sup>324</sup> Minister Meloni also emphasized the urgency of achieving a ceasefire along with the release of hostages and underscored Italy’s support towards the two-state solution through continuing US mediation efforts.

On 25 July 2024, the United Nations World Food Programme announced the funding of EUR12 million granted by the Government of Italy, to be provided to Palestinian populations in Gaza in need of food supply.<sup>325</sup>

On 6 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke over the phone with King Abdullah II of Jordan to discuss the importance of a peaceful resolution in the Middle East.<sup>326</sup> Both leaders reaffirmed their joint commitment to providing humanitarian aid through the “Food for Gaza” initiative and underscored the necessity of a ceasefire in Gaza as well as the release of all hostages.

On 6 August 2024, Minister Tajani signed an agreement with the World Food Program, through which his ministry would fund fifteen trucks worth over EUR2 million to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>327</sup>

On 8 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian engaged in diplomatic discussions working to prevent the escalation of regional tensions.<sup>328</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reiterated Italy’s support for a ceasefire in Gaza, as well as the necessity of humanitarian aid and the release of hostages as measures to attain lasting peace in the region.

On 12 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United States Prime Minister Joe Biden and United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer released a joint statement supporting negotiation efforts led by Qatar, Egypt and the United States to achieve a ceasefire

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<sup>323</sup> Partecipazione del Ministro Antonio Tajani al Consiglio Affari Esteri dell’Unione Europea, Ministero degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale (Rome) 21 July 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/partecipazione-del-ministro-antonio-tajani-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-dellunione-europea-5/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/07/partecipazione-del-ministro-antonio-tajani-al-consiglio-affari-esteri-dellunione-europea-5/)

<sup>324</sup> Meeting with the President of the State of Israel, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/meeting-president-state-israel/26297>

<sup>325</sup> Italy’s humanitarian initiative Food For Gaza supports efforts to alleviate hunger in the Strip – WFP Press Release, United Nations World Food Programme (Rome) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.un.org/unispal/document/wfp-press-release-25jul24/>

<sup>326</sup> President Meloni’s Telephone Conversation with the King of Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-king-jordan/26432>

<sup>327</sup> “Food for Gaza”: Italy donates 15 trucks to the World Food Programme for the distribution of food aid to Gaza thanks to funding from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 6 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/food-for-gaza-litalia-dona-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-15-camion-per-la-distribuzione-di-aiuti-alimentari-a-gaza-grazie-a-un-finanziamento-del-maeci/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/food-for-gaza-litalia-dona-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-15-camion-per-la-distribuzione-di-aiuti-alimentari-a-gaza-grazie-a-un-finanziamento-del-maeci/)

<sup>328</sup> President Meloni’s telephone conversation with President Pezeshkian, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 8 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-president-pezeshkian/26450>

and hostage release deal.<sup>329</sup> The leaders stressed the importance of humanitarian aid and the necessity of maintaining peaceful and flexible mediation.<sup>330</sup>

On 13 August 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with Prime Minister Netanyahu over the phone to convey her support for sustainable peace negotiations.<sup>331</sup> Prime Minister Meloni endorsed Israel's right to defend itself, while also restating the importance of de-escalation efforts led by Egypt, Qatar and the United States.

On 6 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address at the 22nd G7 speakers' meeting, further emphasizing the need for humanitarian aid, the release of Israeli hostages, and a ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>332</sup> Prime Minister Meloni specified that a two-state solution remains a crucial step to achieving lasting peace in the region.

On 16 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a joint statement with Prime Minister Starmer, detailing their discussions about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and surrounding regions.<sup>333</sup> They agreed on the urgent need for political and humanitarian solutions, and Prime Minister Meloni highlighted the value of achieving a two-state solution.

On 20 September 2024, Italian food aid under the "Food for Gaza" initiative delivered two trucks of aid containing 49 tons of food to Gaza.<sup>334</sup> Minister Tajani emphasized that this initiative must ultimately be accompanied by military de-escalation and the release of hostages in order to achieve a lasting humanitarian solution.

On 23 September 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement communicating joint support for efforts to achieve a ceasefire, the release of hostages in Gaza and increased humanitarian aid.<sup>335</sup> The foreign ministers restated their continued support for a two-state solution and their condemnation of extremist settler violence in the West Bank. They also stressed the importance of a contiguous state under the Palestinian Authority, in which the West Bank unites with the Gaza Strip.

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<sup>329</sup> Joint Statement from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Italy on the Middle East, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024.

<https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/joint-statement-united-states-united-kingdom-france-germany-and-italy-middle-east/26458>

<sup>330</sup> Joint Statement from the Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 17 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/dichiarazione-congiunta-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-regno-unito-francia-germania-e-italia/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/08/dichiarazione-congiunta-dei-ministri-degli-esteri-di-regno-unito-francia-germania-e-italia/)

<sup>331</sup> Middle East crisis: President Meloni's telephone conversation with Prime Minister Netanyahu, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 August 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/middle-east-crisis-president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-prime-minister-netanyahu/26460>

<sup>332</sup> President Meloni's address at 22<sup>nd</sup> G7 Speakers' Meeting, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 6 September 2024. Access Date: 17 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-22nd-g7-speakers-meeting/26522>

<sup>333</sup> President Meloni's press statement with Prime Minister Starmer, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-prime-minister-starmer/26571>

<sup>334</sup> Medio Oriente, altri aiuti italiani entrano a Gaza dalla Giordania, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 September 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 18 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/medio-oriente-altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-a-gaza-dalla-giordania/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/medio-oriente-altri-aiuti-italiani-entrano-a-gaza-dalla-giordania/)

<sup>335</sup> Statement by Antonio Tajani, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy in his capacity as Chair of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting at the High-Level Week of the UN General Assembly, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/09/statement-by-antonio-tajani-minister-for-foreign-affairs-and-international-cooperation-of-italy-in-his-capacity-as-chair-of-the-g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-at-the-high-level-week-of-the-un/)

On 24 September 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address at the 79th UN General Assembly, demanding an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the release of all Israeli hostages.<sup>336</sup> Prime Minister Meloni upheld Israel's right to defend itself, while also reaffirming Italy's support for the existence of a Palestinian State. Prime Minister Meloni also called for Israel to respect international law and advocated for the possibility of peaceful coexistence in the region.

On 2 October 2024, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations Maurizio Massari, addressed the UN Security Council, restating the urgent need for a ceasefire and the release of all hostages.<sup>337</sup> Ambassador Massari conveyed Italy's call for a two-state solution, in which Israel and Palestine can coexist peacefully within recognized borders.

On 7 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a statement commemorating the anniversary of the October 7th attack perpetrated by Hamas, condemning the massacre, and underscoring the importance of restoring peace in the region.<sup>338</sup> Prime Minister Meloni called for Israel to act in accordance with international law and expressed support for a peaceful resolution in line with the two-state solution.

On 11 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered a press statement at the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the nine Southern EU countries, or Med9 conference in Paphos, addressing the need for regional collaboration to coordinate humanitarian initiatives, as well as the importance of a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>339</sup> At this conference, Prime Minister Meloni met with King Abdullah II, where both leaders consolidated their partnership in providing humanitarian aid through the "Food for Gaza" initiative and discussed plans to improve the efficiency of aid deliveries.<sup>340</sup>

On 15 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered an address in the days preceding the European Council meeting, expressing concern for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and calling for a ceasefire and the release of all hostages.<sup>341</sup> Prime Minister Meloni condemned the regional instability brought about by Hamas and stressed that a two-state solution, in which both Israel and Palestine coexist peacefully, is Italy's priority.

On 17 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a press statement following the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, affirming the urgent need for a diplomatic solution.<sup>342</sup> Prime Minister Meloni maintained Italy's commitment to achieving a two-state solution, in order to begin a new phase of reconstruction in Gaza.

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<sup>336</sup> President Meloni's address at 79th United Nations General Assembly, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-79th-united-nations-general-assembly/26659>

<sup>337</sup> Statement by Italy's Permanent Representative to the UN Amb. Maurizio Massari UN Security Council Plenary Meeting on "the Situation in the Middle East", Rappresentanza permanente d'Italia presso le Nazioni Unite New York (New York) 2 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. [https://italyun.esteri.it/en/news/dalla\\_rappresentanza/2024/10/statement-by-italys-permanent-representative-to-the-un-amb-maurizio-massari-un-security-council-plenary-meeting-on-the-situation-in-the-middle-east/](https://italyun.esteri.it/en/news/dalla_rappresentanza/2024/10/statement-by-italys-permanent-representative-to-the-un-amb-maurizio-massari-un-security-council-plenary-meeting-on-the-situation-in-the-middle-east/)

<sup>338</sup> President Meloni's statement on first anniversary of Hamas's attack on the Israeli people, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-statement-first-anniversary-hamas-s-attack-israeli-people/26734>

<sup>339</sup> President Meloni's press statement at the Med9 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-statement-med9-summit/26806>

<sup>340</sup> Med9 Summit: President Meloni meets with King Abdullah II of Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 11 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/med9-summit-president-meloni-meets-king-abdullah-ii-jordan/26779>

<sup>341</sup> President Meloni's address to the Senate ahead of the European Council meeting on 17-18 October, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-address-senate-ahead-european-council-meeting-17-18-october/26840>

<sup>342</sup> Statement by President of the Council of Ministers Giorgia Meloni, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 17 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/dichiarazione-del-presidente-giorgia-meloni/26848>

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni visited Jordan and met with King Abdullah II to discuss their continued collaboration in coordinating humanitarian efforts through the “Food for Gaza” initiative.<sup>343</sup> Both leaders agreed to continue collaborating with the aim of facilitating a two-state solution for Israel and Palestine.

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a joint press statement with Prime Minister of Lebanon Najib Mikati supporting negotiations for the release of Israeli hostages, and expressing both leaders’ demand for a 21-day ceasefire.<sup>344</sup> Prime Minister Meloni stood in solidarity with civilians affected by regional instability and reiterated Italy’s commitment to providing humanitarian relief in Gaza and Lebanon.

