



Urgent resolution on the Gaza Strip's Crisis

- having regard to the UN Security Council Resolution 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1860 of 8th January 2009;
- having regard to the EU Statement on the situation in the Middle East of 30th December 2008;
- having regard to EP resolution on the situation in the Gaza Strip;
- Taking into consideration that Hamas is on the official EU list of terrorist organizations.

We, as the Youth of the European People's Party,

- express our relief that a ceasefire has been reached between the conflict parties;
- ask the conflict parties to respect the ceasefire and to resolve their conflict with peaceful means in future;
- ask for the sustained re-opening of the crossing points, the lifting of the blockade and the prevention of smuggling of illicit trafficking in arms and ammunition;
- emphasize that Hamas has initiated the crisis by launching rockets and, consequently, not respecting the truce;
- ask all the States of the region to clearly distance themselves from any terrorist activities;
- condemn the frequent terrorist attacks of Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other organisations against Israel;
- call the Israeli and the Palestinians to accept UN peace keeping troops;

- express our concern for the suffering of the civilian population of Gaza Strip and of Southern Israel, emphasizing the need of humanitarian help and stands for no limitation with transfer and distribution;
- calls on the Israeli authorities to allow unimpeded access to humanitarian assistance and aid to the Gaza Strip and to guarantee a continuous and adequate flow of aid through the humanitarian corridors; urges the Israeli authorities to allow the international press to follow events on the ground;
- call the European Union, the UN and the Quartet to safeguard the reviving and continuation of the peace process;
- call the EU and its member states to send humanitarian aid to Gaza the soonest possible;
- humanitarian organizations should be given ability to work according with the Geneva conventions;
- Stressing on the humanitarian crisis that generates extremism and hatred, particularly among the youth;
- Share the Israeli regrets in some operations that where unfortunately conducted;
- condemn the use of people as human shields by Hamas and of using mosques, schools, hospitals and residential areas to store weapons and launch rockets;
- urge Hamas to reject terrorism and to recognise the State of Israel;
- invite the Palestinian population not to support Hamas as long as they do not recognise the right of existence of Israel and as long as they support and use terrorism to achieve political objectives;
- demand from both parties to act according to the rules of International Law, in particular the law of armed conflicts and to try with all means to keep the civil population out of harm's way;
- propose a "Marshall Plan" for a speedy civilian reconstruction of the Gaza strip;
- invite the European Union to take a strong common position, with the aim of mediating between the two parties;
- invites all the parts to re-launch the peace process with this goal:

- the recognition of the existence of the State of Israel by all the Arab Countries, together with an atmosphere of security and stability;
- the creation of a Palestinian State, which would give dignity and prosperity to the Palestinian people.
- So, we call all the parts for a solution based on two recognised States with fully respected borders, which can provide a long-standing and viable prospective for the Palestinian and Israeli people.

Adopted at the Council Meeting in Athens, 24 January 2009