

# CDAAB Quick Start Guide

*Civilian-Deployed Autonomous Aid Balloons for Gaza*

**Version 1.0 – July 2025**

## What Is This?

This guide introduces the CDAAB initiative: a civilian-led, nonviolent effort to deliver food and medical aid into Gaza by autonomous high-altitude balloons, in direct response to the obstruction of humanitarian access and the use of starvation as a method of warfare.

## Who Is It For?

- Civilians preparing to build and launch balloons
- Journalists, legal monitors, and observers
- Humanitarian networks supporting lawful aid delivery
- Translators, technologists, and field trainers

## What's Legal?

Delivering food to starving civilians is protected under:

- **Geneva Convention IV**, Article 59
- **Additional Protocol I**, Article 70
- **Rome Statute**, Article 8 (prohibiting starvation as warfare)
- **ICESCR**, Article 11 (right to food)
- **Customary IHL**, Rule 55

CDAAB actions are civilian, neutral, unarmed, and protected under international law. Participants are non-combatants. Obstruction or criminalization of this aid may itself violate humanitarian law.

## Core Materials

All documents are licensed for lawful humanitarian use. Download from: [github.com/CDAAB/CDAAB](https://github.com/CDAAB/CDAAB)

- [Field Manual](#): Comprehensive launch instructions by zone (0–400+ km), with safety, weather, and documentation protocols.
- [Legal Justification](#): Basis for civilian aid delivery under IHL and human rights law.
- [Declaration of Intent](#): Civilian commitment to peaceful humanitarian action.
- [Public Statement](#): Prepared message for use if approached by officials or onlookers.
- [Aid Label](#): Required marking for all packages; includes multilingual legal notice.

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## Getting Started in a Launch Zone (within 400 km of Gaza)

1. **Review all available resources:** Read the Field Manual, Legal Justification, and Declaration of Intent to understand the legal framework, safety requirements, and personal risk.
2. **Determine your launch zone:** Identify your distance from Gaza and select the appropriate build instructions in the Field Manual
3. **Form a small civilian team:** Launching is safest and most effective with a team of 2–3 people covering assembly, wind checks, safety, and documentation.
4. **Build and launch aid balloons:** Follow the zone-specific instructions precisely. Label all aid, avoid political content, document everything. Launch discreetly and lawfully.
5. **Document and share:** Photograph aid contents and labels. Record launch details, weather, and site nickname. Send securely to [CDAAB@protonmail.com](mailto:CDAAB@protonmail.com) to support verification, replication, and legal defense.

## Supporting from Outside a Launch Zone

1. **Share materials with trusted contacts in the region:** Distribute the guide, legal brief, and translations to civilians in Türkiye, Egypt, Cyprus, or Greece who may be able to participate directly.
2. **Contribute to improving the materials:** Offer corrections, alternate formats, and professional input—especially legal, technical, translation, and accessibility expertise.
3. **Amplify lawful aid efforts:** Share verified CDAAB content through media, academic, and aligned humanitarian networks. Emphasize legality and neutrality. Avoid associating with protests or partisan causes.
4. **Support launch teams financially:** Direct or pooled donations may assist with gas, materials, printing, or travel. For coordination, write to [CDAAB@protonmail.com](mailto:CDAAB@protonmail.com).
5. **Assemble and ship build kits:** Zone 1 and 2 balloon kits can be prepared and sent to known launch contacts. Follow guidance in the Field Manual and use secure, offline coordination where possible.

## Project Roadmap

CDAAB is actively developing:

- Full language pack in Arabic
- Key resources translated to Arabic, Hebrew, Turkish, Greek, Farsi, Kurdish, French, and Russian
- Accessible and screen-reader compatible PDFs
- Photo and video guides to support launch teams
- Quick deployment folders and print packs

We welcome input from professional translators, technologists, field engineers, legal experts, and accessibility advocates. All documents are open-source and evolving.

## Contact

For coordination, translation, legal input, or verified material contribution: [CDAAB@protonmail.com](mailto:CDAAB@protonmail.com)

Please take precautions when using personal social media or unencrypted platforms.

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