On 18 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni released a press statement following her visit to Lebanon and Jordan, reaffirming the importance of working with regional actors to stabilize the ongoing crisis in the Middle East.<sup>345</sup> Prime Minister Meloni restated Italy’s commitment to negotiating a ceasefire and the release of all hostages, in line with its continued support for a two-state solution.

On 20 October 2024, Minister Tajani travelled to Israel and Palestine to discuss diplomatic solutions in the region, meeting with Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Mustafa, Prime Minister Netanyahu and Minister Katz.<sup>346</sup> Minister Tajani commented that the death of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar could lead to a restoration of peace, allowing for Italy to facilitate negotiations for a two-state solution.

On 21 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni met with the Emir of Qatar, Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, as a continuation of meetings with other key regional leaders of the Middle East.<sup>347</sup> Both leaders discussed the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, and Prime Minister Meloni expressed support for the mediation efforts led by Qatar, along with Egypt and the United States.

On 22 October 2024, Italy hosted a Humanitarian Conference on the Middle East during the meeting for G7 Development Ministers in Pescara, where representatives from Israel, Lebanon and Palestine were brought together to discuss humanitarian assistance in the region.<sup>348</sup> Minister Tajani, who chaired the meeting, announced a contribution of EUR5 million in assistance to the Palestinian National Authority and EUR10 million towards humanitarian aid in Gaza.<sup>349</sup>

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<sup>343</sup> President Meloni visits Jordan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-visits-jordan/26854>

<sup>344</sup> President Meloni’s press statement with Prime Minister Mikati, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/press-statements-president-meloni-and-prime-minister-mikati/26862>

<sup>345</sup> President Meloni’s press point following her visit to Jordan and Lebanon, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 18 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-press-point-following-her-visit-jordan-and-lebanon/26894>

<sup>346</sup> Minister Tajani’s mission to Israel and Palestine, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 20 October 2024. Access Date: 22 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/missione-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/missione-ministro-tajani-in-israele-e-palestina/)

<sup>347</sup> President Meloni meets with the Emir of the State of Qatar, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 21 October 2024. Access Date: 28 October 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-emir-state-qatar/26882>

<sup>348</sup> Lebanon, Palestine and Israel meet for the first time at the Humanitarian Conference on the Middle East, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/alla-conferenza-umanitaria-sul-medio-oriente-riuniti-per-la-prima-volta-libano-palestina-e-israele/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/alla-conferenza-umanitaria-sul-medio-oriente-riuniti-per-la-prima-volta-libano-palestina-e-israele/)

<sup>349</sup> Today in Genoa, Tajani delivers Italy’s first donated truck to the World Food Programme for “Food for Gaza”, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 25 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/tajani-oggi-a-genova-consegna-il-primo-camion-donato-dallitalia-al-programma-alimentare-mondiale-per-food-for-gaza/)

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>350</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 22 October 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke with the President of Türkiye Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to discuss the need for regional de-escalation in the Middle East.<sup>351</sup> Prime Minister Meloni emphasized the need for large-scale distribution of humanitarian aid and both leaders affirmed their joint commitment to reaching a ceasefire in Gaza.

On 15 November 2024, Minister Tajani and Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs Gideon Saar engaged in diplomatic discussions where Minister Tajani condemned the October 7 attacks and emphasized Italy's commitment to Israel's security.<sup>352</sup> Minister Tajani expressed hope for facilitating peace negotiations and the release of hostages.

On 24 November 2024, Minister Tajani and French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noël Barrot discussed efforts to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.<sup>353</sup>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers, released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>354</sup>

On 27 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni spoke at the Tenth Rome Mediterranean Dialogues conference, stating that Italy remains dedicated to military de-escalation and reaching a lasting resolution to the ongoing refugee and humanitarian crises in Gaza and surrounding regions.<sup>355</sup> Prime Minister Meloni reaffirmed the importance of a two-state solution, under which Israel and Palestine can peacefully coexist.

On 28 November 2024, Prime Minister Meloni delivered a virtual address to the 32nd Pontignano Conference between Italy and the United Kingdom, affirming both nations' shared commitment to de-escalating the conflict in the Middle East through international diplomacy.<sup>356</sup> Prime Minister Meloni specified that a two-state solution remains the key to achieving a peaceful and lasting resolution in the region.

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<sup>350</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>351</sup> President Meloni's telephone conversation with President Erdoğan, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 2 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-telephone-conversation-president-erdo/26902>

<sup>352</sup> Telephone conversation between Minister Tajani and the Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs Gideon Saar, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 18 November 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/telefonata-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-israeliano-gideon-saar/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/11/telefonata-del-ministro-tajani-con-il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri-israeliano-gideon-saar/)

<sup>353</sup> Italy – Meeting between M. Jean-Noël Barrot, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and his Italian counterpart (Rome, 24 November 2024), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 24 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/italy/events/article/italy-meeting-between-m-jean-noel-barrot-minister-for-europe-and-foreign>

<sup>354</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>355</sup> Rome Med Dialogues 2024, l'intervento del Presidente Meloni, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 27 November 2024. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/27136>

<sup>356</sup> President Meloni's video message to the XXXII Pontignano Conference, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 29 November 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-video-message-xxxii-pontignano-conference/27156>



On 13 December 2024, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni met with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and reiterated Italy's support for efforts to end the conflict in Gaza and secure the release of hostages held by Hamas as well as the commitment to providing humanitarian aid, such as through the "Food for Gaza" initiative.<sup>357</sup> Prime Minister Meloni also reaffirmed Italy's dedication to a two-state solution for peace between Israel and Palestine.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Italy advanced strong action in all three commitment dimensions, by issuing joint statements calling for a peaceful resolution, hosting and attending multilateral conferences, engaging with key regional actors to promote de-escalation, providing financial contributions to the Palestinian Authority, and delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Isra Omar*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 3 July 2024, Japan released a statement regarding Israel's decision to legalize the five outposts in the West Bank, voicing Japan's concern over Israel's repeated settlement activities in the region.<sup>358</sup> The Government of Japan acknowledged how settlement activities jeopardize the feasibility of the two-state solution and urged Israel to implement measures to counter extremist settler violence.

On 10 July 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Kamikawa Yoko, met with Secretary General of the League of Arab States Aboul Gheit to discuss the cooperation between Japan and the League of Arab States.<sup>359</sup> Minister Kamikawa and Secretary General Gheit agreed to continue collaborating to promote peace and stability in the Middle East. Minister Kamikawa expressed her support for efforts to achieve a ceasefire and emphasized Japan's encouragement of Southeast Asian countries to support Palestine through the Conference on Cooperation Among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPD).

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>360</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

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<sup>357</sup> President Meloni meets with the President of Palestine, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 13 December 2024. Access Date: 18 December 2024. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-meets-president-palestine/27266>

<sup>358</sup> Announcement by the Government of Israel regarding settlements (Statement by Press Secretary KITAMURA Toshihiro), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 3 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00405.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00405.html)

<sup>359</sup> Meeting and Working Dinner between Minister for Foreign Affairs Kamikawa and H.E. Mr. Aboul Gheit, Secretary General of League of Arab States, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00420.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00420.html)

<sup>360</sup> G7 foreign ministers' statement on the situation in the West Bank, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00424.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00424.html)

On 18 July 2024, Japan alongside the Palestinian Authority, hosted the working-level online meeting of the CEAPD.<sup>361</sup> The CEAPD aims to bolster Palestinian state-building by modelling East Asian countries' economic development and resources. Japan and the Palestinian authorities discussed the reconstruction of Gaza and the reformation of the Palestinian Authority and emphasized the importance of collaboration.

On 23 July 2024, the Government of Japan announced asset freeze measures per the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, on Israeli settlers exhibiting violence in the West Bank.<sup>362</sup> These measures aim to support wider and international efforts from other countries to bring peace to the region.

On 26 July 2024, Director-General of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau Toshihide Ando, attended the Japan-India Director-General Level Consultations on Middle East in New Delhi.<sup>363</sup> Mr. Ando and officials from India's Ministry of External Affairs discussed the situation in the Middle East, with a focus on the Israel-Palestine conflict. They voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and emphasized the need for facilitating diplomatic efforts in the release of hostages and aid to Gaza, agreeing to work towards bringing peace to the region.

On 15 August 2024, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, Yoichi Nakashima, signed notes to grant aid to Palestine through the World Food Programme.<sup>364</sup> The grant will provide JPY400 million to Ramallah to aid food scarcity in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Takeshi Iwaya issued a statement urging the release of hostages, reaffirming multilateral efforts to reach a ceasefire, and advocating for the supply of humanitarian aid from Japan.<sup>365</sup> The Minister also commented on Japan's commitment to the reconstruction of Gaza and reiterated its commitment to establishing a two-state solution, establishing long term peace in the region, providing humanitarian aid, and calling for a ceasefire.

On 9 October 2024, Minister Iwaya held a phone call with Minister Katz, reiterating the urgency for a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>366</sup> Minister Iwaya also expressed concern for the humanitarian situation and advocated for strengthening humanitarian support.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>367</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

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<sup>361</sup> Working Level Meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 18 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_003348.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_003348.html)

<sup>362</sup> Asset Freeze for Israeli settlers involved in violent acts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/me\\_a/me1/il/pressite\\_000001\\_00444.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/me_a/me1/il/pressite_000001_00444.html)

<sup>363</sup> Japan-India Director-General Level Consultations on Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00450.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00450.html)

<sup>364</sup> Exchange of Notes concerning Grant Aid to Palestine "Food Assistance Programme (through WFP)", Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00485.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00485.html)

<sup>365</sup> On the Current Situation Surrounding the Gaza Strip (Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024.

[https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00630.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00630.html)

<sup>366</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 21 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00636.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00636.html)

<sup>367</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024.

[https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

On 24 October 2024, Minister Iwaya and Mohammad Mustafa, the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Palestine, engaged in diplomatic discussions focused on the need for a ceasefire in Gaza, a two-state solution, and reforms of the Palestinian Authority.<sup>368</sup>

On 27 October 2024, G7 foreign ministers made a statement expressing concern regarding Israel's bill to ban activities by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in the region.<sup>369</sup> The statement highlighted that humanitarian aid at this point is crucial, and suspension of UNRWA activities would be detrimental to the conditions already being experienced in the region.

