



The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada



June 16, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister,

It is with deep grief and increasing frustration that we write to you, once again, asking you to lead our government in decisive and concrete action toward ending the State of Israel's genocide against the peoples of Gaza. We appreciated when you joined with the leaders of France and Britain stating that you would take strong action against Israel for its continued onslaught on the people of Gaza. However, we see little or no evidence that such action has been taken even though Israel on a daily basis continues to kill and deny safe access to humanitarian aid.

As church leaders, we write once again to implore you to give full support to the unrestricted access and distribution of generous humanitarian aid in Gaza by credible humanitarian organizations in compliance with humanitarian standards, a complete arms embargo on Israel, and the rebuilding of the tens of thousands of Gazan homes and hundreds of public buildings that have been destroyed.


Today, we join church partners and church-related agencies throughout the Middle East and around the world in condemning Israel's unprovoked attack at 10:20am on June 5th, on the Anglican Al Ahli Hospital, Gaza City, killing four journalists, as well as two others, including a father who was escorting his son to the hospital's surgical unit for treatment from previous injuries. In addition, this vicious attack injured thirty civilian bystanders, including four medical personnel. For decades we have supported Ahli Hospital and have been in relationship with its medical personnel and patients. We feel this pain intensely.

We continue to urge you, Prime Minister, and our government, to enforce in every way adherence by the State of Israel and by Hamas to the Fourth Geneva Convention with respect to its provisions for the special protection of hospitals and medical personnel, journalists, and civilians in general. Failure to abide by this Convention and International Humanitarian Law by armed actors, including states, is a war crime.

The moment is now. Canada must act for a just peace before it is too late. International leadership in a time such as this must be strong and bold so the world will believe healing can begin and pathways will open toward lasting justice and peace. We must call on all combatants to end the violence and facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid. As always, we pray for you and our government that you will have the courage to take the kind of action needed to support justice, peace and security for both Palestinians and Israelis.

We join with our partners in the Middle East in praying and working for a just path to peace in the Land we call Holy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne Germond" with a small cross symbol above the first letter 'A'.

The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Acting Primate
Anglican Church of Canada

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Susan C. Johnson" with a small cross symbol above the first letter 'S'.

Rev. Susan C. Johnson, National Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carmen Lansdowne".

Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator
The United Church of Canada

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jeffrey Murray".

Rev. Jeffrey Murray, Moderator of the General Assembly
The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Rula Odeh, Chair of the Board
Canadian Friends of Sabeel



Shona Fulcher, Interim Executive Director
KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

c.c.: The Hon. Anita Anand, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Anita.Anand@international.gc.ca