



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP  
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs  
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office  
King Charles Street  
London  
SW1A 2AH

Our Ref: AC23094

3 March 2026

Dear Secretary of State,

Following yet further illegal Israeli government measures in the West Bank part of the State of Palestine, we are writing to you as MPs and Peers to urge the government to move from statements of condemnation to specific sanctions to compel Israel to abide by international law and not destroy the state the UK recognised in September. Israel has escalated its illegal policies at a number of levels.

Firstly, Israel has engaged in a massive increase in the pace of settlement building and land confiscation. In 2025, Israel issued a **record number of settlement housing tenders totalling 9,629 housing units** more than the combined total of tenders published over the previous six years. In December, Israel announced 19 new illegal settlements, bringing the total number of new settlements for the 2023–2025 period to 68. Israel has also pressed forward with a settlement plan at Adam to expand its self-declared borders of Jerusalem taking further West Bank land.

Secondly, Israel has, against the collective will of the international community, pushed forward with the ‘Doomsday’ E1 settlement east of Jerusalem publishing 3,401 tenders in January. This will sever the city from the rest of the West Bank, and split it for Palestinians at least, north to south. It will destroy any chance of a sovereign viable Palestinian state, which is the stated aim of the Israeli government in doing it.

Thirdly, with the active assistance of the Israeli military, settlers and settler groups have escalated their attacks on vulnerable Palestinian communities to record levels. This has led to a massive drop in the Palestinian population of Area C of the West Bank, as they are forcibly displaced and driven into overcrowded cities. Whole communities have been ethnically cleansed.

Fourthly, Israel has introduced major legal changes to facilitate yet further confiscation of Palestinian land in the West Bank, and cementing the discriminatory regime, where Israeli settlers have superior rights to Palestinian neighbours. This includes annulling Jordanian land laws and opening up the records of private Palestinian land ownership, leaving those owners vulnerable to both coercion and fraud, as pointed out by the [Israeli group, Peace Now](#). This has further cemented what many observers see as the

Tel: 020 7219 8181 Fax: 020 7219 1787

Email: [carmichaela@parliament.uk](mailto:carmichaela@parliament.uk) Website: [www.alistaircarmichael.co.uk](http://www.alistaircarmichael.co.uk)

Constituency Offices: 14 Palace Road, Kirkwall, Orkney KW15 1PA  
171 Commercial Street, Lerwick, Shetland ZE1 0HX

Tel: 01856 876541 Fax: 01856 876162  
Tel: 01595 690044 Fax: 01595 690055

de facto annexation of the West Bank part of the State of Palestine.

Given the above and the ongoing Israeli military actions in the north of the West Bank that has seen the destruction of three refugee camps and the forced displacement of over 40,000 Palestinians, we urge the government

- To impose a complete and total ban on all trade and interaction with Israeli settlements and the occupation itself.
- To introduce further sanctions against settlers and settler groups to toughen the measures taken so far.
- To publish as promised the UK's formal response to the International Court of Justice's Advisory Opinion on the unlawfulness of the Israeli occupation.

Time is of the essence. A failure to thwart these Israeli plans will crush any slim chances remaining of moving towards a viable peace process let alone a credible peace agreement.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon. Alistair Carmichael MP  
Rt Hon. Diane Abbott MP  
Debbie Abrahams MP  
Shockat Adam MP  
Baroness Wendy Alexander of Clevedon  
Rushanara Ali MP  
Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP  
Alex Ballinger MP  
Paula Barker MP  
Lorraine Beavers MP  
Órfhlaith Begley MP  
Apsana Begum MP  
Siân Berry MP  
Kirsty Blackman MP  
Rt Hon. Baroness Tessa Blackstone  
Baroness Christine Blower  
Richard Burgon MP  
Ian Byrne MP  
Sarah Champion MP  
Rt Rev. Guli Francis-Dehqani, Lord Bishop of Chelmsford  
Dr Ellie Chowns MP  
Lizzi Collinge MP  
Rt Hon. Jeremy Corbyn MP  
Pat Cullen MP  
Steve Darling MP  
Ann Davies MP  
Marsha de Cordova MP  
Carla Denyer MP  
Dave Doogan MP  
Neil Duncan-Jordan MP  
Colum Eastwood MP

Sorcha Eastwood MP  
Cat Eccles MP  
Baroness Julie Elliott of Whitburn Bay  
Patricia Ferguson MP  
John Finucane MP  
Rt Hon. Stephen Flynn MP  
Gill Furniss MP  
Andrew George MP  
Stephen Gethins MP  
Rt Rev. Rachel Treweek, Lord Bishop of Gloucester  
Rt Hon. Lord Peter Hain  
Chris Hazzard MP  
Lord John Hendy KC  
Baroness Fiona Hodgson of Abinger CBE  
Dáire Hughes MP  
Dr Rupa Huq MP  
Anan Hussain MP  
Imran Hussain MP  
Baroness Meral Hussein-Ece OBE  
Baroness Barbara Janke  
Kim Johnson MP  
Baroness Helena Kennedy of The Shaws LT KC  
Afzal Khan MP  
Ayoub Khan MP  
Uma Kumaran MP  
Ben Lake MP  
Peter Lamb MP  
Ian Lavery MP  
Chris Law MP  
Graham Leadbitter MP  
Brian Leishman MP  
Clive Lewis MP  
Baroness Ruth Lister of Burtersett  
Seamus Logan MP  
Andy McDonald MP  
Rt Hon. John McDonnell MP  
Ben Maguire MP  
Cathal Mallaghan MP  
Rt Hon. Kit Malthouse MP  
Paul Maskey MP  
Charlie Maynard MP  
Rachael Maskell MP  
Brian Mathew MP  
Llinos Medi MP  
Navendu Mishra MP  
Baroness Nosheena Mobarik CBE  
Abtisam Mohamed MP  
Iqbal Mohamed MP  
Lord Shaffaq Mohammed  
Layla Moran MP

Grahame Morris MP  
Tom Morrison MP  
Rt Hon. Baroness Lindsay Northover  
Rt Rev. Graham Usher, Lord Bishop of Norwich  
Lord Jonny Oates  
Brendan O'Hara MP  
Dr Simon Opher MP  
Kate Osamor MP  
Kate Osborne MP  
Sarah Owen MP  
Manuela Perteghella MP  
Yasmin Qureshi MP  
Adrian Ramsay MP  
Martin Rhodes MP  
Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP  
Marie Rimmer MP  
Rt Hon. Liz Saville Roberts MP  
Naz Shah MP  
Baroness Shaista Sheehan  
Lord Indarjit Singh of Wimbledon CBE  
Andy Slaughter MP  
Jeff Smith MP  
Rt Rev. Christopher Chessun, Lord Bishop of Southwark  
Euan Stainbank MP  
Zarah Sultana MP  
Rt Hon. Lord Hugo Swire KCMG  
Gareth Thomas MP  
Rt Hon. Emily Thornberry MP  
Baroness Manzila Uddin  
Rt Hon. Valerie Vaz MP  
Martin Vickers MP  
Rt Hon. Baroness Sayeeda Warsi  
Matt Western MP  
Nadia Whittome MP  
Munira Wilson MP  
Pete Wishart MP  
Steve Witherden MP  
Lord Stewart Wood of Anfield