On 29 October 2024, Minister Iwaya issued a statement expressing concern about the Israeli legislation restricting UNRWA's activities in the region.<sup>370</sup> The minister expressed concern, stating that UNRWA remains vital to providing humanitarian aid, and fears the restriction will worsen the humanitarian conditions. He reiterated the urgency of providing humanitarian aid to the region, highlighting Japan's contributions to UNRWA.

On 25 November 2024, Minister Iwaya participated in a session on the Middle East at the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting, where he voiced his concerns about the situation in Gaza and called for all parties involved to cooperate on bringing stability to the region.<sup>371</sup> He also emphasized the importance of assisting the Palestinian Authority.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>372</sup>

On 2 December 2024, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Fujii Hisayuki visited Egypt to attend the Cairo Ministerial Conference to Enhance Humanitarian Response in Gaza.<sup>373</sup> There, Minister Hisayuki called for a two-state solution, immediate humanitarian aid in Gaza, as well as plans highlighting long-term recovery, and expressed his support for the UNRWA in addressing humanitarian needs.

On 11 December 2024, Mr. Ando and Palestinian Authority Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Wael Zakout co-chaired an online meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development.<sup>374</sup> The discussion focused on efforts to address the necessary services and humanitarian needs in Gaza.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip

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<sup>368</sup> Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00671.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00671.html)

<sup>369</sup> Japan and others concerned over Israeli bill against UNRWA, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2024/10/28/japan/japan-unrwa-israel-bill-concern/>

<sup>370</sup> Legislation on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Adopted in the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) (Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00687.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00687.html)

<sup>371</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (Overview of the "Middle East" session), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pc/pageite\\_000001\\_00676.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pc/pageite_000001_00676.html)

<sup>372</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>373</sup> State Minister for Foreign Affairs FUJII attended the Cairo Ministerial Conference to enhance the humanitarian response in Gaza, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Cairo) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00775.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00775.html)

<sup>374</sup> Working Level Online Meeting of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan (Tokyo) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 17 December 2024. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite\\_000001\\_00812.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/pressite_000001_00812.html)

with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. Japan advanced strong actions in all three dimensions by participating in multilateral discussions urging for the two-state solution while condemning violent actions and advocating for the release of hostages, providing and advocating for humanitarian aid, and urging discussion to achieve an immediate ceasefire.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Addrita Yousuf*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 June 2024, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Barbara Woodward at the UN Security Council, called on Israel to immediately allow humanitarian aid to enter Gaza through all crossing points.<sup>375</sup> Ambassador Woodward also urged Israel to ensure the protection of UN workers and facilities, emphasizing their critical role in supporting civilians. Additionally, she highlighted the need for a ceasefire to secure the hostages' release and scale up humanitarian aid, pushing for a two-state solution as the ultimate goal.

On 30 June 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office condemned Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>376</sup> The UK reiterated its opposition to illegal settlement expansion and urged Israel to hold accountable those responsible for settler violence. The UK emphasized the importance of achieving a lasting peace in the region through a two-state solution.

On 2 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward expressed concern over the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza at the UN Security Council.<sup>377</sup> The UK called on Israel to increase the flow of aid into Gaza, stressing the need for all crossing points to be reopened immediately. The UK called for a ceasefire to secure the release of hostages and scale up humanitarian aid efforts.

On 7 July 2024, Prime Minister Keir Starmer spoke with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, emphasizing his priorities of securing a ceasefire, facilitating the release of hostages, and increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza.<sup>378</sup>

On 7 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu discussed regional security, with Prime Minister Starmer reaffirming the UK's commitment to collaborating with Israel to address

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<sup>375</sup> We urge Israel to let humanitarian aid enter Gaza through all crossing points: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-urge-israel-to-let-humanitarian-aid-enter-gaza-through-all-crossing-points-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>376</sup> Five outposts to be legalised in West Bank: FCDO statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/five-outposts-to-be-legalised-in-west-bank-fcdo-statement>

<sup>377</sup> Not enough aid is getting into Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 July 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/not-enough-aid-is-getting-into-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>378</sup> PM call with President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority: 7 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-president-abbas-of-the-palestinian-authority-7-july-2024>

threats in the region.<sup>379</sup> Prime Minister Starmer also reiterated his call for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid regarding the situation in Gaza.

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and US President Joe Biden discussed their shared commitment to securing an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, focusing on the release of hostages and increasing humanitarian aid. Both leaders reaffirmed the need to make progress toward a two-state solution as a long-term goal for peace in the region.<sup>380</sup>

On 11 July 2024, Prime Minister Starmer and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau voiced their concerns regarding the situation in Gaza and reaffirmed their support for the proposal advocating the release of hostages, an immediate ceasefire, increased aid to Gaza and a lasting resolution to the conflict.<sup>381</sup>

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>382</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 12 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Pledging Conference, reaffirming the UK's support for UNRWA's role in delivering aid and essential services to Palestinian refugees in Gaza.<sup>383</sup> She discussed the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid to address the ongoing crisis. Ambassador Woodward also acknowledged UNRWA's efforts in challenging circumstances and confirmed the UK's commitment to working with international partners to alleviate the suffering of civilians in Gaza.

On 14 July 2024, State Secretary for Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Affairs David Lammy visited Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories to advance diplomatic efforts for a ceasefire and peace in the region.<sup>384</sup> In meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, Secretary Lammy focused on the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and an increase of aid into Gaza. During his visit, he also announced additional funding to support medical aid efforts in Gaza, aiming to treat civilians affected by the conflict. He reaffirmed the UK's commitment to a two-state solution.

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<sup>379</sup> PM call with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel: 7 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-7-july-2024>

<sup>380</sup> PM meeting with President Biden of the United States: 10 July 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-president-biden-of-the-united-states-10-july-2024>

<sup>381</sup> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau meets with Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of Canada (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.pm.gc.ca/en/news/readouts/2024/07/11/prime-minister-justin-trudeau-meets-prime-minister-united-kingdom-sir-keir>

<sup>382</sup> Israeli settlements in the West Bank: G7 joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/g7-joint-statement-on-israeli-settlements-in-the-west-bank>

<sup>383</sup> The UK recognises the importance of UNRWA's mandate: UK statement at the UNRWA Pledging Conference, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-recognises-the-importance-of-unrwas-mandate-uk-statement-at-the-unrwa-pledging-conference>

<sup>384</sup> Foreign Secretary calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza on first visit to the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 14 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-calls-for-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-on-first-visit-to-the-middle-east>

On 17 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the UN Security Council, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.<sup>385</sup> She reiterated the need for the release of hostages and a rapid increase in humanitarian aid. She urged Israel to permit unrestricted aid into Gaza and reaffirmed the UK's support for UNRWA's work in the region. She condemned Israeli settlement expansions in the West Bank, stressing that such actions are illegal under international law and harm prospects for a two-state solution.

On 19 July 2024, Secretary Lammy announced the UK will lift its pause on funding to the UNRWA to expedite aid delivery in Gaza.<sup>386</sup> Secretary Lammy confirmed a GBP21 million allocation to support UNRWA's emergency relief efforts and essential services for Palestinian refugees. He reiterated the UK's commitment to a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a significant increase in humanitarian aid. He also emphasized the importance of addressing settler violence and illegal settlement expansion as part of a long-term solution for a viable two-state resolution.

On 19 July 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office issued a statement in response to the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion on Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>387</sup> A spokesperson confirmed that the UK is reviewing the Advisory Opinion. During his recent visit to the region, Secretary Lammy reaffirmed the UK's strong opposition to illegal settlement expansion and escalating settler violence. The UK remains committed to pursuing a negotiated two-state solution to ensure a safe and secure Israel alongside a viable Palestinian state.

On 26 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward addressed the UN Security Council, urging an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and an increase in humanitarian aid.<sup>388</sup> She expressed concern over Israel's actions in Khan Younis and the Al Mawasi humanitarian zone, calling for compliance with International Humanitarian Law. Highlighting the UK's USD27 million support for UNRWA, she stressed the need for cooperation to ensure aid reaches civilians. Ambassador Woodward also condemned West Bank settlement expansion, reaffirming the UK's commitment to a two-state solution through diplomacy.

On 31 July 2024, Ambassador Woodward expressed deep concern at the UN Security Council over escalating tensions in the Middle East and their potential impact on regional stability.<sup>389</sup> She called for immediate restraint and emphasized that lasting peace can only be achieved through diplomatic negotiations. She reaffirmed the UK's commitment to Israel's security and reiterated calls for a ceasefire in Gaza to protect civilians, secure the release of hostages, and advance toward a two-state solution.

On 31 July 2024, Secretary Lammy and State Secretary for Defence John Healey arrived in Qatar to push for an end to the conflict in Gaza and advocate for regional de-escalation.<sup>390</sup> They met with Qatar's Prime Minister

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<sup>385</sup> The UK calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 17 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-calls-for-an-immediate-ceasefire-in-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>386</sup> UK to restart funding to UNRWA, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-restart-funding-to-unrwa>

<sup>387</sup> UK statement on the ICJ's Advisory Opinion on Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 25 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-statement-on-the-icjs-advisory-opinion-on-israel-and-the-occupied-palestinian-territories>

<sup>388</sup> Civilians in Gaza need much more aid: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 26 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/civilians-in-gaza-need-much-more-aid-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>389</sup> The UK is deeply concerned by the escalation of tensions in the Middle East: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-is-deeply-concerned-by-the-escalation-of-tensions-in-the-middle-east-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>390</sup> Regional de-escalation a priority as Foreign Secretary and Defence Secretary travel to the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 26 September 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/regional-de-escalation-a-priority-as-foreign-secretary-and-defence-secretary-travel-to-the-middle-east>

and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, highlighting the UK's support for Qatar's mediation efforts and the need for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

On 2 August 2024, Secretary Lammy and Secretary Healey visited Israel to push for an immediate ceasefire and emphasized the importance of a two-state solution during meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, demonstrating the UK's commitment to de-escalation in the regions.<sup>391</sup>

On 9 August 2024, Secretary Lammy endorsed the joint efforts by Qatar, Egypt, and the US to resume ceasefire negotiations and secure the release of hostages between Israel and Hamas, aligning with the commitment to fostering conditions necessary for a two-state solution.<sup>392</sup>

On 12 August 2024, Prime Minister Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, United States President Joe Biden and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni released two joint statements in support of mediation efforts led by the United States, Qatar and Egypt to advance ceasefire and hostage release negotiations.<sup>393</sup> The leaders underscored the importance of preventing an escalation of the conflict and the need for efficient distribution of humanitarian aid.

