

*Permanent Observer Mission  
of the State of Palestine  
to the United Nations*



البعثة المراقبة الدائمة  
لدولة فلسطين  
لدى الأمم المتحدة

4 October 2022

**Statement by H.E. Dr. Riyad Mansour, Minister and Permanent Representative of the State of Palestine to the United Nations before the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly Meeting of the Sixth Committee on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (Agenda Item 112)**

Mr. Chair,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you for your election as a Chair of the Sixth Committee and extend our congratulations to the members of the Bureau.

As you steer the course of our work during these challenging times, we are confident that your experience will lead to much needed constructive deliberations and focused outcomes. Be assured, Mr. Chair, of Palestine's full support.

The State of Palestine aligns itself with the statements made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Mr. Chair,

The multilateral system we have built has proven to be the firmest foundation of our sustained fight against terrorism and the compass of the stability of the international law regime. Undoubtedly, its protection is a collective obligation. Those who attempt to dismantle the international law order in the name of the fight against terrorism undermine both this order and this fight. International law and human rights are not an obstacle to the fight against terrorism; it is what distinguishes us from the terrorists.

Mr. Chair,

The gravest threat to our global fight against terrorism is the weaponization of counter-terrorism to deny a people their right to self-determination, as enshrined in the UN Charter, to deprive them of their fundamental rights, with full impunity.

The State of Palestine continues to warn against Israel's long-standing policy of criminalizing political activism, civil society, humanitarian work, and human rights defenders.

We commend the international community for its firm stance against Israel's unlawful designation of renowned human rights and humanitarian Palestinian NGOs as terrorist organizations. We stress, however, that Israel's targeting of these organizations is ongoing. Israel must reverse its designation and halt its attacks against Palestinian civil society.

Mr. Chair,

The gravest form of terrorism is the one where an entire nation's rights, people, and land are under indiscriminate, widespread, and systematic attack.

This terrorism is State sponsored, enabled, and embraced. Our people are subject to aggression and terror by Israeli occupation forces and settler organizations who act in total impunity. Their aim is not even hidden, it is to dispossess and displace the Palestinian people to advance unlawful annexation, in violation of the UN Charter, relevant UN resolutions, and international law.

The terrorists call their victims terrorists to justify killing and maiming them, through well-recorded policies of shoot-to-kill, mass arbitrary arrest, inhumane blockade, and systematic denial of rights of the Palestinian people.

We call on the international community to ensure international protection for the Palestinian people, including Palestinian children, civil society organizations and human rights defenders until freedom and independence are finally achieved.

Mr. Chair,

The State of Palestine is committed to eliminating terrorism in the region and around the world. We unequivocally condemn and reject terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever, by whomever, and against whomsoever committed. We stand in solidarity with the victims of terrorism and are committed to their resilience and rights. We thank Iraq and Spain for their leadership of the Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism in which we remain actively engaged. We also welcome the UNOCT High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism.

The State of Palestine reaffirms the need for the finalization of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. The State of Palestine will continue to advance multilateral efforts and robust international cooperation on countering terrorism, including through our cooperation agreements with over 80 States around the world and in fulfilling our obligations therein.

We will also continue to champion an integrated, balanced, and an accountable implementation of all elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Finally, the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy is about advancing the rule of law, not justifying its breach. It is about protecting people, not facilitating attacks against them. It is about respecting human dignity, not giving pretexts to violate it. It is about addressing the root causes of terrorism and all its manifestations, not perpetuating them. We fully adhere to these goals.