Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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05 February 2026

Fulfilling and respecting the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

Motion for a recommendation
tabled by Ms Saskia KLUIT and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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Under the United Nations Charter, all people have the right to self-determination. The recognition of a Palestinian State is strongly rooted in international law and UN resolutions. The boundaries of a (future) Palestinian State are recognised. Israel should, under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, withdraw from the territories now known as Palestinian territories. This has been reiterated by the International Court of Justice in June 2024. Most States support the two-State solution but are hesitant to undertake actions to create the necessary preconditions.

Therefore, illegal occupation by Israel continues, even expands, resulting in immense injustices. More than 72 000 Palestinians died in Gaza, on top of which approximately 200 000 people lost their live due to inhumane living conditions. Palestinians on the West Bank are regularly attacked by settlers: approximately 10 000 people were already hurt and tens of thousands had to seek refuge. Systems of apartheid are being fortified, rather than lifted.

At the same time international talks about the future of the Palestinian territories are mostly conducted by third parties with Palestinians increasingly losing control over their own destiny.

As one of the most suppressed peoples in the world, undergoing ongoing acts of genocide and ethnic cleansing by Israel, Palestinian citizens deserve stronger support from the Council of Europe. For a just and lasting peace, it is important that the right to self-determination of Palestinians is more strongly emphasised and respected.

The Council of Europe member States have an important role to play. The Parliamentary Assembly must urgently identify the concrete steps to fulfil the right of Palestinians to self-determination, firstly during the phase of peace talks and, secondly, by determining the specific conditions necessary for an independent and free future for Palestinians in the short to medium term, as well as the role that member States can play.

Signed (see overleaf)

Signed[1]*:*

KLUIT Saskia, Netherlands, SOC
BALDURSDÓTTIR Kolbrún Áslaugar, Iceland, SOC
CASEY Patrick, Ireland, ALDE
ÇELENK Sevilay, Türkiye, UEL
ÇELİK KANAT Sena Nur, Türkiye, NR
ECCLES Cat, United Kingdom, SOC
ESTRELA Edite, Portugal, SOC
FLORIDIA Aurora, Italy, SOC
GALLES Paul, Luxembourg, EPP/CD
GÖKA Meryem, Türkiye, NR
GÖKÇEN Gökçe, Türkiye, SOC
GÖREN Seda, Türkiye, NR
KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA Bisera, North Macedonia, SOC
LACROIX Christophe, Belgium, SOC
LOUCAIDES George, Cyprus, UEL
MAGAZINOVIĆ Saša, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC
MARTINEZ SEIJO Luz, Spain, SOC
MOLINA Fabian, Switzerland, SOC
MOONEN Carla, Netherlands, ALDE
NOWICKA Wanda, Poland, SOC
OSAMOR Kate, United Kingdom, SOC
PILLER CARRARD Valérie, Switzerland, SOC
ROOVERS Daan, Netherlands, SOC
SIVACIOĞLU Sevan, Türkiye, NR
TAN Namık, Türkiye, SOC
VELA Susanna, Andorra, SOC

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group