On 15 August 2024, Secretary Lammy issued a statement on the restart of ceasefire negotiations and the release of hostages in Gaza, urging all parties to engage in good faith to protect civilians and promote de-escalation.<sup>394</sup> The UK committed to using diplomatic channels to achieve a ceasefire and create stability in the Middle East, reinforcing the two-state solution as the only viable path for peace.

On 16 August 2024, Secretary Lammy reaffirmed the United Kingdom's commitment by participating in a joint ministerial visit with the French Foreign Minister to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>395</sup> This participation emphasizes the need for a two-state solution and condemning settler violence in the West Bank.

On 18 August 2024, the United Kingdom joined diplomatic efforts with France to advocate for a ceasefire in Gaza and support negotiations aimed at securing the release of hostages held by Hamas, while also addressing the violence from Israeli extremist settlers.<sup>396</sup> This action highlights the UK's active role in facilitating talks between Israeli and Palestinian leaders, aiming to de-escalate tensions and create conditions for future peace talks.

On 22 August 2024, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN James Kariuki called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, urgent humanitarian access, and the release of hostages, while condemning illegal settler

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<sup>391</sup> UK Foreign and Defence Secretaries push for peace and stability in the Middle East, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 August 2024. Access Date: 19 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-foreign-and-defence-secretaries-push-for-peace-and-stability-in-the-middle-east>

<sup>392</sup> Resumption of ceasefire negotiations between Israel and Hamas: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/resumption-of-ceasefire-negotiations-foreign-secretary-statement>

<sup>393</sup> Joint statements by France and partners on the Middle East, Ambassade de France au Royaume-Uni (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://uk.ambafrance.org/Joint-statements-by-France-and-partners-on-the-Middle-East>

<sup>394</sup> Restart of negotiations on Gaza ceasefire: Foreign Secretary's statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-secretary-statement-on-the-restart-of-negotiations-on-gaza-ceasefire>

<sup>395</sup> Ministerial visit to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories: UK and France foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-by-the-foreign-ministers-of-france-and-the-united-kingdom>

<sup>396</sup> It's never too late for peace in the Middle East – we must break the cycle of violence: article by David Lammy and Stéphane Séjourné, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 August 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/its-never-too-late-for-peace-in-the-middle-east-we-must-break-the-cycle-of-violence>

violence in the West Bank.<sup>397</sup> He advocated for the cessation of hostilities and the restoration of order, creating an environment conducive to peace talks.

On 29 August 2024, Mr. Kariuki called for an immediate ceasefire and the protection of aid workers in Gaza.<sup>398</sup> The UK ensured humanitarian access and de-escalation and advocated for conditions necessary to protect civilians and facilitate peace between Israel and Palestine.

On 30 August 2024, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office expressed deep concern over the Israel Defense Forces military operation in the Occupied West Bank, calling for Israel to adhere to international law and de-escalate the situation.<sup>399</sup> The UK condemned settler violence and inciteful remarks, emphasizing the need for restraint.

On 2 September 2024, Secretary Lammy and Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds announced the suspension of around 30 arms export licences to Israel for use in Gaza due to concerns over potential violations of international humanitarian law.<sup>400</sup>

On 4 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and urged for a political solution to the ongoing conflict during a UN Security Council meeting.<sup>401</sup> This action emphasizes the UK's continued efforts to promote peace in the region and re-establish conditions conducive to advancing the two-state solution.

On 16 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for immediate humanitarian access in Gaza, condemned the killing of aid workers, and emphasized the importance of a ceasefire and political solutions during a UN Security Council meeting.<sup>402</sup> The UK dedicated to promoting peace and stability by actively supporting humanitarian efforts to alleviate suffering and advocating for a two-state solution as the only long-term path to peace between Israel and Palestine.

On 18 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward reaffirmed the UK's commitment by abstaining on the UN General Assembly resolution while calling for Israel to end its presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and stressing the need for the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority in line

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<sup>397</sup> Gaza has become the deadliest place in the world to be a child: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 22 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/gaza-has-become-the-deadliest-place-in-the-world-to-be-a-child-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>398</sup> The UN are running out of safe places for their staff: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 29 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-un-are-running-out-of-safe-places-for-their-staff-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>399</sup> UK statement in response to IDF military operation in the Occupied West Bank, August 2024, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 August 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-statement-in-response-to-idf-military-operation-in-the-occupied-west-bank-august-2024>

<sup>400</sup> UK suspends around 30 arms export licences to Israel for use in Gaza over International Humanitarian Law concerns, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-suspends-around-30-arms-export-licences-to-israel-for-use-in-gaza-over-international-humanitarian-law-concerns>

<sup>401</sup> The parties must end the suffering by agreeing to a ceasefire now: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-parties-must-end-the-suffering-by-agreeing-to-a-ceasefire-now-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>402</sup> Humanitarian workers in Gaza must be allowed to carry out their work safely: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 16 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/humanitarian-workers-in-gaza-must-be-allowed-to-carry-out-their-work-safely-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>



with 1967 borders.<sup>403</sup> The UK's ongoing efforts aim to promote a negotiated two-state solution and support for a sovereign, viable Palestine alongside a secure Israel.

On 19 September 2024, Ambassador Woodward delivered a statement at the UN Security Council, condemning the expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank, citing that such actions directly violate international law and undermine prospects for peace.<sup>404</sup> She specifically addressed how the UK views the settlement expansion as a barrier to achieving the two-state solution by altering the geographic and demographic makeup of the Occupied Palestinian Territories, which complicates the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank.

On 27 September 2024, Minister for Africa and Multilateralism Ray Collins addressed the UN Security Council, urging the release of hostages held in Gaza.<sup>405</sup> The UK emphasized the importance of fostering an environment conducive to peace talks and diplomatic resolutions, achieving long-term stability, and promoting a two-state solution in the region.

On 7 October 2024, Prime Minister Starmer called for a ceasefire in Gaza and engaged in diplomatic discussions with leaders from Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, and the G7, advocating for a political solution to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.<sup>406</sup> The UK highlighted the need for a ceasefire to promote peace efforts, address the humanitarian crisis, and stressed the importance of international cooperation to support stability in the region.

On 9 October 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire between Hamas and Israel and urged Israel to take immediate action to allow humanitarian aid into Gaza and ensure the safety of aid workers.<sup>407</sup> Ambassador Woodward emphasized the importance of halting violence, ensuring civilian protection, and creating the necessary conditions for diplomatic negotiations between Israel and Palestine. Additionally, she reinforced the need for stability and humanitarian access, which are critical for long-term peace and the reunification of Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 15 October 2024, Secretary Lammy announced sanctions targeting three illegal settler outposts and four organizations responsible for promoting violence against Palestinian communities in the West Bank.<sup>408</sup> By

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<sup>403</sup> The UK's explanation of vote on the UN General Assembly resolution on the ICJ's Advisory Opinion on Israel's presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 September 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uks-explanation-of-vote-on-the-un-general-assembly-resolution-on-the-icjs-advisory-opinion-on-israels-presence-in-the-occupied-palestinian-terr>

<sup>404</sup> The expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank is wholly unacceptable and illegal: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-expansion-of-israeli-settlements-in-the-west-bank-is-wholly-unacceptable-and-illegal-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>405</sup> PM United Nations General Assembly Speech: 26 September 2024, 10 Downing Street (London) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-united-nations-general-assembly-speech-26-september-2024>

<sup>406</sup> PM statement to the House of Commons on 7 October anniversary and the Middle East: 7 October 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 18 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-to-the-house-of-commons-on-7-october-anniversary-and-the-middle-east-7-october-2024>

<sup>407</sup> Israel must ensure that humanitarian workers can operate safely: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/israel-must-ensure-that-humanitarian-workers-can-operate-safely-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>408</sup> New UK sanctions target illegal outposts and organisations supporting extremist Israeli settlers in the West Bank, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 15 October 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-sanctions-target-illegal-outposts-and-organisations-supporting-extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-west-bank>

imposing these sanctions, the UK is directly addressing settler violence, which undermines peace efforts and the possibility of a viable Palestinian state.

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>409</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 27 October 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement voicing their concerns about the potential revocation of the UNRWA's immunities, stating the harmful effects it would bring to the Palestinian populations in Gaza.<sup>410</sup>

On 30 October 2024, the foreign ministries of the UK, France, and Germany released a statement calling for the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian banking services, outlining the harm the failure of renewal would bring to regional security.<sup>411</sup>

On 4 November 2024, Deputy Head of the UK Mission to International Organizations in Geneva Hema Kotecha, representing the UK at the 352nd International Labour Organization Governing Body, emphasized the importance of Palestinian economic recovery and urged Israel to remove trade barriers and reinstate work permits for Palestinians.<sup>412</sup> Ms Kotecha highlighted Palestinian economic stability as beneficial to both Israel and Palestine.

On 6 November 2024, Prime Minister Starmer hosted King Abdullah II of Jordan at Downing Street to discuss the situation in the Middle East.<sup>413</sup> Prime Minister Starmer emphasized the need for ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon, reiterated support for UNRWA's essential humanitarian role and addressed concerns over settlement expansion and violence in the West Bank.

