



# Seattle Human Rights Commission

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## STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE

February 1, 2024

We, the members of the Seattle Human Rights Commission, write this statement in solidarity with the people of Palestine and countless others calling for an immediate ceasefire and end to the current ongoing genocide in Gaza. We who wish to ensure accountability and justice for all people cannot be silent in the face of the multiple, large-scale violations of basic human rights.

[According to](#) the United Nations OCHA and the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Gaza, at least 26,900 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza between October 7, 2023 and January 31, 2024. As a direct result of Israel Defense Forces (IDF) action, Gazans have been denied access to the most basic of human rights including drinkable water, shelter, medical care, food, freedom of movement, and many other needs necessary to survival. According to a [statement](#) released by the United Nations, “Gazans now make up 80% of all people facing famine or catastrophic hunger worldwide.” To restore basic human rights to Gazans, Israel must immediately enact a ceasefire and allow for necessary humanitarian aid.

The US Senate has recently *rejected* a [proposed resolution](#) that would have required the Department of Defense to investigate human rights abuses perpetrated by Israel within 30 days. This rejection is unacceptable. As a historic ally to Israel, the United States has the power to document these acts of extreme violence as well as the responsibility to demand the cessation of atrocities.

The Seattle Human Rights Commission calls on Representatives Pramila Jayapal and Adam Smith, and Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell to take definitive steps to ensure both the investigation of Palestinian human rights violations and a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. We urge you to center the needs of Palestinians, working towards the restoration of their human rights. Your constituents continue to closely watch how you will proceed.

Let it be known that we as the Seattle Human Rights commission condemn all anti-Muslim, anti-Arabic, and antisemitic hate crimes and harmful rhetoric. Acts of violence and hatred stand in direct opposition to our held values of diversity, inclusivity, anti-discrimination, and justice. We stand firm in our efforts to center those most impacted by human rights violations in our communities and to call attention to underlying systems that allow such disparities to occur.

Sincerely,

The Seattle Human Rights Commission