

The U.S. Government Is Enabling Genocide in Gaza Every Day

The UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide

was signed by the Israeli delegation on August 17, 1949, and ratified by the Israeli government on March 9, 1950. It was signed by the United States delegation on December 11, 1948, and (finally) ratified by the U.S. government 40 years later, on November 25, 1988.

Article II of the Convention defines genocide “as acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.” These acts include: “Killing members of the group; Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.” *

The Convention’s definition of genocide clearly applies to the Netanyahu government of Israel’s ongoing atrocities in Gaza, which have killed at least 40,000 people. (The actual death toll is thought to be much higher.) Nearly 2 million people have been displaced. Medical facilities and hospitals have been deliberately destroyed. Disease is widespread. Famine is imminent.

The United States government’s complicity in this genocide is undeniable. It could not and would not continue without U.S. financial and military support. As a result of that support, a wider war throughout the Middle East is now imminent.

Last weekend, the Israeli military struck a school with a mosque within it, using a U.S.-made GBU-39 small diameter bomb. The result: no intact bodies, but “100 pieces of people,” according to a Palestinian journalist. Shortly after this attack, the U.S. administration approved \$20 billion in additional weapons sales to Israel. The weapon sales will include 50 F-15 fighter jets, tank ammunition, high-explosive mortars, tactical vehicles and advanced air-to-air missiles.

Josh Paul, former director of the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs in the State Department, where he worked on arms deals for 11 years and who resigned last year in protest of the push to increase arms sales to Israel amidst its assault on Gaza, said, “I don’t know how one looks at that bombing of the school... and [then] provide these weapons and then look yourself in the mirror. It is a dark day for American foreign policy...”

Jan Egeland, secretary general of the Norwegian Refugee Council, put it plainly: “**I find it incomprehensible that the U.S. is continuing to provide indiscriminate weapons to an indiscriminate warfare in a place where the population is trapped — there is no escape from Gaza — and where we are prevented from really helping them with sufficient humanitarian aid.** There should be no more arms going into that place before there is a ceasefire.”

DEMAND A CEASEFIRE NOW!!!

The United States government must immediately end all financial and military aid to the Netanyahu government for the prosecution of its criminal war against a civilian population. And it must cooperate with international agencies to negotiate an immediate, permanent ceasefire and to facilitate the unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza, with safe passage for aid workers.

New Haven Sunday Vigil for Peace and Justice
August 18, 2024

RESIST THIS ENDLESS WAR
newhavensundayvigil.wordpress.com

Please call, write, and email your members of Congress and the White House to demand a permanent ceasefire and call for an immediate weapons embargo on Israel. Be persistent. Accept no evasions.

**Read the full text of the UN Convention on Genocide on the UN website:*

https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.1_Convention.1)