On 6 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward reaffirmed the UK's commitment to supporting UNRWA's critical role in delivering humanitarian aid and basic services to Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.<sup>414</sup> By urging Israel to meet its legal obligations as the Occupying Power and opposing actions that undermine

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<sup>409</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>410</sup> Legislation against UNRWA under consideration by the Israeli Knesset: foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 27 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/foreign-ministers-statement-on-legislation-against-united-nations-relief-and-works-agency-for-palestine-refugees-in-the-near-east-under-consideration>

<sup>411</sup> E3 foreign ministries call for the urgent renewal of Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 30 October 2024. Access Date: 10 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/e3-foreign-ministries-call-for-the-urgent-renewal-of-israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services>

<sup>412</sup> ILO Governing Body 352: UK Statement on development cooperation in Palestine, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 4 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ilo-governing-body-352-uk-statement-on-development-cooperation-in-palestine>

<sup>413</sup> PM meeting with King Abdullah II of Jordan: 6 November 2024, Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-meeting-with-king-abdullah-ii-of-jordan-6-november-2024>

<sup>414</sup> We reject attempts to undermine or degrade UNRWA: UK statement at the UN General Assembly, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 6 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-reject-israels-attempts-to-undermine-unrwa-uk-statement-at-the-un-general-assembly>

UNRWA, the UK emphasized the necessity of safeguarding institutions vital to Palestinian welfare, fostering conditions conducive to a two-state solution.

On 12 November 2024, Minister Collins condemned Israel's restrictions on humanitarian aid to Gaza during a UN Security Council meeting, urging the immediate delivery of essential supplies and protection for civilians.<sup>415</sup> His statement addressed urgent humanitarian needs, advocating for de-escalation.

On 18 November 2024, Secretary Lammy condemned Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid to Gaza and announced the resumption of UK funding to UNRWA to address critical humanitarian needs.<sup>416</sup> He emphasized the importance of a strengthened and reformed Palestinian Authority in Gaza's future governance, reaffirming the UK's commitment to the two-state solution.

On 20 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward explained the UK's vote in favor of the E10 draft resolution on Gaza, calling for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and urgent humanitarian action to address the crisis.<sup>417</sup> By emphasizing the need to protect civilians and scale up aid, the UK demonstrated its commitment to creating conditions necessary for peace and stability, aligning with its vision for a two-state solution.

On 22 November 2024, Ambassador to the UN General Assembly Archie Young stated the UK's position on the illegality of Israeli settlements and condemned the expansion of settlements and settler violence in the West Bank.<sup>418</sup> He reiterated that altering the geographic or demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territories outside of a negotiated solution is unacceptable and called for a unified Gaza and West Bank under the effective control of the Palestinian Authority.

On 25 November 2024, Ambassador Woodward called for an immediate ceasefire and criticized the UNRWA legislation passed by Israel's Knesset, which jeopardizes humanitarian aid in Gaza and health and education services in the West Bank.<sup>419</sup> She explicitly stated the UK's position against illegal settlement expansion and urged Israel to stop these activities, reaffirming the importance of a two-state solution.

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>420</sup>

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<sup>415</sup> The worst case scenario is now playing out in northern Gaza: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 12 November 2024. Access Date: 15 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-worst-case-scenario-is-now-playing-out-in-northern-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>416</sup> There is no excuse for Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/there-is-no-excuse-for-israeli-restrictions-on-humanitarian-aid-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>417</sup> We voted for this resolution as an expression of our determination to end this war, stop the suffering in Gaza and secure the immediate release of the hostages: UK Statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 20 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-voted-for-this-resolution-as-an-expression-of-our-determination-to-end-this-war-stop-the-suffering-in-gaza-and-secure-the-immediate-release-of-the>

<sup>418</sup> Expansion of settlements undermines peace and must cease immediately: UK Explanation of Vote at the UN Fourth Committee, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/expansion-of-settlements-undermines-peace-and-must-cess-immediately-uk-explanation-of-vote-at-the-un-fourth-committee>

<sup>419</sup> An immediate ceasefire and the immediate release of hostages is the best way to achieve peace: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 25 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/an-immediate-ceasefire-and-the-immediate-release-of-hostages-is-the-best-way-to-achieve-peace-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

<sup>420</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

On 28 November 2024, the foreign ministries of the UK, France and Germany issued a joint statement calling on Israel to extend correspondent banking arrangements for at least 12 months to ensure economic stability in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.<sup>421</sup> The UK emphasized the importance of maintaining financial ties to support the Palestinian economy and prevent regional instability, aligning with the UK's stated commitment to fostering conditions conducive to the two-state solution.

On 2 December 2024, Minister of State for Development Anneliese Dodds attended the Cairo Ministerial Conference to Enhance Humanitarian Response in Gaza.<sup>422</sup> There, she announced GBP19 million in funding for Gaza, including contributions to the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the World Food Programme. During her visit, Minister Dodds emphasized the UK's commitment to alleviating the humanitarian crisis, supporting Palestinian Authority reforms, and advocating for a ceasefire.

On 11 December 2024, Ambassador Woodward, delivered a statement at the UN General Assembly, emphasizing the UK's commitment to voting in favor of resolutions supporting a ceasefire in Gaza and backing UNRWA's efforts.<sup>423</sup> The speech called for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and advocated for a two-state solution.

On 18 December 2024, Mr. Kariuki, addressed the UN Security Council, urging Israel to stop expanding settlements on Palestinian land, which is deemed illegal under international law.<sup>424</sup> He emphasized the UK's support for Palestinian civilians, calling for increased humanitarian aid, particularly through UNRWA. Finally, he emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire, and the release of all hostages.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The UK demonstrated strong action across all three dimensions by supporting the two-state solution through diplomatic visits, enforcing sanctions on violent settler groups, and consistently advocating for ceasefires and humanitarian access to protect civilians and maintain stability in the region.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Chloe Gergi*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

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<sup>421</sup> Israeli-Palestinian correspondent banking services: E3 foreign ministers' joint statement, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/israeli-palestinian-correspondent-banking-services-e3-foreign-ministers-joint-statement>  
<sup>422</sup> UK bolsters humanitarian funding for Gaza on minister's visit to the region, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 2 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-bolsters-humanitarian-funding-for-gaza-on-ministers-visit-to-the-region>

<sup>423</sup> We intend to vote in favour of these resolutions backing UNRWA and a ceasefire in Gaza: UK statement in the UN General Assembly, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 11 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-intend-to-vote-in-favour-of-these-resolutions-backing-unrwa-and-a-ceasefire-in-gaza-uk-statement-at-the-un-general-assembly>

<sup>424</sup> The UK calls on Israel to stop illegal settlement expansion on Palestinian land: UK statement at the UN Security Council, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 December 2024. Access Date: 21 December 2024.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-uk-calls-on-israel-to-stop-illegal-settlement-expansion-on-palestinian-land-uk-statement-at-the-un-security-council>

On 4 July 2024, President Joe Biden and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu discussed efforts to achieve a ceasefire that would release hostages.<sup>425</sup> President Biden reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring Israel's security and expressed his support for Prime Minister Netanyahu's decision to bring in Israeli negotiators among the US, Qatar, and Egypt to mediate a deal.

On 10 July 2024, President Biden met with United Kingdom Prime Minister Starmer at the White House to discuss the cooperation between the US and the UK in global challenges.<sup>426</sup> The leaders emphasized the need for achieving a ceasefire that would return hostages and bring an end to the conflict while reaffirming their commitment to the vision of the two-state solution.

On 11 July 2024, the G7 foreign ministers released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>427</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 11 July 2024, the Department of State imposed sanctions on three individuals and five entities under Executive Order 14115 for "undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank," such that "all property and interests within or under the possession of the United States" would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>428</sup>

On 15 July 2024, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with Israeli National Security Advisor Tzachi Hanegbi, Israeli Minister of Strategic Affairs Ron Dermer, and a senior delegation from the Israeli interagency at the US-Israel Strategic Consultative Group.<sup>429</sup> Advisor Sullivan reconfirmed Israel's right to self-defence and the leaders discussed the ways to reach a deal that would accompany a ceasefire and a release of the hostages.

On 21 July 2024, Director of the White House Gender Policy Council Jennifer Klein, Principal Deputy National Security Advisor Jon Finer, and Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Geeta Rao Gupta, held discussions with Palestinian and Israeli women leaders who are collaborating to promote peace and security in the region.<sup>430</sup> Leaders addressed the effect of the ongoing conflict on women and girls and highlighted the importance of sustained peace. The meeting reflects the US's commitment to resolve the conflict in Gaza by means of a ceasefire and the release of hostages.

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<sup>425</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden's Call with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel, The White House (Washington D.C.) 4 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/04/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-call-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel-6/>

<sup>426</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden's Meeting with Prime Minister Keir Starmer of the United Kingdom, The White House (Washington D.C.) 10 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/10/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-meeting-with-prime-minister-keir-starmer-of-the-united-kingdom/>

<sup>427</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Situation in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. <https://www.state.gov/g7-foreign-ministers-statement-on-the-situation-in-the-west-bank>

<sup>428</sup> Designation of Individuals and Entities Contributing to Violence and Instability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-individuals-and-entities-contributing-to-violence-and-instability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>429</sup> Readout of the U.S.-Israel Strategic Consultative Group, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 6 October 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/15/readout-of-u-s-israel-strategic-consultative-group-2/>

<sup>430</sup> Readout of Meeting with Israeli and Palestinian Women Leaders, The White House (Washington D.C.) 21 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/21/readout-of-meeting-with-israeli-and-palestinian-women-leaders/>

On 25 July 2024, President Biden met with Prime Minister Netanyahu at the White House to discuss the progress of the situation in Gaza and the deal that would bring a ceasefire and the release of hostages.<sup>431</sup> President Biden emphasized the urgency of negotiations that would result in a ceasefire, the release of hostages and a lasting resolution to the conflict in Gaza. President Biden also stressed the need for aid and the protection of the civilian population in military operations.

On 12 August 2024, Amy Tohill-Stull, Mission Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), met with the mayors of Tulkarem, Jenin and Nablus to reaffirm USAID's commitment to regional development in the West Bank.<sup>432</sup> They discussed the importance of youth empowerment and skill development in enhancing Palestinians' lives.

On 28 August 2024, the Department of State imposed sanctions on an Israeli organization and individual "undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank."<sup>433</sup> The Department of State acknowledged the harm the extremist settler violence brings to Palestinian civilians and stability in the region.

