

Situation in Gaza - the Israel / Palestine conflict and the need for a durable peace in the Middle East

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Brussels, Belgium on 24-25 October 2025:

Welcomes:

- The ceasefire brokered by President Trump between Israel and Hamas;
- The safe return of the remaining living hostages;
- The release of those Palestinian prisoners held without due process by Israel;
- The beginning of significant humanitarian aid into Gaza.

Condemns:

- The terrorist attack by Hamas on 7 October 2023, which killed 1,200 Israelis;
- The deaths of over 50,000 Palestinian civilians, humanitarian workers, medical personnel and journalists, during two years of conflict;
- The devastation of Gaza, with 60% of buildings and 90% of farmland destroyed.

Notes with concern:

- The absence of a credible and details plan for a long-lasting peace process;
- The exclusion of Palestinian involvement in current discussions;
- The obstructionist stance of extreme right-wing politicians in Israel;
- The failure to return the bodies of a number of Israeli hostages;
- The continued detention without trial of approximately 1,000 Gazans, arrested during the conflict;
- The forced exile of Palestinian prisoners, leaving many separated from their families;
- The ongoing expansion of illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank, in clear violation of international law.

Calls on European countries and EU to employ their diplomatic influence and resources to achieve:

- Full compliance with the ceasefire by all parties to the conflict;
- The complete disarmament of Hamas;
- The withdrawal of all Israeli military forces from Gaza;
- Full international media access to report freely from Gaza;
- The identification of suitable civil organisations within Gaza, to participate in peaceful reconstruction, working alongside a reformed Palestinian Authority;
- A comprehensive international investigation into violations of international law committed by all parties to the conflict;
- A robust plan for reconstruction, with financial support agreed in partnership with USA, Israel, Arab states and other interested partners;

- An end to the expansion of illegal settlements in the West Bank and a halt to settler violence;
- A clear path to a durable peace and two-state solution, based on:
 - Recognition of a sovereign Palestinian state and Israel's fundamental right to exist;
 - The exclusion of Hamas or any terrorist organisation from governance in a future Palestinian state.