

Send a separate letter to each of the Prime Minister and Ministers Wong and Marles

I am writing to express deep concern at Australia's current position on Israel's war on Gaza, particularly in light of the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) decision to issue provisional measures against Israel.

Like South Africa, Australia is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the Convention). The ICJ found that South Africa has both standing and jurisdiction to bring an application under the Convention and found that there is a plausible case of genocide for Israel to answer when it comes to the Court determining the application on its merits.

Importantly, the ICJ found that Palestinians are a "protected group" under the Convention and that should provisional measures not be issued, irreparable harm could be caused. The Court demanded, in a legally binding order, that Israel and its military, with immediate effect, end all potentially genocidal acts, including "killing members of the Palestinian population in Gaza".

The only practical way that Israel can comply with that order is to give full effect to an immediate ceasefire.

As a citizen of good conscience and a voting member of the Australian population, I call on the Australian Government to issue a public statement in support of the ICJ's decision and call on Israel to implement a total and immediate ceasefire.

I remind you that Australia as a party to the Convention has obligations to comply with the ICJ's decision, which includes an active duty to prevent genocide.

Israel's leaders have openly rejected the ICJ's decision and expressed intention to carry on with their offensive on Gaza for many months ahead. In my view, Australia cannot purport to subscribe to international law and its systems and institutions while also supporting a country that so blatantly disregards all aspects of that rules based international order.

I call on the Australian Government to:

- immediately review our economic ties to Israel and impose targeted sanctions;
- suspend all defense industry partnerships and impose a two-way arms embargo. This means the government must halt any export of arms and arms components to Israel, including exports being diverted through other countries;
- ensure that any Australians serving with the Israeli military are investigated in Australia for any commission of international crimes;
- support the investigation at the International Criminal Court and call on the Office of the Prosecutor to advance its investigation and swiftly and without delay issue arrest warrants for the case files before the ICC since 2014.

It is time Australia takes a position on Israel's war on Gaza that is both consistent with international law and the good conscience of the people of this country.

Yours sincerely