



Public Statement

2 October 2025

ANIC Condemns Israel's Interception of the Global Sumud Flotilla

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) strongly condemns the unlawful interception and aggression by the Israeli navy against the Global Sumud Flotilla, a civilian mission carrying humanitarian aid and international delegates to Gaza.

The flotilla, consisting of more than 40 civilian boats with around 500 parliamentarians, lawyers, activists, and human rights defenders – including Australians – was peacefully sailing towards Gaza to deliver urgent humanitarian aid and to break the siege.

This act of aggression is yet another violation of international law and part of a series of obstructions to humanitarian assistance for the besieged people of Gaza, who are already enduring a deliberate, man-made famine imposed by Israel. It is a clear attempt to silence global voices calling for justice, human rights, accountability, and an end to the war and genocide.

As the world approaches the commemoration of two years of ongoing genocide in Gaza, it must be remembered that more than 65,000 innocent Palestinians have been killed and over 2 million remain under siege. The people of Gaza have been subjected to a man-made famine imposed by the Israeli occupation, where thousands of children and innocent civilians have died from starvation. The international community cannot remain silent in the face of such unprecedented human suffering and systematic violations of human rights.

The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court explicitly criminalises the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the wilful obstruction of humanitarian aid, exactly what Israel has committed and continues to commit against the people of Gaza.

ANIC demands that the Australian Government:

- Unequivocally condemn Israel's attacks on the civilian flotilla and its continued blockade of Gaza.
- Ensure the safety and immediate release of Australians and other international activists on board.
- Support international efforts to guarantee safe humanitarian access to Gaza without obstruction.
- Grant notice of the expulsion of the Israeli Ambassador to Australia if Israel does not allow humanitarian aid to flow freely from the largest humanitarian maritime mission to date.

Australia has a moral obligation to stand for justice, uphold international law, and defend the rights of civilians. We call on all people of conscience to raise their voices against these repeated acts of aggression and to continue to advocate for the human rights of Palestinians.

Israel must be condemned, held accountable, and the war and genocide must end.

anic.org.au

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Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) represents over 300+ Imams from all states and territories