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To: Ms. Francesca Albanese, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967; hrc-sr-opt@un.org
The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel; coi-opteji@un.org

22 November 2023

Your Excellencies Ms. Francesca Albanese, Ms. Navanethem Pillay, Mr. Miloon Kothari and Mr. Chris Sidoti,

We write to you with deep respect and urgency regarding the ongoing situation in the Palestinian territories, particularly highlighting the critical work and insights of Ms. Francesca Albanese. Her unwavering commitment and distinct vision in addressing the plight of the Palestinian people under occupation have been instrumental in shedding light on the complexities and human rights abuses in the region. Her strong stance against oppression, apartheid, and the dehumanization of the Palestinian people reflects her profound dedication to the principles of human rights and justice.

Ms. Albanese's approach provides a compelling framework that we believe could significantly benefit the Commission and the broader UN community in addressing not just the situation in Palestine, but other complex international issues where human rights are at stake. Her method of combining meticulous legal analysis with a compassionate understanding of the human impact of conflict sets a valuable precedent for international diplomacy and humanitarian efforts.

This letter serves as a follow-up to our previous urgent appeal, submitted to the attention of the Special Rapporteur and Independent International Commission on OPT on 10 November 2023, in which we sought to draw attention to the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Palestinian territories and the urgent need for international intervention. In light of recent developments and further reflection, we aim to provide a more nuanced understanding of the intricate issues surrounding self-defense and self-determination within the framework of international law, justice, and equity. We regret to note that to date, we have not received an acknowledgment from the OHCHR secretariat regarding our earlier communication. Your confirmation of receipt and consideration of these pressing matters would be greatly appreciated.

Genocide of Palestinians in Gaza:

Since our last correspondence, the situation has regrettably worsened. The hostilities, which have escalated markedly since October 7, necessitate a thorough re-examination and robust clarification of the principles of self-defense and self-determination within the ambit of

international law. The events unfolding in the Palestinian territories are not just a localized issue but resonate deeply with the core values and principles that the United Nations and its member states have pledged to uphold.

In light of Ms. Albanese's insightful and impactful presentation at the National Press Club in Australia on 14 November 2023, this letter aims to sustain and amplify the critical discussion on the right to self-defense, particularly in the context of the Palestinian people's pursuit of self-determination and peace. Her analysis, deeply rooted in legal scholarship and a profound understanding of the human condition, is crucial, especially considering the context of self-defense rights and the contentious categorization of groups as terrorist organizations.

The insights shared by Ms. Albanese during her speech and in her reports to the Human Rights Council have significantly deepened our understanding of the challenges and complexities faced by those working tirelessly to uphold human rights under challenging conditions. As the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, Ms. Albanese brings a unique and invaluable perspective to these issues. Her remarks serve as a stark reminder of the urgency and gravity of the situation on the ground, a situation that requires our immediate and undivided attention.

The human toll of this conflict continues to escalate at an alarming rate, underscoring the need for a balanced and comprehensive approach to achieving peace and security in the region. The increasing loss of life and widespread suffering on both sides of the conflict starkly highlight the urgency of addressing all facets of this enduring and complex conflict. Since our previous communication, the human cost of the conflict, particularly in Gaza, has continued to rise alarmingly, painting a harrowing picture of the reality faced by civilians caught in the crossfire.

According to the latest reports from the health ministry in Gaza, as of 22 November, the conflict has resulted in a staggering number of 14,000 fatalities, tragically including over 5 840 children and 3 920 women, with an additional 33,000 individuals suffering injuries of varying severity. According to the UN, 108 UN staff members have been killed in the Strip. The number of missing persons has surpassed 6 800, including 4 500 children and women under the rubble of buildings destroyed in Israeli attacks. The sheer scale of this human tragedy is hard to comprehend and speaks to the dire situation that necessitates immediate and decisive international action. The number of displaced persons in Gaza now exceeds an astonishing 1.6 million, a figure that lays bare the extent of the humanitarian crisis that we are facing.

Furthermore, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists as of November 22, 53 journalists and media workers were confirmed dead: 46 Palestinian, 4 Israeli, and 3 Lebanese. 11 journalists were reported injured. 3 journalists were reported missing. 18 journalists were reported arrested. Multiple assaults, threats, cyberattacks, censorship, and killings of family members.