On 10 September 2024, USAID along with local farmers and the mayor of Jericho, Abdel Kareem Sider, signed 20 co-investment agreements totaling USD1.3 million under the Quality Technologies Revitalizing Agriculture Activity project.<sup>434</sup> The project aims to advance development goals and support communities in the West Bank and Gaza over four years to improve community livelihood and build community resilience.

On 11 September 2024, Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and Secretary General for the European Union External Action Service Stefano Sannino, reaffirmed the joint commitment calling for a prompt ceasefire in Gaza, the liberation of all hostages, the provision of humanitarian aid, and a feasible route to peace through a two-state solution.<sup>435</sup>

On 30 September 2024, the United States government announced nearly USD336 million in humanitarian assistance to Gaza and the West Bank at the 79th UN General Assembly.<sup>436</sup> The aid will expand support for emergency healthcare, food, nutrition, psychological services, increased access to drinking water, hygiene products and sanitation services for Palestinian civilians, including logistics and emergency shelter services to displaced Gazans.

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<sup>431</sup> Readout of President Joe Biden's Meeting with Prime Minister Netanyahu of Israel, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/25/readout-of-president-joe-bidens-meeting-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel/>

<sup>432</sup> USAID and Tulkarem, Jenin, Nablus, Halhul, Hebron and Dura Municipalities Reaffirm Strategic Partnership to Support the Palestinian People, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/aug-12-2024-usaid-and-tulkarem-jenin-nablus-halhul-hebron-and-dura-municipalities-reaffirm-strategic-partnership-support-palestinian-people>

<sup>433</sup> Sanctions on Israeli Entity and Individual, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 28 August 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-israeli-entity-and-individual/>

<sup>434</sup> USAID Quality Technologies Revitalizing Agriculture Activity (Q'tra) Signs 20 Co-Investment Agreements to Enhance Water Efficiency and Resilience in the West Bank, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/sep-10-2024-usaid-quality-technologies-revitalizing-agriculture-activity-qtra-signs-20-co-investment-agreements-enhance-water-efficiency-and-resilience-west-bank>

<sup>435</sup> EU-US: Consultations between EEAS Secretary General Stefano Sannino and US Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state_en)

<sup>436</sup> The United States Announces Nearly \$336 Million in Humanitarian Assistance to Support Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-30-2024-united-states-announces-nearly-336-million-humanitarian-assistance-support-palestinians-gaza-and-west-bank>

On 1 October 2024, the Department of State announced the imposition of sanctions on two individuals for “undermining peace, security and stability in the West Bank,” such that “all property and interests in property within the United States or under the possession or control of the United States” would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>437</sup>

On 1 October 2024, the Department of State designated two additional individuals to be in violation of Executive Order 14115, or “undermining peace, security and stability in the West Bank,” such that “all property and interests in property within the United States or under the possession or control of the United States” would be inaccessible and all economic transactions unless previously exempted would be suspended.<sup>438</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>439</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

On 24 October 2024, Secretary Blinken, announced an additional USD135 million for Palestinian civilians during a joint press conference with Qatari Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, in Doha, Qatar.<sup>440</sup>

On 28 October 2024, USAID announced an additional USD45.5 million assistance aid to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network, addressing financial, technical, and operational challenges, reinforcing healthcare infrastructure, and bolstering the Palestinian Authority and surrounding West Bank communities.<sup>441</sup>

On 15 November 2024, USAID announced an additional USD230 million to assist reconstruction and development efforts in the West Bank and Gaza, to improve community resilience, humanitarian support and strengthen the private and civil sectors.<sup>442</sup>

On 19 November 2024, USAID announced the launch of seven programs aimed at promoting peace between Israelis and Palestinians, which will enhance the connections between organizations for peacebuilding, specifically under the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund.<sup>443</sup>

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<sup>437</sup> Sanctions on Two Individuals Undermining Peace, Security, and Stability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-two-individuals-undermining-peace-security-and-stability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>438</sup> Sanctions on Two Individuals Undermining Peace, Security, and Stability in the West Bank, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 1 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. <https://www.state.gov/sanctions-on-two-individuals-undermining-peace-security-and-stability-in-the-west-bank/>

<sup>439</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers’ Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

<sup>440</sup> Blinken announces \$135M in additional US aid for Palestinians, Voice of America (Washington D.C.) 24 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.voanews.com/a/blinken-announces-135-million-in-additional-us-aid-for-palestinians/7837681.html>

<sup>441</sup> USAID Provides an Additional \$45.5 Million to the East Jerusalem Hospital Network, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 28 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/oct-28-2024-usaid-provides-additional-455-million-east-jerusalem-hospital-network>

<sup>442</sup> USAID Provides \$230 Million in New Funding to Support the Palestinian People, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 15 November 2024. Access Date: 26 November 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/press-releases/Nov-15-2024-USAID-Provides-230-Million-in-New-Funding-to-Support-the-Palestinian-People>

<sup>443</sup> USAID Announces New Programs to Foster Peace Between Palestinians and Israelis, United States Agency for International Aid (Washington D.C.) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-19-2024-usaid-announces-new-programs-foster-peace-between-palestinians-and-israelis>

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>444</sup>

The United States has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The United States demonstrated strong action in all three commitment dimensions by engaging in bilateral talks with Israeli, Palestinian and world leaders to advance the two-state solution and create lasting peace. The United States has also imposed sanctions on individuals that compromise peace and has provided aid to rebuilding Gaza.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Blair Shang*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority.

On 23 June 2024, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič issued a statement expressing deep concern over the humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>445</sup> They warned that the delivery of essential aid has become nearly impossible due to ongoing military operations and the breakdown of law and order. The European Union reiterated its call for all parties to uphold international legal obligations, protect civilians, provide a safe environment for humanitarian work, and grant unimpeded access to aid. High Representative Borrell and Commissioner Lenarčič also urged for an immediate ceasefire and the unconditional release of hostages.

On 27 June 2024, the European Council expressed deep concern over the escalating humanitarian crisis in the Middle East, deploring the heavy toll on civilian lives and the severe hunger crisis in Gaza.<sup>446</sup> They urged for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735, which calls for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and increased humanitarian aid. Further, the Council condemned the ongoing extremist settler violence in the West Bank and called for sanctions against such settlers, urging respect for the status of Jerusalem. The leaders also criticized Israel's decision to expand settlements, calling for its reversal and emphasizing the importance of a two-state solution. The EU reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Palestinian statehood and efforts to rebuild Gaza, urging Israel to release withheld clearance revenues and maintain banking services between Israeli and Palestinian banks.

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<sup>444</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, U.S. Department of State (Washington D.C.) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 6 December 2024. <https://www.state.gov/g7-foreign-ministers-meeting-statement/>

<sup>445</sup> Statement on the humanitarian situation in Gaza and access constraints by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Le, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 23 June 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/statement-humanitarian-situation-gaza-and-access-constraints-high-representativevice-president-josep-2024-06-23\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/statement-humanitarian-situation-gaza-and-access-constraints-high-representativevice-president-josep-2024-06-23_en)

<sup>446</sup> European Council, 27 June 2024, European Council (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/european-council/2024/06/27/>



On 27 June 2024, the European Commission and Belgium coordinated a new shipment of humanitarian aid from Brussels to Gaza via Jordan.<sup>447</sup> The 240-tonne shipment, organized by the Brussels-based charity Human Smile, includes essential supplies such as hygiene items, sleeping bags, baby milk powder, and other assistance for Palestinians in need. This effort adds to over 2,600 metric tonnes of supplies already sent via 55 EU Humanitarian Air Bridge flights since the crisis began. The EU has provided over EUR1.1 billion in humanitarian aid to Palestinians since 2000, with more than EUR290 million allocated in 2023 and 2024 alone.

On 28 June 2024, the Council of the European Union added six individuals and three entities to its sanctions list for financing or supporting the violent actions of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ).<sup>448</sup> Among those listed are three companies linked to Hamas' financial operations, which were used as front companies to facilitate financial flows. These listings subject those involved to asset freezes and prohibit the provision of funds or economic resources to them. EU efforts include the sanctions aimed at holding those who enable violent actions by Hamas and PIJ accountable.

On 5 July 2024, High Representative Borrell and Commissioner Lenarčič expressed deep concern over the Israeli army's orders to evacuate 250,000 civilians from Khan Younis in southern Gaza, warning that these forced evacuations are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis for nearly 1.9 million displaced Gazans.<sup>449</sup> The EU stressed that evacuations must comply with International Humanitarian Law, ensuring safety and proper shelter. Israel must guarantee that displaced individuals can return home after the conflict and access necessary services. The EU reiterated the need for an immediate ceasefire to facilitate humanitarian aid and called for the respect of International Court of Justice orders and the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2735.

On 11 July 2024, G7 foreign ministers including released a statement condemning Israel's decision to legalize five outposts in the West Bank.<sup>450</sup> The G7 ministers reiterated their support for creating lasting peace in the region according to the two-state solution and resolutions of the UN Security Council and recognized the negative impact settlements bring against achieving this peace.

On 15 July 2024, the Council of the European Union approved new sanctions against five individuals and three entities involved in human rights abuses against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>451</sup> These sanctions target those responsible for violence, harassment, and blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza. The individuals and entities listed are now subject to asset freezes, travel bans, and restrictions on receiving

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<sup>447</sup> Gaza: The EU and Belgium team up to deliver humanitarian supplies amid the ongoing crisis, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 27 June 2024. Access Date: 22 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/gaza-eu-and-belgium-team-deliver-humanitarian-supplies-amid-ongoing-crisis-2024-06-27\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/gaza-eu-and-belgium-team-deliver-humanitarian-supplies-amid-ongoing-crisis-2024-06-27_en)

<sup>448</sup> Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Council adds six individuals and three entities to the sanctions list, European Council (Brussels) 28 June 2024. Access Date: 21 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/28/hamas-and-palestinian-islamic-jihad-council-adds-six-individuals-and-three-entities-to-the-sanctions-list/>

<sup>449</sup> Joint statement by the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič on military action in Khan Younis, Gaza, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 5 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/joint-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-commissioner-crisis-management-2024-07-05\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/joint-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-commissioner-crisis-management-2024-07-05_en)

<sup>450</sup> Israel/Palestine: G7 Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Situation in the West Bank, European Union External Action (Brussels) 11 July 2024. Access Date: 20 September 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-g7-foreign-ministers%E2%80%99-statement-situation-west-bank\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-g7-foreign-ministers%E2%80%99-statement-situation-west-bank_en)

<sup>451</sup> Extremist Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as violent activists, blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza: five individuals and three entities sanctioned under the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/extremist-israeli-settlers-in-the-occupied-west-bank-and-east-jerusalem-as-well-as-violent-activists-blocking-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza-five-individuals-and-three-entities-sanctioned-under-the-eu-global-human-rights-sanctions-regime/>

economic resources. These measures are part of the EU's Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, which addresses serious human rights violations worldwide.

