



The Scottish Parliament

(For official use only) PUBLIC PETITION NO.	PE1238
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Should you wish to submit a public petition for consideration by the Public Petitions Committee please refer to the guidance leaflet [How to submit a public petition](#) and the Guidance Notes at the back of this form.

1. NAME OF PRINCIPAL PETITIONER
Deryck Beaumont
2. TEXT OF PETITION
Petition by Deryck Beaumont, on behalf of the Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign, calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to urge the UK Government to expel the Israeli Ambassador from the UK until Israel shows it is prepared to accept that it is not above international law
3. ACTION TAKEN TO RESOLVE ISSUES OF CONCERN BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PETITION
The campaign has struggled for years to limit israel's present abuses and breaches of International Law the Geneva Conventions and its present lack of any proportionality in Gaza
4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
In light of the urgency of the situation a closing date of say 28 days is sought "We shall have to repent in this generation, not so much for the evil deeds of the wicked people, but for the appalling silence of the good people"-- Martin Luther King The Scottish people do not wish to remain silent. They have repeatedly expressed their concern publically over what is being done to Palestine and especially what is presently being done to and in Gaza by the Israelis. This has been declared publically on many occasions. This resulted in the Scottish Executive on behalf of the Scottish people, opening its hospitals to victims from Gaza. In particular the expulsion of the Israeli Ambassador has been publically called for at many public meetings of the Scottish people as well as in England. Two other countries have already done so. Israel is in continued breach of gross and wilful flouting of International Law Human Rights and the Geneva Conventions for the Palestinians whose land it

occupies. As a State, Israel's actions which it carries out by way of occupation are in clear breach of the Geneva Conventions and International Law. These breaches of international law directly result in so much death destruction and misery for those Palestinians whose territory it occupies.

The UK must now show its disapproval and expel the Israeli Ambassador as has already been done elsewhere .

Citizens of other governments round the world are calling on their governments to do the same. Scotland and the UK should not remain inactive and so seeming to approve of Israel. This could be the single biggest pressure and denouncement of Israel's continued and deliberate killing of civilians and continued breaches of International Humanitarian and Human Rights Laws both in Gaza and throughout its Palestinian Occupied Territories. The UK has previously expelled Ambassadors of other countries of which it disapproves, and should be seen to do so again now. It can still put diplomatic pressure on Israel even with its Ambassador expelled.

See also links below²³

Israel's breaches have been debated already by the Scottish Parliament and condemned. This is a chance to do something more than just condemn.

"Amnesty International reiterates its call for an end to reckless and unlawful Israeli attacks against densely populated residential areas which have killed more than 900 Palestinians between 27 December 2008 and 12th January alone",

http://www.amnesty.org.uk/news_details.asp?NewsID=17996

http://www.amnesty.org.uk/news_details.asp?NewsID=17998

Amnesty International "The undercurrent of violence, abuses of fundamental human rights and disregard for international law that have marked the 40-year Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, have become firmly entrenched and relentless. Civilians in both Israel and the Occupied Territories have borne the brunt of the confrontations".

<http://www.amnesty.org.uk/content.asp?CategoryID=973>

Amnesty International "For 40 years, people in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories have lived in the shadow of a bloody conflict in which violence, poverty and the erosion of human rights form part of everyday life. Israel's disproportionate and discriminatory policy of closures has a devastating impact on Palestinians".

<http://www.amnesty.org.uk/content.asp?CategoryID=10968>

see also

<http://www.scottishpsc.org.uk/>

<http://www.palestinecampaign.org/index2b.asp>

http://www.freegaza.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=627&Itemid=53&lang=en

5. DO YOU WISH YOUR PETITION TO BE HOSTED ON THE PARLIAMENT'S WEBSITE AS AN E-PETITION?

YES **yes**

NO

CLOSING DATE

23rd February 2008

COMMENTS TO STIMULATE ON-LINE DISCUSSION

Israel in respect of its occupation of Palestine has for years caused poverty and thousands of civilian deaths by failing to observe

- a) Geneva Conventions,
- b) International and Humanitarian Law,
- c) in particular the findings of the International Court of Justice regarding its illegal building of the Wall on Palestine Land,
- d) right to a fair trial by regularly assassinating Palestinian civilians at will
- e) any form of Human Rights for those Palestians whose territories it occupies illegally