On the other side of this conflict, Israel has reported significant casualties as well, with 1,200 fatalities resulting from the Hamas attack on October 7. This includes the tragic loss of civilian lives and highlights the widespread impact of this conflict on all parties involved. Additionally, 236 individuals are reportedly still held in Gaza, a situation that adds to the complexity and urgency of the crisis.

The continued incursion into Gaza by Israeli forces and the consequent destruction of essential infrastructure, including hospitals and schools, have severely restricted access to basic needs and medical care for the Palestinian population. This has further intensified the humanitarian crisis, making it increasingly difficult for international aid agencies and local organizations to provide the much-needed assistance and support to those affected by the conflict.

The ongoing situation in the Gaza Strip is marked by disproportional increased military actions by the occupying Power, resulting in widespread casualties and destruction in Gaza, the West Bank, and East Jerusalem. The Palestinian people, in particular in Gaza, are experiencing what is referred to as the second Nakba, recalling the first Nakba from 1947–1948, a period marked by significant suffering, dispossession, and displacement. The recent escalation has tragically resulted in numerous deaths and injuries, adding to the historical injustices faced by the Palestinian people.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza is dire, with the number of displaced persons estimated to exceed 1.6 million. Palestinians, having no safe refuge due to the lack of bomb shelters and the ongoing Israeli blockade – a violation of Article 33 of the Fourth Geneva Convention 1949 – have sought shelter in facilities like those provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), amidst limited access to essential services. This dire situation underscores the complexities and challenges inherent in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, necessitating a comprehensive and lawful approach to address the rights and security of all parties involved.

Currently, Israel's extensive aerial bombardment campaign, reportedly targeting civilian areas with a lack of precaution and distinction, has led to widespread destruction and casualties in Gaza. The targeting of buildings, including those housing media outlets, is seen as an effort to suppress international media and conceal the extent of civilian harm and infrastructural damage, characterized as actions of an apartheid and colonial regime. This rightly raises concerns about Israel potentially committing genocide against the Palestinian people, as defined by the targeted destruction of a population based on identifiable characteristics. In this regard, it is important to highlight the violence and displacement of Palestinian communities in the West Bank and East Jerusalem by Israeli forces and settlers.

International community's near paralysis in its response about Gaza:

While observing the international community's near paralysis in response to these events, with the United Nations facing significant political and humanitarian challenges, our Association "Justice for All International / Justice pour Tous Internationale" advocates for accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity of both belligerent parties and stresses the importance of preventing further abuses and injustices. The escalating casualties and the scale of the destruction underscore the urgent necessity for international intervention to safeguard civilians, enforce a ceasefire, and uphold the human rights and dignity of all individuals affected by this conflict. The situation demands a concerted and unified response from the international community, one that is guided by the principles of international law and the fundamental tenets of human rights.

Furthermore, the international community's response to the escalating situation in Gaza is becoming increasingly evident as inadequate and lacking in the necessary urgency and resolve. The situation, described by some observers and experts, including Ms. Albanese, as constituting possible genocide, highlights a notable absence of a proactive and effective response from key UN entities. This includes the Human Rights Council and the office of the UN Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide and the Responsibility to Protect, as well as a lack of concerted efforts by member states in initiating International Court of Justice (ICJ) proceedings based on the Genocide Convention against Israel.

This apparent lack of decisive action raises serious concerns regarding the commitment and effectiveness of the international community in addressing these severe human rights and humanitarian issues. The situation calls for a re-evaluation of our approach and a renewed commitment to upholding the principles of international law and human rights, principles that are fundamental to the work and mandate of the United Nations and its various bodies and agencies.

In her address at the National Press Club, Ms. Albanese effectively drew a compelling comparison between the struggles faced by indigenous populations across the globe and the tribulations of the Palestinians. She underscored the continuous, existential struggle of Palestinians living under occupation to resist forcible displacement or subjugation in their ancestral lands. The parallels drawn by Ms. Albanese serve to illuminate the broader context of these struggles and highlight the common threads of resistance, resilience, and the pursuit of justice and dignity that unite these disparate yet interconnected struggles.

