

Israeli Peace, Civil Society and Human Rights Organizations, Call on the Government of Israel to Reverse It's Decision to Expel Norwegian Diplomats

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We, the undersigned, Israeli Peace, Civil Society and Human Rights Organizations, call on the Government of Israel to reverse it's draconian decision to expel eight Norwegian diplomats, which threatens the Norwegian diplomatic mission to the Palestinians.

Over the course of decades, Norway has proven it's deep commitment to a political resolution between Israel and the Palestinians based on equality and human rights and from the belief - shared by many countries - that only a solution predicated on these principles can foster a life of security, prosperity and dignity for both peoples. The recent steps taken by the Norwegian government : recognition of a Palestinian state and the legal opinion it submitted to the International Criminal Court in The Hague stemmed from a commitment to these principles, genuine concern, and responsibility for this goal. The continuation of the war in Gaza and the occupation are in sharp contradiction to this concept and to International Law, exposing Israel to lawsuits before international courts and generating a dispute with it's allies. Instead of vindictive measures and reprisals, the government must respect International Law and diplomatic arrangements. It must act to immediately end the war and return all the hostages and those displaced, while working towards a political solution that will bring an end to the occupation and suffering on both sides.

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