On 15 July 2024, the European Union and Jordan reaffirmed their partnership during the 15th Association Council meeting in Brussels.<sup>452</sup> Both parties emphasized the need for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza to end the war and the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe. They expressed support for the US ceasefire proposal. Further, the EU and Jordan highlighted the importance of delivering humanitarian aid to Gaza, with the EU confirming its readiness to support aid efforts via the Jordanian corridor. Both sides stressed that the only path to a just and lasting resolution of the Middle East conflict is through a two-state solution, leading to the establishment of an independent, sovereign Palestinian state alongside Israel, in accordance with international law and UN Security Council resolutions.

On 19 July 2024, the European Commission and the Palestinian Authority signed a Letter of Intent outlining a strategy to address the financial challenges facing the Palestinian Authority and the broader Palestinian economy, which have been worsened by the war in Gaza.<sup>453</sup> The strategy focuses on stabilizing the Palestinian Authority and creating conditions for economic recovery and resilience in the West Bank, with future plans to support Gaza's reconstruction. As a first step, the EU will provide EUR400 million in emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority. The program will focus on modernizing the Palestinian administration, improving governance, fighting corruption, and strengthening the economy.

On 24 July 2024, the European Commission coordinated its first medical evacuation operation, transferring 16 Palestinian children and their family members from Egypt to Spain.<sup>454</sup> The EU has been facilitating these evacuations following a request from the World Health Organization (WHO) for urgent medical care for Palestinian children. So far, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania, Slovakia, and Spain have offered assistance with treatment and transportation for these patients. The Emergency Response Coordination Centre is working with EU health and consular services, WHO, and other partners to continue these operations in the coming weeks. The EU has also allocated EUR32.5 million in 2024 to support health-related humanitarian efforts in Gaza.

On 31 July 2024, the European Commission disbursed the first installment of EUR150 million from its EUR400 million emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority, following an agreement previously made on 19 July.<sup>455</sup> This instalment includes EUR58 million in grants for civil servants' salaries and vulnerable families, and EUR92 million from the European Investment Bank for the Palestine Monetary Authority. Future payments depend on the Palestinian Authority's reform progress, with a long-term program to achieve budgetary stability by 2026 proposed for September. The EU remains the largest provider of external assistance to the Palestinians, with nearly EUR1.2 billion allocated for 2021-2024.

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<sup>452</sup> Joint press statement – European Union and Jordan confirm ever stronger partnership at their 15th Association Council, European Council (Brussels) 15 July 2024. Access Date: 24 September 2024. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/07/15/joint-press-statement-european-union-and-jordan-confirm-ever-stronger-partnership-at-their-15th-association-council/>

<sup>453</sup> The European Commission and the Palestinian Authority agree on emergency financial support and the principles for a recovery and resilience programme, European Commission (Brussels) 19 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_24\\_3823](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_3823)

<sup>454</sup> EU's first medical evacuation operation of Palestinians transfers children from Egypt to Spain, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 24 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eus-first-medical-evacuation-operation-palestinians-transfers-children-egypt-spain-2024-07-24\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eus-first-medical-evacuation-operation-palestinians-transfers-children-egypt-spain-2024-07-24_en)

<sup>455</sup> EU proceeds with first tranche of short-term emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (Brussels) 31 July 2024. Access Date: 23 September 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-proceeds-first-tranche-short-term-emergency-financial-support-palestinian-authority-2024-07-31\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-proceeds-first-tranche-short-term-emergency-financial-support-palestinian-authority-2024-07-31_en)

On 20 August 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the Arms Trade Treaty during the 10th Conference of State Parties, expressing the need for regional stability, upholding Israel's right to self-defence, but per international humanitarian law and abiding by the orders of the International Court of Justice.<sup>456</sup>

On 9 September 2024, High Representative Borrell voiced support for the Palestinian people in a press conference at the Rafah Crossing, urging the need for a political solution towards peace, while condemning the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza.<sup>457</sup>

On 10 September 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israel-Palestine Conflict at the League of Arab States, condemning all parties that are counterproductive to a political settlement, the need to bolster the Palestinian Authority and Israeli Civil Society and a common approach towards a balance of power on realistic conditions for the two-state solution.<sup>458</sup>

On 10 September 2024, High Representative Borrell met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty reaffirming support towards a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a political solution in accordance with the two-state solution.<sup>459</sup>

On 11 September 2024, Secretary General for the European Union External Action Service Stefano Sannino United States Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, reaffirmed the joint commitment calling for a prompt ceasefire in Gaza, the liberation of all hostages, the provision of humanitarian aid, and a feasible route to peace through a two-state solution.<sup>460</sup>

On 15 September 2024, High Representative Borrell voiced support for Queen Rania of Jordan on the need for international law; autonomy, dignity, and human rights; justice; mutual security; and countering extremism, as the five principles of lasting peace in the Middle East.<sup>461</sup> He also stressed the need for action and not words, reiterating the stance of European leaders on the illegality of Israeli settlements and its responsibility as the occupying power in accordance with the two-state solution.

On 17 September 2024, the European Union signed a EUR6 million grant agreement together with Germany and the Palestinian Authority to establish twelve new social and public infrastructures in Area C of the West

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<sup>456</sup> ATT CSP10 EU General Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 20 August 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/att-csp10-eu-general-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/att-csp10-eu-general-statement_en)

<sup>457</sup> Egypt: Press statement by High Representative/Vice-president Joseph Borrell at the Rafah Border Crossing, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 9 September 2024. Access Date: 20 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-rafah-border-crossing\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-statement-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-rafah-border-crossing_en)

<sup>458</sup> League of Arab States: Opening remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell at the Ministerial Meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 September 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024 [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/league-arab-states-opening-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ministerial\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/league-arab-states-opening-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ministerial_en)

<sup>459</sup> Egypt: Press remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell after his meeting with Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 September 2024. Access date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-his-meeting-foreign\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/egypt-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-his-meeting-foreign_en)

<sup>460</sup> EU-US: Consultations between EEAS Secretary General Stefano Sannino and US Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 11 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/eu-us-consultations-between-eeas-secretary-general-stefano-sannino-and-us-deputy-secretary-state_en)

<sup>461</sup> Ukraine/Middle East wars: International law is a must—not a maybe, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 15 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukrainemiddle-east-wars-international-law-must%E2%80%94not-maybe\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/ukrainemiddle-east-wars-international-law-must%E2%80%94not-maybe_en)

Bank, promoting economic development and improving the quality of life for Palestinian communities, while bolstering the presence and support of the Palestinian Authority.<sup>462</sup>

On 19 September 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the 68th Regular Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference, on the immediate need to implement UN Security Council Resolution 2735 towards a ceasefire, dedicating efforts toward a durable and sustainable peace aligned with the two-state solution, and protecting all civilian lives through the distribution of humanitarian aid.<sup>463</sup>

On 24 September 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its support for the two-state solution at the United Nations Human Rights Council, advocating for enduring peace on the premise of an “independent, democratic, contiguous, sovereign, and viable state of Palestine.”<sup>464</sup>

On 26 September 2024, the European Union announced the formation of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, highlighting the importance of united efforts toward peace through diplomatic initiatives, the release of hostages, and adopting the two-state solution.<sup>465</sup>

On 27 September 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict at the United Nations Security Council, advocating for a ceasefire in accordance with the two-state solution and resolving the humanitarian crisis.<sup>466</sup>

On 7 October 2024, the European Union, on the one-year anniversary of the Hamas attack, condemned the terrorist attack by Hamas, supporting all efforts to alleviate the humanitarian crisis and suffering in Gaza, advocating for an immediate ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a political solution in accordance with the two-state solution.<sup>467</sup>

On 8 October 2024, Ambassador to the United Nations Hedda Samson, made a statement at the UN General Assembly 1st Committee of the 79th Session reiterating the necessity of a ceasefire, the release of hostages, and a comprehensive humanitarian response in Gaza, while denouncing Hamas’s terrorist attacks, supporting

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<sup>462</sup> The European Union, Germany and Palestinian Authority sign a new agreement to implement twelve projects in Area C, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 17 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-germany-and-palestinian-authority-sign-new-agreement-implement-twelve-projects-area-c\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-germany-and-palestinian-authority-sign-new-agreement-implement-twelve-projects-area-c_en)

<sup>463</sup> EU Statement on the Situation in the Middle East at the 68th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference, 19 September 2024, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 19 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-situation-middle-east-68th-regular-session-iaea-general-conference-19-september-2024\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/vienna-international-organisations/eu-statement-situation-middle-east-68th-regular-session-iaea-general-conference-19-september-2024_en)

<sup>464</sup> HRC57 - Item 4: General debate on human rights situations that require the Council’s attention, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 24 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/hrc57-item-4-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-council%E2%80%99s-attention\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/hrc57-item-4-general-debate-human-rights-situations-require-council%E2%80%99s-attention_en)

<sup>465</sup> Israel/Palestine: Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution announced in the UNGA margins, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 26 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-global-alliance-implementation-two-state-solution-announced-unga-margins\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-global-alliance-implementation-two-state-solution-announced-unga-margins_en)

<sup>466</sup> Middle East: Speech by the High Representative at the UN Security Council meeting on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 27 September 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024.