In the face of Israel's continued aggressive tactics in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, our organization, "Justice for All International / Justice pour Tous Internationale," finds it imperative to call for humanity, responsibility, and urgent international intervention. The situation demands immediate and decisive action to halt the ongoing military aggression and war crimes and to safeguard the Palestinian people, who have endured prolonged suffering and injustice due to Israel's unlawful occupation.

Right to Self-Defense and Defense of Necessity:

In this context, we would like to assert that the discourse on the right to self-defense is marked by significant divergences in international opinions and interpretations. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), in its landmark 2004 Advisory Opinion, stated that Israel, as an occupying power, does not possess the right to self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter concerning the construction of the wall in the occupied Palestinian territory. This stance has been echoed by various international actors and has led to a legal paradigm whereby Israel's invocation of self-defense rights is contested, and the Palestinians' pursuit of self-determination is emphasized.

There exists a dichotomy in interpretation, particularly within the Western European Group of Countries. Some nations categorically reject the rationale that Israel is ineligible to invoke the right to self-defense, labeling such views as antisemitic, and uphold Israel's right to self-defense, regardless of its actions, including civilian casualties, destruction of Palestinian housing, land expropriation, indiscriminate shelling, and displacement of

Palestinian populations. Conversely, in other instances, any forceful Palestinian resistance in pursuit of self-determination is deemed and treated as terrorism.

Given these divergences and the complexity of the situation, there is a pressing necessity to re-examine the legal reasoning behind the ICJ's 2004 Advisory Opinion concerning self-defense and the defense of necessity justifying the use of force. The Opinion, while focused primarily on the legality of the wall's construction, provides a critical framework for understanding the broader implications of self-defense and necessity in international law.

Israel, faced with numerous indiscriminate and lethal attacks against its civilians, undoubtedly has the right and duty to protect its citizens. However, this right must be exercised within the constraints of international law, a principle that is fundamental to the maintenance of international peace and security. The actions taken in self-defense must adhere to the principles of necessity and proportionality, core tenets of international humanitarian law.

In paragraph 139 of the Advisory Opinion, the ICJ acknowledged an inherent right of self-defense in cases of armed attack by one State against another. However, the Court noted that the threats Israel faced originated within, not outside, the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Thus, Israel could not invoke Article 51 of the UN Charter in this specific context.

The Court also examined the possibility of Israel relying on a state of necessity, which, under customary international law, is an exceptional defense with stringent conditions. The Court was unconvinced that the construction of the wall was the only means to safeguard Israel's interests against the invoked peril. This analysis underscores the importance of considering alternative measures and approaches that conform to the principles of international law and respect the rights and dignity of all parties involved.

Conclusively, the ICJ determined that Israel could not justify the construction of the wall based on self-defense or a state of necessity, deeming the wall and its associated regime contrary to international law. However, it is important to note that this Advisory Opinion is specific and focused and cannot be universally applied to preclude the right to self-defense or the defense of necessity in situations other than the construction of the wall.

In this regard, it is imperative for those adhering to the 2004 paradigm to reassess the recognition of Israel's right to self-defense by several global powers, including the United States, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Canada. It is equally important to acknowledge that this right does not extend to actions that result in harm to civilians or violate international humanitarian law.

In consideration of Ms. Francesca Albanese's speech and our previous correspondence dated 10 November 2023, we seek to reaffirm the fundamental right to self-defense as established under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. This right, integral to the sovereignty of states, must be uniformly applicable to all nations, including both Israel and Palestine, within the constraints of international law and the principles of proportionality and necessity.

The right to self-defense, as codified in Article 51, is indeed an inalienable right of states. However, its application becomes complex in situations of occupation. The ICJ, in its advisory opinion on the construction of the wall in the occupied Palestinian territory, determined that Israel, as an occupying power, could not invoke this right under Article 51, given the internal origin of the threats it faced. This interpretation, while acknowledging Israel's legitimate security concerns, emphasizes the necessity for its actions to conform to international law.

