

**From:** "petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au"  
<petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 27/03/2025 1:50:29 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Petition Ministerial Referral (PN0637)  
**Categories:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

27/03/2025

Senator the Hon Penny Wong  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister,

A petition in the following terms was recently presented in the House.

**Presentation date:** 27/03/2025  
**Petition number:** PN0637 (*Please quote in future correspondence*)  
**Number of signatures:** 1188

**Terms:**

**Reason:** We thank the Australian Government for its restoration of aid to the UN Relief and Works Agency and for voting to recognise Palestine as qualified to join the United Nations. In the name of peace, we ask that it take further steps to support the safety, human rights and self-determination of the Palestinian people.

**Request:** We therefore ask the House to call upon the Australian government to: • Recognise Palestine as a full UN member state; • Advocate for an immediate

ceasefire with the deployment throughout Palestine of international peace-keeping and reconstruction forces; • Advocate for independent negotiations to secure the release of the Israeli hostages held by Hamas and the more than 9000 Palestinians held by in Israel; • Ban the export of weapons and military components to Israel from Australia, both directly and through third countries; • Expel the Israeli Ambassador if Israel continues its assault on Gaza.

As you may be aware, under Standing Order 209(a) and (b) the Petitions Committee may refer a copy of a petition to the Minister responsible for the administration of the matter raised in the petition. A written response to the referred petition is expected within 90 days of its presentation in the House.

When the response has been considered by the Committee it will be presented in the House, recorded in Hansard and posted on the Committee's website at:  
<https://www.aph.gov.au/e-petitions>.

I look forward to receiving your response in due course.

**Please email your response to the Petitions Committee at**  
[petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan R. Templeman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ms Susan Templeman MP  
Chair

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

PO Box 6021, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 | Phone: (02) 6277 2152 | Email:  
[petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au)

**From:** "petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au"  
<petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 24/06/2024 3:09:28 PM  
**To:** s 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Petition Ministerial Referral (EN6173)  
**Categories:** s 22(1)(a)(ii)



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

24/06/2024

Senator the Hon Penny Wong  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister,

A petition in the following terms was recently presented in the House.

**Presentation date:** 24/06/2024  
**Petition number:** EN6173 (*Please quote in future correspondence*)  
**Number of signatures:** 129813

**Terms:**

**Reason:** Australia's foreign minister Penny Wong has recently said that Canberra would consider recognition of a Palestinian state. However, there is no visible progress with the cause. The World is watching a genocide unfolding in plain sight. Our screens are flooded with the images and videos of murdered, mutilated, starved people of Palestine. The world is also very well aware who are behind these massacres and ethnic cleansing. Currently, 139 out of 193 UN member states

recognize the state of Palestine. On 18 April 2024, 12 countries out of members of the UN SC gave their vote in favor of the state of Palestine. If Australia believes in Democracy, its high time to demonstrate its democratic value in the court of the World and stand on the right side of the history. As Penny Wong said, a secured and stable Palestinian state is they key to the stability in the region and the world.

**Request:** We therefore ask the House to take necessary measures to declare the recognition of the state of Palestine.

As you may be aware, under Standing Order 209(a) and (b) the Petitions Committee may refer a copy of a petition to the Minister responsible for the administration of the matter raised in the petition. A written response to the referred petition is expected within 90 days of its presentation in the House.

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I look forward to receiving your response in due course.

**Please email your response to the Petitions Committee at**  
[petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan R. Templeman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ms Susan Templeman MP  
Chair

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

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OFFICIAL



**Senator the Hon Penny Wong**  
**Minister for Foreign Affairs**

MC24-005994

Ms Susan Templeman MP  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
petitions.committee.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Templeman

Thank you for referring petition EN6173 regarding recognition of a Palestinian State.

The widespread human suffering we are witnessing in Gaza is completely unacceptable. This cannot continue. This war must end.

While Australia is not a central player to the conflict, we have a respected voice and we are using it to advocate for a ceasefire, the protection of civilians, increased humanitarian assistance and the release of hostages.

Australia continues to support the international community's response to the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. Since October, Australia has committed \$72.5 million to address urgent needs arising from the conflict in Gaza and the protracted refugee crisis in the region. This includes our commitment in June this year of \$10 million through the World Food Programme to help provide life-saving food assistance to civilians in Gaza at risk of famine. Australia also provides annual core funding of \$20.6 million for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency.

We are using our voice and our vote in international institutions and forums. In December, Australia voted with 152 countries for a ceasefire at the United Nations, and we support the ceasefire proposal endorsed by the UN Security Council in June this year. We want to see it fully implemented by both parties. Any delay will only see more lives lost.

I have pressed for a ceasefire, protection of civilians, humanitarian aid and the release of hostages through persistent and extensive engagement with foreign counterparts, including during my visit to the Middle East, as well as with partners in Europe, Canada, Japan, the UK, the US and in our region.

I have pressed the Netanyahu Government directly, as have Government officials in Canberra and in Israel. We continue to make clear Australia's objection to Israel's operation in Rafah and our expectation that Israel act in accordance with international humanitarian law. We have been clear with Israel that it must comply with the binding orders of the International Court of Justice, including to enable the provision of basic services and humanitarian assistance at scale. The Australian Government is denying anyone identified as an extremist settler a visa to travel to Australia.

We are pressing countries with influence over Hamas, to help secure the immediate and unconditional release of remaining hostages. We remain unequivocal in our condemnation of Hamas's horrific terror attacks of 7 October 2023.

We have adopted the most supportive position on recognition of any Australian government in history. Labor will recognise Palestine – we will do this when our act of recognition meaningfully contributes to a peace process. The grave situation that Palestinians face needs more than symbolism – Australia is working with other countries to make statehood a reality. The only way to achieve a lasting peace is a two-state solution.

In May, Australia supported expanded Palestinian rights to participate in UN forums and the General Assembly's aspiration for eventual Palestinian membership of the United Nations, consistent with a two-state solution. Alongside key partners, we are looking at how we can support reform of the Palestinian Authority so that it can deliver on the needs of the Palestinian people.

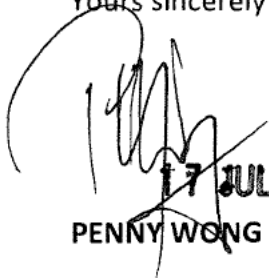
In support of a two-state solution, the Albanese Government strengthened Australia's opposition to Israeli settlements by affirming they are illegal under international law and a significant obstacle to peace. We remain deeply concerned by settler violence against Palestinians, which only serves to inflame tensions and undermine stability at this delicate time. The Australian Government will deny anyone identified as an extremist settler a visa to travel to Australia.

The Albanese Government also adopted the name of 'Occupied Palestinian Territories', consistent with the approach taken by key partners, including the UK, EU and New Zealand, as well as the United Nations and the broader international community. In addition, our Government reversed the Morrison Government's decision to recognise West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, reaffirming Australia's longstanding and bipartisan position that Jerusalem is a final status issue to be resolved through negotiations.

This devastating crisis demonstrates the need for a political solution to the long running Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Australia remains steadfast in our support for a two-state solution - a Palestinian state and the State of Israel, living side by side in peace and security within internationally recognised borders.

Yours sincerely



17 JUL 2024  
PENNY WONG