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representative-un-security-council-meeting-situation-occupied-palestinian\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representative-un-security-council-meeting-situation-occupied-palestinian_en)

<sup>467</sup> Israel: Statement by the High Representative one year after the 7th October terrorist attacks, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 7 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israel-statement-high-representative-one-year-after-7th-october-terrorist-attacks\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israel-statement-high-representative-one-year-after-7th-october-terrorist-attacks_en)

Israel's right to self-defence, but in accordance with international humanitarian law and the orders of the International Court of Justice.<sup>468</sup>

On 9 October 2024, the European Union reaffirmed its stance at the 1509th Meeting of the Committee of Ministers, condemning acts of terror and civilian casualties, supporting the actions of the UN and United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and committing towards enduring peace in guidance with the two-state solution.<sup>469</sup>

On 10 October 2024, Ambassador to the United Nations Stavros Lambrinidis, reiterated the need for a political solution to the Israeli-Palestine conflict based on the two-state solution at the United Nations Security Council, calling for the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 2735 for an urgent ceasefire, the release of hostages, and humanitarian aid into Gaza.<sup>470</sup>

On 12 October 2024, the European Union reiterated its support for the UN Secretary-General and the UNRWA, in accordance with the “multilateral and rule-based global governance system,” expressing concerns over Israel's decision to suspend the activities of UNRWA.<sup>471</sup>

On 14 October 2024, High Representative Borrell reiterated in a joint press release with UK's Foreign Secretary Lammy, the need for a ceasefire, the release of hostages, access to humanitarian aid, and a return to the consensus of the two-state solution.<sup>472</sup>

On 14 October 2024, High Representative Borrell following a meeting at the EU Foreign Affairs Council discussed the disbursement of the third tranche of the EU emergency aid package with UNRWA, sanctions against settlers in the West Bank, and support for the United Nations, working towards a ceasefire and a two-state solution.<sup>473</sup>

On 22 October 2024, G7 development ministers released a communiqué after their meeting in Pescara, calling for the release of all hostages, an immediate ceasefire and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.<sup>474</sup> G7 ministers called on all parties involved to allow the unrestricted flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza and emphasized that the safety of civilians was an immediate priority.

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<sup>468</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 1st Committee: General Statement, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 8 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-1st-committee-general-statement\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-1st-committee-general-statement_en)

<sup>469</sup> 1509th Meeting of the Committee of Ministers (9 October 2024) EU Statement on the Middle East, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 9 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/1509th-meeting-committee-ministers-9-october-2024-eu-statement-middle-east\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/council-europe/1509th-meeting-committee-ministers-9-october-2024-eu-statement-middle-east_en)

<sup>470</sup> EU Statement – UN Security Council: Situation in the Middle East, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 10 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east_en)

<sup>471</sup> Israel/Palestine: Statement by the High Representative on a draft legislation that could stop UNRWA operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 12 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-high-representative-draft-legislation-could-stop-unrwa-operations-occupied\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/israelpalestine-statement-high-representative-draft-legislation-could-stop-unrwa-operations-occupied_en)

<sup>472</sup> EU/UK: Joint press release on the meeting between High Representative/Vice-President Joseph Borrell and UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/euuk-joint-press-release-meeting-between-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-uk\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/euuk-joint-press-release-meeting-between-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-and-uk_en)

<sup>473</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Joseph Borrell after the meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 14 October 2024. Access Date: 30 October 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-16\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-16_en)

<sup>474</sup> Communiqué of G7 development ministers' Meeting of Pescara, Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale (Rome) 22 October 2024. Access Date: 31 October 2024. [https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/](https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2024/10/comunicato-della-riunione-dei-ministri-dello-sviluppo-del-g7-di-pescara/)

On 29 October 2024, the European Union delivered a statement at the UN Security Council, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and improved humanitarian access, in line with UN Security Council Resolution 2735.<sup>475</sup> The EU also emphasized its support for international efforts towards the two-state solution and the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2334, supporting the Palestinian Authority's reform efforts.

On 18 November 2024, High Representative Borrell following the 50th formal Foreign Affairs Council meeting, delivered remarks on the need for implementation of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution.<sup>476</sup>

On 19 November 2024, the European Union disbursed a short-term emergency financial support to the Palestinian Authority amounting EUR110 million, to help address the budgetary and fiscal situation of the Palestinian Authority, as part of the EU Comprehensive Programme for Palestinian Recovery and Resilience.<sup>477</sup>

On 21 November 2024, High Representative Borrell, following a meeting with Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ayman Safadi, stressed the need for humanitarian aid and the cessation of hostilities.<sup>478</sup>

On 22 November 2024, the EU made a statement at the UN General Assembly, condemning Israeli settlement policies and practices affecting Palestinians and other Arabs in occupied territories.<sup>479</sup> There, the EU criticized Israel's settlement activities in Palestinian territories, urging an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages, and better access to humanitarian aid. They reiterated their support for the two-state solution and the Palestinian Authority's reforms, including a viable path to Palestinian statehood for long-term peace in the region.

On 26 November 2024, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms Elisa Ferreira emphasised the importance of the role of UNWRA considering the worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza in response to Israel's proposed legislation on obstructing UNWRA operations and urged the need for de-escalation and abidance to the rule-based order.<sup>480</sup>

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<sup>475</sup> EU Statement – UN Security Council: Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 29 October 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east-including-palestinian-question-2\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-security-council-situation-middle-east-including-palestinian-question-2_en)

<sup>476</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Josep Borrell after the meeting, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 18 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-17\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-josep-borrell-after-meeting-17_en)

<sup>477</sup> Jordan: Press remarks by the High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell after meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Ayman Safadi., European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 19 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-disburses-third-instalment-emergency-package-palestinian-authority-following-agreement-2024-11-19\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-disburses-third-instalment-emergency-package-palestinian-authority-following-agreement-2024-11-19_en)

<sup>478</sup> EU disburses third instalment of the emergency package for the Palestinian Authority following agreement on a comprehensive reform agenda, European Commission (Brussels) 21 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/jordan-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-meeting-deputy-prime\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/jordan-press-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-after-meeting-deputy-prime_en)

<sup>479</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 4th Committee: Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 22 November 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-4th-committee-israeli-practices-and-settlement-activities-1\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-4th-committee-israeli-practices-and-settlement-activities-1_en)

<sup>480</sup> Middle East: Speech by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the West Bank and UNRWA's role in the region, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 27 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-humanitarian-crisis-gaza-and-west\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/middle-east-speech-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-humanitarian-crisis-gaza-and-west_en)

On 26 November 2024, G7 foreign ministers, released a statement regarding the situation in the Middle East, reiterating their commitment to a ceasefire, increased humanitarian aid, the release of hostages, and the resolution to the conflict through the two-state solution.<sup>481</sup>

On 28 November 2024, High Representative Borrell, ahead of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution meeting, reiterated the need for general, regional de-escalation, adherence to the international rule-based order, and the necessity of a two-state solution.<sup>482</sup>

On 3 December 2024, the EU delivered a statement at the UN General Assembly speaking to their continued efforts to the two-state solution in Palestine and Israel, specifically through an upcoming international peace conference.<sup>483</sup> In addition, the EU reaffirmed its call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all hostages, and the urgent improvement of humanitarian aid access.

On 4 December 2024, Ambassador Samson emphasized the EU's call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and the unconditional release of all hostages at the UN General Assembly.<sup>484</sup> Ambassador Samson condemned the civilian suffering, particularly in Gaza and the West Bank, and reiterated the EU's commitment to a two-state solution. Additionally, Ambassador Samson reiterated the EU's ongoing support for the needs and reform of Palestinian Authority, highlighting the necessity of a viable path for an independent Palestinian state.

On 16 December 2024, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas spoke at a Foreign Affairs Council press conference in Brussels.<sup>485</sup> There, she emphasized the need for the release of hostages, a ceasefire, and efforts towards a two-state solution.

On 16 December 2024, the EU and the European Investment Bank signed a EUR28.3 million agreement to support Palestinian micro, small, and medium enterprises, particularly in Area C, East Jerusalem, and Gaza.<sup>486</sup> This funding aims to support the Palestinian Authority by boosting economic stability and development, which helps align both Gaza and the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority's reform agenda.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment of supporting the vision of the two-state solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions, and supporting the unification of the Gaza strip with the West Bank under the Palestinian Authority. The European Union has taken strong action across all three commitment dimensions by providing financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, reaffirming

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<sup>481</sup> Foreign Ministers' Meeting Statement, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26 November 2024. Access Date: 11 December 2024. <https://g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/241126-statement.html>

<sup>482</sup> Palestine: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell ahead of the meeting of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 28 November 2024. Access Date: 28 November 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ahead-meeting-global-alliance\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/palestine-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-ahead-meeting-global-alliance_en)

<sup>483</sup> EU Explanation of Vote – UN General Assembly Plenary: Adoption of the Resolution on the Syrian Golan, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 3 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-explanation-vote-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-plenary-adoption-resolution-syrian-golan\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-explanation-vote-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-plenary-adoption-resolution-syrian-golan_en)

<sup>484</sup> EU Statement – UN General Assembly 10th Emergency Special Session: Illegal Israeli actions in occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York (New York) 4 December 2024. Access Date: 19 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-10th-emergency-special-session-illegal-israeli-actions-occupied-0\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-un-general-assembly-10th-emergency-special-session-illegal-israeli-actions-occupied-0_en)

<sup>485</sup> Foreign Affairs Council: Press remarks by High Representative Kaja Kallas at the press conference, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-press-conference\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/foreign-affairs-council-press-remarks-high-representative-kaja-kallas-press-conference_en)

<sup>486</sup> The European Union and Palestinian Authority convene Investment Platform and announce EUR 28.3 million of investments for the Palestine Financial Sustainability Initiative, European Union External Action Service (Brussels) 16 December 2024. Access Date: 20 December 2024. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-palestinian-authority-convene-investment-platform-and-announce-eur-283-million\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/palestine-occupied-palestinian-territory-west-bank-and-gaza-strip/european-union-and-palestinian-authority-convene-investment-platform-and-announce-eur-283-million_en)

support for a two-state solution through bilateral meetings, and contributing to humanitarian relief efforts in Gaza. The European Union has also imposed sanctions on individuals and companies responsible for perpetuating further violence in the region.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Blair Shang*