



**General Assembly Debate on “The Question of Palestine”  
(30 November 2022)**

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**Mr. President,**

Thank you for convening today's debate.

Pakistan appreciates the work done by the Committee on the Exercise of Inalienable Rights of Palestinian People, especially to raise awareness about the political, human rights and humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

We also reaffirm our solidarity with the Palestinian people and reiterate unwavering support to their inalienable rights enshrined in the UN General Assembly resolution 3236, including the right to self-determination and the right to national independence and sovereignty.

Israel's unilateral actions with its continued illegal settlements, alongside demolitions and evictions of Palestinians, are grave violations of UN resolutions and international law, including the humanitarian law. Surely, the forced acquisition of Palestinian land incites political instability, economic desolation and widespread human suffering and obscures the hopes for sustainable peace and stability going forward.

The report of the Committee on the Exercise of Inalienable Rights of Palestinian People shares most disturbing data on the loss of Palestinian lives during the last one year. We condemn the killing and wounding of Palestinians, including women and children by Israel, the occupying power. International community is obliged, morally and legally, to bring this deplorable situation to an end.

Over the last 15 years, the lives and well-being of the 2.2 million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have been in constant jeopardy. They have been denied the right to peace, freedom and self-determination in the face of blockade, occupation and human rights violations.

International human rights law and international humanitarian law, both guarantee the freedom of movement inside an occupied territory. Israel, as the occupying power, has an obligation to allow the Palestinians to move between the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, enabling them to undertake economic, family and religious commitments.

**Mr. President,**

Given the dire challenges facing the Palestinians, international humanitarian and socio-economic assistance serves as a lifeline, especially for Palestinian refugees, who are heavily dependent on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for subsistence. Ramping up support to UNRWA, both politically and financially, is one way to offer solace to Palestinians. It must continue unhindered.

**Mr. President,**

The perpetuation of Israeli occupation will not bring peace to the Holy Land. If history is a guide, even if they are dispossessed and disempowered by Israel, every succeeding generation of Palestinians will persist in seeking their freedom and fundamental rights, including their right to self-determination.

Pakistan continues to support a just and lasting solution of the Palestinian issue, through dialogue and negotiations, that leads to the realization of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, including the right of self-determination. We call for “the establishment of a viable, independent and contiguous State of Palestine, on the basis of internationally agreed parameters, the pre-1967 borders, and with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

**Thank you!**