

**To the attention of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/V-ce President**

Dear Mr. Borrell,

As civil society organisations from different European countries, we would like to alert you to the responsibility of the European Union to protect the Palestinian elections scheduled for 22nd May, 31st July and 31st August 2021, under Israeli occupation and blockade.

We know that the European Union intends, as in 2006, to send observers to the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem to verify the proper conduct of the elections. We understand that to date the Israeli authorities have not allowed the delegation responsible for organising this observation mission to visit Palestine.

Our second concern is the participation of the Palestinians residing in East Jerusalem, which is illegally annexed by Israel, in these three votes. Their participation is unanimously demanded by all Palestinian parties, but on this point Israel has so far given only extremely negative signals.

Our third concern is the increasingly frequent imprisonment by Israel of candidates for these elections, of political leaders of parties involved in them, and of members of civil society who want to express their views on their context and the issues at stake.

On these three points, Mr. Borrell, we ask you to convey forcefully the will of the European Union to protect the Palestinian people, and the demand to Israel that these obstacles be lifted. We ask you to put on the agenda of a forthcoming Foreign Affairs Council the imposition of sanctions against the State of Israel if it does not respect these demands.

We also trust that the European Union and its Member States will make a solemn declaration at the next Foreign Affairs Council that they will respect the results of the forthcoming Palestinian elections, recognise all the institutions and individuals that will be accredited as a result of these elections (parliament, government, president, council and executive of the PLO), and collaborate with and protect them.

Yours sincerely,

Signatory organisations

1. ECCP – European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine
2. Europe Ecologie Les Verts – EELV – political party, France
3. Ensemble – political party, France
4. Parti Communiste Français – political party, France
5. Fiom – Cgil – trade union, Venezia, Italy
6. Union syndicale Solidaires – trade union, France
7. Pax Christi – Italy
8. Sadaka – Ireland
9. Al Haq – Palestine
10. Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions – Finland
11. The Rights Forum – The Netherlands
12. DocP – The Netherlands
13. Plateforme des ONG françaises pour la Palestine – France
14. Ireland-Palestine Solidarity Campaign – Ireland
15. Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign – Scotland
16. Bündnis für Gerechtigkeit zwischen Israelis und Palästinensern e.V. – Germany
17. Comité pour une Paix Juste au Proche-Orient – Luxembourg
18. The association of Norwegian NGOs for Palestine – Norway
19. Association Suisse-Palestine – Switzerland
20. Union Juive Françaises Pour La Paix – France
21. Association France Palestine Solidarité (AFPS) – France
22. Chrétiens de la Méditerranée – France
23. Society for Austro-Arab Relations – Austria
24. German-Palestinian Association – Germany
25. Finnish-Arab Friendship Society – Finland

26. Association des Universitaires pour le Respect du Droit International en Palestine (AURDIP) – France
27. Femmes en Noir (FEN) – France
28. Une Autre Voix Juive (UAVJ) – France
29. AOI – Associazione organizzazioni italiane di cooperazione e solidarietà internazionale – Italy
30. MRAP (Mouvement contre le Racisme et pour l’Amitié entre les Peuples) – France
31. CPPI Saint-Denis [Collectif Paix Palestine Israël] – France
32. ODV SALAAM RAGAZZI DELL’OLIVO COMITATO DI TRIESTE – Italy
33. Belgian Campaign for Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (BACBI) – Belgium
34. Gaza Action Ireland – Ireland
35. Comunità delle Piagge – Italy
36. Cultura è libertà – Italy
37. Parallelo Palestina – Italy
38. Action Solidarité Tiers Monde (ASTM) – Luxembourg
39. Women in Black – Italy
40. Associazione per la Pace – Modena – Italy
41. AssoPacePalestina – Italy
42. Noi Siamo Chiesa – Italy
43. Women in Black (Vienna) – Austria
44. AssopacePalestina Milano – Italy
45. Salaam Ragazzi dell’Olivo-Onlus- Milano – Italy
46. Donne in Nero Bologna – Italy
47. Comitato Modena Incontra Jenin – Italy
48. Centro Studi Sereno Regis – Italy
49. Accademia Apuana della Pace – Italy
50. Associazione Nazionale per la Pace – Italy
51. BDS Berlin – Germany
52. Le mouvement de la Paix – France
53. Association France Palestine Solidarité Alzace – France
54. Chrétiens de la Méditerranée ( CDM) – France
55. Rete Roman di Solidarietà con il Popolo Palestinese – Italy
56. Casa per la Pace Modena – Italy
57. ULAlA ArteSud onlus – Italy
58. MIR Movimento Internazionale della.Riconciliazione – Italy
59. Comhlámh Justice 4 Palestine – Ireland
60. Palestina Solidariteit – Belgium
61. Intal – Belgium
62. The Workers’ Communist Party of France – France
63. New Weapons Research Group – Italy
64. Salaam Ragazzi dell’Olivo – Italy
65. l’Association de jumelage des camps de réfugiés palestiniens et des villes françaises – France
66. Forum Palestina – Italy
67. CASA DEI DIRITTI DEI POPOLI – Italy
68. Accademia Apuana della Pace – Italy
69. Collectif Solidarité Palestine du Calvados – France
70. La Cimade – Italy
71. Un Ponte Per – Italy
72. Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII – Italy
73. Associazione per la Pace – Padova – Italy
74. MAIS ngo – Italy
75. Centro Documentazione Manifesto Pacifista Internazionale – Italy