The role of customary international law, derived from consistent state practice and *opinio juris*, is vital in defining international conduct norms. The concept of Responsibility to Protect (R2P), applied in various global interventions, illustrates the dynamic nature of international law, particularly in responding to humanitarian crises. The relevance of these principles in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is significant, given the valid concerns and rights of both parties. This is especially relevant to the evolving concept of the right to self-defense and its various applications.

The right to self-defense, as stipulated in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, is an inalienable right of all states, regardless of conflict nature. This right, affirmed as a fundamental principle of international law, is crucial for state sovereignty and security. Denying this right to Israel or Palestine, or any nation, deviates from established legal principles.

Traditionally, Article 51 of the UN Charter has been interpreted as a state's right to defend itself against armed aggression from another state. However, the changing landscape of international conflicts, including the emergence of non-state actors and internal conflicts, has sparked discussions and debates within the international legal community about the right to self-defense's scope and application. While the ICJ's advisory opinion on the construction of the wall provides a specific legal interpretation, it does not preclude the broader application of the right to self-defense in different contexts, as the international legal landscape continues to evolve. In other words, the opinion of the ICJ should not be construed as a comprehensive denial of Israel's right to self-defense; instead, it specifies the limits of Article 51 in the context of the wall's construction.

Freedom of Expression in support for resistance to occupation:

In this legal context, the classification of groups such as Hamas as terrorist organizations is a multifaceted issue with significant repercussions. It is important to acknowledge the violent actions attributed to these groups, while also understanding the context of their emergence and the broader aspirations they represent. A balanced approach to recognizing the right to self-determination for both Israelis and Palestinians is imperative for achieving sustainable peace. The discrepancy in recognizing and applying the right to self-defense has significantly influenced the discourse on the Israel-Palestine conflict.

As discussed above, the ICJ has not elaborated on Israel's right to self-defense in various contexts other than in construction of the wall, yet the right to self-determination has been predominantly and explicitly attributed to the Palestinians. The designation of Hamas as a terrorist organization is a complex issue. It reflects a narrative that includes acts of violence and warfare, overshadowing the pursuit of self-determination by the Palestinian people.

Hamas, as the elected authority in Gaza, represents these aspirations. However, the global discourse has often been skewed in favor of Israel. This imbalance has resulted in a scenario where peaceful support for resistance to occupation by Palestine, Gaza, or Hamas is perceived and prosecuted as terrorism or extremism. Western legal frameworks on terrorism and security often fail to distinguish between legitimate self-defense and acts of terrorism, leading to the criminalization of support for Palestinian self-determination.

This situation has trapped individuals and organizations advocating for Palestinian rights in legal challenges related to terrorism. The differential treatment of violence by Israel and Palestine not only complicates the global conversation on terrorism but also inhibits peaceful support for Palestinian people. The Palestinian community continues to face disproportionate military actions, human rights violations, and suppression of dissent.

Additionally, mainstream media in Western European countries have censored content that raises awareness about Palestinian human rights violations, contravening international standards on freedom of expression. This censorship further restricts the dissemination of information about the challenges faced by the Palestinian people.

For example, we have recently presented evidence to the UN Special Procedures and the High Commissioner highlighting the UK Government's targeting of peaceful political protesters and critics of its Palestine-related policies, including Mr. Craig Murray, Esq., the former Ambassador of the UK in Uzbekistan, prominent human rights defender and independent blogger and journalist. He, engaged in non-violent expression and advocacy, has been subjected to Schedule 7 of the Terrorism Act 2000. Disturbingly, similar instances have been reported across Western European countries.

A fundamental principle of the international legal system is the equality of all before the law and the uniform application of international law. In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, it is crucial to ensure that both Israel and Palestine are treated equitably regarding their rights and obligations. This includes acknowledging the right to self-defense for both entities, in compliance with international law and the principles of necessity and proportionality, as established in customary international law.

The issue of politicization within Western European countries has adversely affected the dissemination of information from Palestinians, journalists, and human rights advocates, who strive to highlight the violence occurring in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

There is a pressing need for the international community, encompassing the UN High Commissioner, the UN Special Procedures mandate holders, and proponents of free expression, to demand that mainstream media and Western European countries cease censoring content that sheds light on international law violations and Palestinian human rights issues. Affected posts and accounts should be restored, and transparent explanations should be provided for any content removals, including disclosures of any political pressures involved.

