



Statement of Ireland

53rd session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory

10 July 2023

Ireland aligns with the EU statement and thanks the Special Rapporteur for her update.

The recent Israeli operation in Jenin forms part of a worrying trend of large-scale incursions, frequently involving live fire and resulting in civilian casualties. We urge immediate de-escalation and protection of civilians, including ensuring humanitarian access.

We condemn all attacks on civilians, including last week's car ramming attack in Tel Aviv. We also condemn the extreme settler violence witnessed in the West Bank villages of Turmus Ayya and Urif, and the killing of four Israeli civilians in Eli.

We have noted with considerable concern that the stated objective of certain recent raids by Israeli forces has been the demolition of the family home of a person accused of a terrorist attack. We call on Israel to abide by its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

It is imperative that actions by all parties are in line with international law and contribute to breaking this cycle of violence. In particular, we recall Israel's responsibility, as the occupying power, to protect all civilians in the occupied Palestinian territory. All incidents of violence must be thoroughly investigated and those responsible held accountable.

We call on Israel to end the practice of administrative detention of Palestinians, including children, and immediately and unconditionally release those who are detained.

Special Rapporteur, how can the international community ensure humanitarian access in the occupied Palestinian territories in the context of escalating violence?

Thank you.