



Position Statement

Palestinian Prisoner's Society Welcomes UN's Blacklisting of Israel Regarding Sexual Violence

Efforts to Stop Crimes of Sexual Violence Against Palestinian Political Prisoners Must Go Beyond Condemnations

May 31, 2026

Ramallah, occupied Palestine – The Palestinian Prisoner's Society (PPS) welcomed on Sunday the United Nations decision to include Israel on the blacklist related to sexual violence, as well as efforts to place the “Israeli Prison Services” institution on the blacklist, meaning they are part of an institutional system that has systematically and extensively committed sexual violence and crimes of sexual nature.

The PPS emphasized that this decision constitutes growing international recognition of the scale of the crimes and violations committed by occupation authorities against Palestinians, foremost among them being crimes of torture, sexual violence, enforced disappearance, and extrajudicial executions—crimes that are no longer documented as individual or exceptional abuses, but rather as systematic policies and tools of collective repression and punishment - a reality that demands urgent international accountability that goes beyond mere condemnation and documentation.

The PPS noted that the UN letter addressed to Israel regarding torture in prisons, and its references to extrajudicial field executions, alongside the findings in the annual report on crimes of sexual violence, constitute critically important international documents in the process of revealing the truth about what Palestinians are subjected to under occupation, and reaffirm that sexual violence has been used as a tool of humiliation, torture, and intimidation against Palestinian detainees, within the context of the crime of genocide.

What Palestinian and international human rights organizations have documented in recent years—particularly since the start of the Gaza genocide—reveals a comprehensive system of crimes that included rape and threats of rape, forced strip searches, forced nudity, genital assault, and other practices that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity under international law.

The PPS noted that the rape revealed at the “Sdeh Teiman” military camp where thousands of Palestinians are held in cages, constituted a glaring example of the nature of these crimes, and revealed the extent of official complicity within the occupying state, including the Israeli occupation's judicial system, which no longer merely serves as a cover for



impunity but has become an active partner in entrenching the system of violations and granting it political and legal immunity.

The PPS emphasized that the increasing number of testimonies and statements documented by human rights organizations from Palestinian prisoners and detainees proves that the crimes committed inside prisons and camps are not isolated incidents, but rather part of a systematic policy aimed at breaking the Palestinian people and stripping them of their dignity and humanity, within the broader context of the comprehensive targeting of the Palestinian people through ongoing genocidal plans and policies.

The PPS renewed its call on the United Nations and the international community to move from the stage of documentation and condemnation to the stage of actual accountability, by imposing measures that ensure an end to impunity, prosecuting Israeli officials before the competent international courts, and holding them accountable for crimes committed against the Palestinian people, including those committed against thousands of prisoners and detainees, and putting an end to the state of exception and political protection that has enabled Israel for decades to continue its violations of international law without accountability.

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