Social media companies must be held accountable to their obligations under the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, ensuring responsible conduct in line with

international standards. It raises serious ethical and legal questions when Israel, as the occupying power, is not held to the same legal standards as other nations worldwide, particularly in light of its actions that have been labeled as war crimes.

The ongoing targeting of Palestinians by Israeli forces, with a seeming sense of impunity, continues to exacerbate tensions and perpetuate injustices. This situation underscores the need for an equitable application of international law and the protection of basic human rights for all individuals involved in the conflict. In both the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the besieged Gaza Strip, Israel's excessive and unwarranted use of lethal force vividly demonstrates a blatant disregard for Palestinian life. These actions, which are unjustifiable, indefensible, inhumane, and illegal, represent a systematic policy aimed at creating a coercive environment through repression and fear, thereby exacerbating the cycle of violence. Systematic violations suggest a deliberate, targeted approach that necessitates immediate, targeted interventions.

Clearly, Israel, as the occupying power, along with its military forces and settlers, is engaging in acts that constitute war crimes. The deliberate perpetration of terror, murder, and destruction calls for accountability under the full extent of the law. In this context, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has a crucial role in reminding the Government of Israel of its responsibility to protect all individuals under its control, irrespective of their national, religious, or ethnic origins, and to ensure they are treated equally before the law.

Regrettably, certain Israeli politicians continue to fuel extremism with inflammatory rhetoric and incitement, leading to escalated attacks on Palestinians. The severity of these attacks, especially those carried out by armed and radical Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the occupied territories, underscores the impact of such provocative hate speech.

The international community is currently witnessing the consequences of prolonged inaction and a failure to hold accountable those responsible for flagrant violations of international law and United Nations resolutions. The ongoing silence and lack of action in the face of Israel's aggression and crimes are indefensible, particularly as the toll on innocent civilians continues to rise. Global protests and demonstrations of solidarity, calling for an end to the violence and advocating for the freedom and justice of the Palestinian people, further highlight the urgency for the international community to fulfill its legal obligations and enforce the law.

Concrete Proposals for the Way Forward

The Association "Justice for All International / Justice pour Tous Internationale" critically examines Israel's claim to the right of self-defense, especially in response to incidents in the occupied Gaza Strip. We distinguish between the general understanding of self-defense and its specific legal interpretation under international law. While recognizing Israel's right and obligation to protect its citizens, we point out the problematic nature of Israel conflating its own territory with the territories it occupies, which contravenes international law.

We further address the international community's failure to advance peace and security based on the principle of self-determination for both Palestinians and Israelis in line with the General Assembly resolution 181. We criticize narratives that portray Palestinians as an

existential threat to Jewish people, arguing that such views not only challenge the Palestinians' struggle for basic rights but also detrimentally associate Jewish people worldwide with Israel's actions.

We stress the importance of rehumanizing the discourse in the media, with a particular focus on the impact of the conflict on children. We observe that a significant portion of the Palestinian population under martial rule, consisting predominantly of children, suffers disproportionately under Israel's settler colonial rule. We outline the various vulnerabilities and traumas faced by Palestinian children, including widespread incarceration and loss of liberty.

We advocate for ending the occupation and colonization, as required by international law, to ensure that Palestinians can live in freedom, safety, and dignity. We posit that this resolution is not only just for Palestinians but also serves as a rehumanizing measure for Israelis, as ongoing oppression and brutality diminish humanity for all involved.

The enduring disregard of international law by Israel raises the question of how such actions have continued without significant consequences. Israel's ongoing boldness in committing egregious human rights violations is exacerbated by a lack of global response, which implicitly condones such actions. The Palestinian people have suffered under occupation for over half a century, often unnoticed when they endure silently but criticized when they resist. The narrative surrounding Israel's "right to defend itself" often neglects the context and root causes of the crisis and misinterprets international law, which aims to protect the occupied population.

