



## **PRESS STATEMENT ON THE SUSPENSION OF INTERNATIONAL FUNDING TO UNRWA**

**GegarAmerika** is appalled by the decision of over 14 Western nations to suspend life-saving aid to the *United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA)*, amidst the continued bombardment and starvation of Gaza; based on unfounded and meritless allegations from the Zionist lobby claiming that its staff members participated in October 7th attacks in 1948-occupied territories.

**GegarAmerika** condemns the United States, the European Union, Germany, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, Australia, Japan, Romania, Austria, Estonia, and Sweden for pulling funding to the *UNRWA* mere days after the *ICJ* ruling found sufficient evidence for the plausibility of genocide, and called for humanitarian aid to be increased to Gaza.

**Make no mistake: this is a shameful and murderous exercise of power by the international imperialist order to collectively punish an occupied population based on unfounded allegations.** *UNRWA* provides education, health, and shelter to over 2.2 million Palestinians in Gaza, 80% of whom are refugees from the 1948 Nakba. The suspension of aid could lead to the permanent collapse of the health system and worsen the already intolerable living conditions faced by every man, woman, and child in Gaza. This is in clear violation of the recent *ICJ* ruling on provisional measures.

The systematic attacks on aid organisations undoubtedly serves the broader Zionist agenda to obliterate the Palestinians' internationally recognised right of return, whose refugee status under *UNRWA* has long been viewed as a threat to the Zionist entity. The suspension of aid to *UNRWA* follows recent comments made in the Israeli *Knesset* by Noga Arbell, the head of the fascist right-wing *Kohelet Foundation* who said "*It will be impossible to win the war if we do not destroy UNRWA, and this destruction must begin immediately*". This is part of the long trend of openly genocidal statements from Israeli officials and military spokesmen since 7th October, whose incitement towards violence has clearly indicated genocidal intent under international law.

*GegarAmerika* is an initiative of Malaysians of conscience to pressure the United States of America; condemning US imperialism and US interventionist aggression across the Global South, currently focused on the liberation of Palestine.



**GegarAmerika** stands in solidarity with the Palestinian resistance and the internationally recognised right of Palestinians to participate in armed struggle against an occupying force. *GegarAmerika* rejects the baseless accusations by the Zionist entity, who have in the past spread lies about the use of torture and sexual violence by Palestinian resistance to justify its own genocidal acts, and blocked repeated calls by *Hamas* for an independent investigation into civilian deaths on October 7th, deaths which evidence and witness testimony have shown were largely caused by Israeli fire. The recent targeted attack against *UNRWA* is just a continuation of these crimes. *GegarAmerika* calls upon the conscious masses of Malaysia and the Global South to continue to hold imperialist powers accountable for their crimes, and we stand resolutely with the Palestinians against genocide.

**31st JANUARY 2024**

**GegarAmerika**

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