



# Security Council

Distr.: General  
15 November 2023

Original: English

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## Malta: draft resolution

*The Security Council,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming that* all parties to conflicts must adhere to their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Stressing* that international humanitarian law provides general protection for children as persons taking no part in hostilities, and special protection as persons who are particularly vulnerable, and *recalling that* the taking of hostages is prohibited under international law,

*Recalling* that all parties to armed conflict must comply strictly with the obligations applicable to them under international law for the protection of children in armed conflict, including those contained in the Geneva Conventions of 12th August 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977, as well as the relevant conventions regarding the involvement of children in conflict situations,

*Expressing deep concern* at the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and its grave impact on the civilian population, especially the disproportionate effect on children, underlining the urgent need for full, rapid, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access, and stressing the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence and the obligation to respect and protect humanitarian relief personnel,

*Rejecting* forced displacement of the civilian population, including children, in violation of international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

*Expressing deep concern* that the disruption of access to education has a dramatic impact on children, and that conflict has lifelong effects on their physical and mental health,

*Commending* the ongoing efforts of several regional and international actors as well as of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to address the hostage and humanitarian crises,

1. *Demands* that all parties comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, notably with regard to the protection of civilians, especially children;



2. *Calls for* urgent and extended humanitarian pauses and corridors throughout the Gaza Strip for a sufficient number of days to enable, consistent with international humanitarian law, the full, rapid, safe, and unhindered humanitarian access for United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other impartial humanitarian organizations, to facilitate the continuous, sufficient and unhindered provision of essential goods and services important to the well-being of civilians, especially children, throughout the Gaza Strip, including water, electricity, fuel, food, and medical supplies, as well as emergency repairs to essential infrastructure, and to enable urgent rescue and recovery efforts, including for missing children in damaged and destroyed buildings, and including the medical evacuation of sick or injured children and their care givers;

3. *Calls for* the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas and other groups, especially children, as well as ensuring immediate humanitarian access;

4. *Calls on* all parties to refrain from depriving the civilian population in the Gaza Strip of basic services and humanitarian assistance indispensable to their survival, consistent with international humanitarian law, which has a disproportionate impact on children, *welcomes* the initial, although limited, provision of humanitarian supplies to civilians in the Gaza Strip and *calls for* the scaling up of the provision of such supplies to meet the humanitarian needs of the civilian population, especially children;

5. *Underscores* the importance of coordination, humanitarian notification, and deconfliction mechanisms, to protect all medical and humanitarian staff, vehicles including ambulances, humanitarian sites, and critical infrastructure, including UN facilities, and to help facilitate the movement of aid convoys and patients, in particular sick and injured children and their care givers;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report orally to the Security Council on the implementation of this resolution at the next mandated meeting of the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, and further *requests* the Secretary-General to identify options to effectively monitor the implementation of this resolution as a matter of prime concern;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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