

29 July 2025

Senators Renew Call for Full Arms Embargo on Israel Amid Worsening Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza

We are writing to express our grave concern about Canada's continued military exports to Israel amid the deepening humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

In a statement dated June 25, 2025, 11 senators applauded the government for condemning Israel's denial of humanitarian assistance to Gaza, the imposition of sanctions against two Israeli ministers, and Canada's vote at the United Nations on the protection of civilians. In the same spirit, we welcome Prime Minister Mark Carney's July 24 statement affirming that Israel's obstruction of humanitarian aid constitutes a violation of international law.

However, words are not enough to stop Israel's ongoing siege of Gaza and the suffering of Palestinians. The need for concrete action is more urgent than ever.

More than one million Palestinians are now facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity. Since May 27, the United Nations reports that at least 1,054 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces while seeking food. According to UNICEF, over 50,000 Palestinian children have been killed or injured since October 2023. Every day the numbers continue to rise.

<u>New evidence</u> from a coalition of NGOs suggests Canadian-made weapons and components continue to be exported to Israel, contradicting this government's public commitment to pause new permits. We are deeply alarmed by these findings.

As a State Party to the Arms Trade Treaty, Canada must halt all arms transfers where there is a substantial risk they could be used in serious violations of international law. This is not optional. Canada has a legal obligation to act.

Recognizing that our government cannot control how and where Israel uses military exports from Canada, we are calling for a full and immediate arms embargo against Israel under Canada's unilateral sanctions legislation. Anything less is a betrayal of our international commitments and of the universal human rights that Canadians expect us to uphold.

The Hon, Mohammad Al Zaibak

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Yvonne Boyer

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Bev Busson

Senator for British Columbia

The Hon. Bernadette Clement

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Mary Coyle

Senator for Nova Scotia

The Hon. Marty Deacon

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Tony Dean

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Baltej Dhillon

Senator for British Columbia

The Hon. Éric Forest

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Rosa Galvez

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Amina Gerba

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Margo Greenwood

Senator for British Columbia

The Hon. Katherine Hay

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Tony Ince

Senator for Nova Scotia

The Hon. Nancy Karetak-Lindell

Senator for Nunavut

The Hon. Joan Kingston

Senator for New Brunswick

The Hon, Jane MacAdam

Senator for Prince Edward Island

The Hon. Marnie McBean

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Mary Jane McCallum

Senator for Manitoba

The Hon. John McNair

Senator for New Brunswick

The Hon. Marilou McPhedran

Senator for Manitoba

The Hon. Julie Miville-Dechêne

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Rosemary Moodie

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Tracy Muggli

Senator for Saskatchewan

The Hon. Manuelle Oudar

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Kim Pate

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Jim Quinn

Senator for New Brunswick

The Hon. Pierrette Ringuette

Senator for New Brunswick

The Hon. Paulette Senior

Senator for Ontario

The Hon. Yuen Pau Woo

Senator for British Columbia

The Hon. Suze Youance

Senator for Québec

The Hon. Hassan Yussuff

Senator for Ontario