Expecting a defenseless occupied Palestinian population to passively accept aggression while excusing the actions of the occupier and prioritizing their security over fundamental human rights is both illogical and immoral. This double standard undermines the principles of international law and human rights, devaluing human life. The Palestinian issue remains a longstanding item on the United Nations' agenda, demanding action beyond addressing the symptoms of injustice. The UN must address the root causes of this prolonged conflict: mass dispossession, decades-long occupation, apartheid, and the persecution of Palestinians by Israel, the occupying power.

Immediate action is essential to protect lives endangered by Israel's ongoing attacks on defenseless individuals, and to foster prospects for future peace and security. The international community is urged to take decisive, humane, and responsible actions, including legal measures and sanctions, to resolve this profound injustice. A lasting peace and stability can only be achieved with the establishment of an independent Palestinian State, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with recognized international principles, UN resolutions.

The absence of an acknowledged right to self-defense significantly impedes the Palestinian pursuit of self-determination. We respectfully request that your esteemed offices undertake a comprehensive review of the legal frameworks governing the right to self-defense and terrorism, particularly in relation to the Israel-Palestine conflict. An insightful, fair, and universally accepted interpretation of these frameworks is vital.

Hamas, as Gaza's elected authority, represents the Palestinian people's quest for self-determination, a right enshrined in UN Resolution 181. Recognizing the right to self-defense as a fundamental element of self-determination for both Israel and Palestine is crucial for fostering peace and justice. Labeling Hamas as a terrorist organization negates the democratic choice of Gaza's people and their inherent right to self-defense, thus aggravating the conflict.

Additionally, prosecuting and stigmatizing those who express solidarity with the Palestinian cause perpetuates the cycle of violence and distrust. Equating support for Palestinian self-determination with terrorism impedes efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution. We urge you to appeal to the UK Government and other Western European countries to avoid using security and terrorism-related laws to prosecute peaceful political activists and critics of state policies engaged in non-violent expression and advocacy.

We implore you to advocate for a fair recognition of the right to self-defense for both Israel and Palestine. This involves reassessing Hamas's classification and acknowledging its role as a representative of the Gazan people's aspirations for self-determination and self-defense. Such a stance aligns with international law principles and will aid in creating an environment conducive to peace negotiations and humanitarian efforts. Given the severe human impact of the conflict, we call upon you to urge the UN Human Rights Council and General Assembly to convene their special sessions on the situation in Gaza immediately.

Furthermore, in the light that the advisory opinions of the ICJ are typically solicited by the United Nations General Assembly or the Security Council and that other UN organs and specialized agencies may also request such opinions on legal matters relevant to their activities, provided they receive authorization from the General Assembly, we would like to request both the Special Rapporteur and Independent International Commission on OPT to undertake necessary measures and initiate such request to determine whether Palestinian people have right to self-defense in their resistance to occupation, as well as the legality of the Israeli designation of Hamas as terrorist organization.

Finally, considering the existing cases before the ICJ regarding violation of the Genocide Convention by Russian Federation and Myanmar, we would be grateful if the Special Rapporteur and Independent International Commission on OPT could advocate for the UN member states parties to the Genocide Convention to initiate similar proceedings at the ICJ against Israel.

The Association "Justice for All International / Justice pour Tous Internationale" requests that this letter be shared with the members of the Human Rights Council for their prompt consideration, if you deem it appropriate and necessary. We urge the Special Rapporteur and the Commission to reassess the legal approach to the right to self-defense in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, aiming for an equitable and balanced application of international law that acknowledges the complexity of this prolonged conflict.

Considering the ongoing situation and the intricacies of applying international law, I respectfully request a meeting with your offices to discuss these issues more thoroughly. A dialogue on these topics is crucial to achieving a balanced and just resolution to the conflict. Your engagement and support in this matter could be pivotal in steering the course towards a more equitable and peaceful future for all parties involved in this protracted conflict.

In closing, we reiterate the urgency of the matters outlined in this letter and the critical role that the United Nations and its associated bodies can play in addressing them. The eyes of the world are upon us, and the decisions made in these times will be remembered in history. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the principles of justice, equity, and human dignity are upheld, and that we work tirelessly towards a world where peace and security are not just ideals, but realities for all.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response and the opportunity to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely,

Sharof Azizov

Founder and Secretary of the Board

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CC: Mr. Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights