Take Action on Gazan Children Starving to Death

The Hon. Penny Wong Minister for Foreign Affairs Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP Prime Minister of Australia Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

CC:

- The Hon. Richard Marles MP, Deputy Prime Minister
- Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Head, National Counter-Terrorism and Critical Civil Capacity Centre
- Commonwealth Ombudsman
 - Attorney General
 - Head, National Anti-Corruption Commission
 - Director-General, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation
 - Commissioner, Australian Federal Police

Date:

Dear

I write in profound alarm at the catastrophic humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza, where a deliberate blockade of aid is causing mass starvation—especially among children. After more than nine weeks of total embargo, reports confirm that thousands of Palestinian children are malnourished, with many already dying of hunger:

- At least 58 people—predominantly children—have died from malnutrition-related causes since the blockade began on 2 March 2025, and over 65,000 children exhibit symptoms of acute malnutrition.
- The Government Media Office in Gaza warns that 3,500 children are on the verge of starvation due to continued restrictions on food and medical supplies.
- UNICEF reports that more than one million children have been deprived of lifesaving assistance; no aid has entered Gaza for over two months, representing the longest blockade since the conflict's start.

This manufactured famine flagrantly violates International Humanitarian Law, including Article 54 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which expressly prohibits the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare. Australia must act immediately to:

- 1. **Condemn starvation as a weapon of war** and call for an immediate end to the blockade.
- 2. **Mobilise diplomatic pressure**—including via Australia's UN Security Council delegation—to demand unfettered humanitarian access through all crossings.
- 3. **Support and enforce a binding UN resolution** condemning the denial of aid, and refer violations to the International Criminal Court for investigation.
- 4. **Provide direct Australian assistance** via UN agencies and reputable NGOs for food, water, medicine and shelter, ensuring equitable delivery in compliance with civilian-protection norms.
- Investigate Australian dual nationals serving in the IDF or Israeli
 intelligence (Mossad), including over 1,000 Australians reported in the IDF
 and documented cases of Mossad operatives using Australian passports, and
 uphold both domestic and international law in relation to any alleged war
 crimes.
- 6. Demand full transparency on the killing of Australian aid worker Zomi Frankcom—who was struck by an Israeli airstrike on 2 April 2024 while delivering food aid in Gaza—and publicise all finding.
- 7. Disclose all incidents involving Red Cross and Red Crescent personnel, including the eight Palestinian Red Crescent Society paramedics killed by IDF fire during Eid al-Fitr 2025
- 8. Launch an independent inquiry into the drone attack on the Freedom Flotilla Coalition struck twice off Malta's coast in the early hours of 5 May 2025—causing a substantial hull breach which carried Australian humanitarian workers. If Australia is going to pose as a leader in the humanitarian space it must, for the first time, truly walk the talk.
- 9. **Impose targeted sanctions on Israel** for breaches of international law, including the creation of famine and the killing of Australian humanitarian workers.
- 10. Suspend all exports of arms and related components to Israel, including via third party nations, and divest Future Fund holdings in weapons manufacturers complicit in these violations (e.g. Elbit Systems).
- 11. **Publish and justify the objective criteria** for terrorist designations under Australian law to ensure they are applied without racial or religious discrimination, and accordingly, immediately proscribe West Bank settler militias responsible for arson, water-poisoning and violent assaults on Palestinian civilians as terrorist groups.
- 12. Reaffirm that all Israeli settlements in the West Bank are illegal, in breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention and UN Security Council resolutions. Accordingly, investigate Australian citizens involved in any of these illegal activities or settlements.
- 13. **Stand with the International Criminal Court**: refuse to comply with any US sanctions on judges, prosecutors or investigators, and commit to executing arrest warrants for those charged with war crimes. Stop applying double standards to international and domestic law and rights of Australian citizens. Explain why our former Attorney General recently visited to meet with, we presume, Israeli authorities accused of war crimes on a tax payer funded trip months before the election, when we don't afford those privlidges to others accused of war crimes.
- 14. **Investigate foreign interference** in the 2025 federal election, including to Advance Australia as well as other groups.

- 15. Stop exporting weapons or weapon parts to Israel or third-party countries. Stop all investments in weapons companies by the Future Fund, Australian taxpayers and government funds.
- 16. Request and report on how many instances of racial or religious discrimination and vilification, as defined under Australian law, were documented and substantiated by independent third-party authorities at Australian universities, noting that criticism of Israel is not against the law in Australia.
- 17. Uphold the rights of human-rights defenders and act against intimidation or defamation of those who expose violations of international and domestic law.
- 18. Condemn Israel for weaponising humanitarian aid as a method of warfare. Oppose any plans to militarise aid delivery in the future, insisting that all assistance remain strictly civilian, impartial and unarmed.

If Australia is to maintain its reputation as a global leader in humanitarian action, we must not only speak out but also act decisively. Failure to intervene risks complicity in crimes against humanity and sets a dangerous precedent for future conflicts. Yours faithfully, Concerned Australians.

Enough is 6	enough.
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Yours faithfully,

Concerned Australian



















