

RAMALLAH (Dispatches) -- A Palestinian detainee has died in Israeli custody after being held without charge or trial for five months. Palestinian prisoner monitoring groups said they had been informed of Ahmad Hatem Muhammad Khdeirat's death at Soroka Hospital in Israel. Khdeirat, 22, was detained by Israeli forces in the occupied West Bank city of Al-Khalil on May 23 and placed under administrative detention, without charge or trial. Administrative detention is a controversial Israeli policy that allows for the imprisonment of Palestinians without charge or trial.

Acquire patience and endurance because their relation with true faith is that of a head to a body, a body is of no use without a head, similarly true faith can be of no use without attributes of resignation, endurance and patience.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

# Israel Attacks Another Gaza-Bound Aid Flotilla

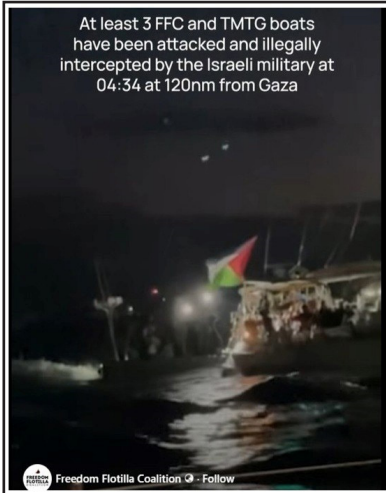
BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Israeli forces once again escalated their oppressive blockade on Gaza Wednesday by intercepting multiple humanitarian aid boats in international waters, demonstrating a blatant disregard for international law and basic human rights.

The Global Sumud Flotilla reported that three vessels — the Gaza Sunbirds, the Alaa Al-Najjar, and the Anas Al-Sharif — were intercepted 220 kilometers off Gaza's coast.

An Israeli army helicopter attacked another ship, the Conscience, carrying over 90 people, including journalists and medics, highlighting Israel's ruthless approach to preventing aid from reaching the starving population.

In a further blatant act of aggression, Israeli forces seized the boat Milad as well. The Israeli foreign ministry dismissed the flotilla's humanitarian mission as a "futile attempt" to enter what it calls a "combat zone," calling for the immediate expulsion of the ships and passengers.

This rhetoric masks a cruel strategy to maintain an illegal and suffocating blockade that has devastated Gaza for nearly two



At least 3 FFC and TMTG boats have been attacked and illegally intercepted by the Israeli military at 04:34 at 120nm from Gaza



Israeli military currently jamming signals, attacking several boats, and surrounding the remaining fleet

Israeli forces attacked three ships of the Gaza-bound Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC) early Wednesday in international waters roughly 222 kilometers from the besieged Palestinian territory.

decades.

The Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC), a network of pro-Palestinian activists, condemned Israel's attack on their vessels, exposing the violent tactics used to enforce this inhumane siege.

Video footage showed Israeli soldiers smashing CCTV cameras aboard the Gaza Sunbird, an act aimed at erasing evidence of their unlawful boarding and intimidation of civilians.

The coalition emphasized that

their flotilla was carrying vital humanitarian aid — medicines, respiratory equipment, and nutritional supplies worth over \$110,000 — desperately needed in Gaza's starving hospitals.

Adalah, a legal aid group that has been consistently advocating for and representing activists abroad different mission flotillas over the past few months, said on Wednesday, "Before losing all communication early this morning, participants aboard the

Conscience - primarily doctors, nurses, and journalists - reported being attacked by an Israeli military helicopter, while Israeli naval forces simultaneously intercepted and boarded the Thousands Madleens sailboats."

It added, "The vessels were located approximately 120 nautical miles from Gaza, deep in international waters, when the attack took place." Adalah said it would represent these activists as well.

Israel's military aggressions in international waters flagrantly violate legal norms, as the flotilla posed no threat. Yet, Israel's relentless blockade and brutal assaults on aid convoys reveal a calculated effort to choke Gaza's population, exacerbating a humanitarian catastrophe.

Nearly 2.4 million Palestinians in Gaza have endured over 18 years of this siege, intensified since March when Israel sealed border crossings, blocking food, medicine, and essentials.

The result has been catastrophic — since October 2023, Israeli bombardments have killed more than 67,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, leaving Gaza uninhabitable.

## Italian PM, Two Ministers Reported to ICC for Gaza Genocide Complicity

ROME (Dispatches) -- Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has publicly responded to accusations of "complicity in genocide" following a complaint filed with the International Criminal Court (ICC) over Italy's support for Israel amid its atrocities in Gaza.

Meloni stated in an interview with Italian state broadcaster RAI that she, along with Defense Minister Guido Crosetto and Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, has been "denounced" in the complaint.

The complaint, signed by around 50 individuals including law professors and public figures, alleges that Italy's supply of arms to Israel makes its government complicit in genocide and serious war crimes against Palestinians.

The Palestinian advocacy group behind the complaint

calls for the ICC to consider opening a formal investigation into these genocide charges.

This follows a recent UN Independent Inquiry which classified Israel's war on Gaza as genocide, aligning with assessments from many experts in international law and human rights.

While the ICC has issued arrest warrants for Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former war minister Yoav Gallant over war crimes in Gaza, they have not been charged with genocide specifically.

Italy's role in arms exports to Israel adds a significant dimension to the allegations. Data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) reveals Italy as one of the few countries exporting ma-

jor conventional arms to Israel between 2020 and 2024, including light helicopters and naval guns.

Italy also contributes parts for F-35 fighter jets under a U.S.-led program. Italian officials claim that arms deliveries are only under contracts signed before October 2023 and that assurances were sought that weapons would not be used against civilians.

Meloni's comments come amid widespread protests across Italy opposing Israel's war on Gaza, with major labor unions and dockworkers voicing solidarity with Palestinians and threatening strikes.

Italy's naval forces initially accompanied an international flotilla attempting to deliver aid to Gaza but withdrew before Israeli forces intercepted the

vessels in international waters, detaining nearly 500 activists, several of whom remain in custody.

The legal challenges against Italian leaders reflect a broader wave of international efforts to hold Israel accountable, including cases at the International Court of Justice brought by countries like South Africa, and growing diplomatic tensions, particularly in European nations such as Spain, which has frozen arms exports and called Israel's actions genocide.

These developments highlight the increasingly complex and contentious role of European countries like Italy and Spain in the Gaza war, navigating between diplomatic ties with Israel and mounting public and legal pressure to address alleged violations of international law.

## Report: Israel Interfered in ICC Probe Into Ex-Prosecutor's Sex Charges

THE HAGUE (Dispatches) -- Fresh revelations have emerged in the ongoing investigation into sexual misconduct allegations against International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor Karim Khan, raising further concerns about political interference and internal sabotage of the court's high-profile probe into Israeli war crimes.

A new report by The New Yorker, titled The Hague on Trial, sheds light on previously undisclosed details, including the role of Khan's special assistant, Thomas Lynch.

Lynch, reportedly skeptical of issuing charges against Israeli officials, met with Khan's accuser shortly before her call with him — a call after which an anonymous social media account emerged, leaking allegations and private details.

An email linked to the leak included names,

phone numbers, and Hebrew phrases, fueling speculation about possible Israeli involvement or deliberate misdirection.

The report also reveals internal communications in which the accuser expressed mixed signals — appearing warm and supportive toward Khan in private messages, while also documenting explicit claims of misconduct in texts to a friend.

A recorded call from October 2024, in which the woman denied any accusations, contrasts with later, more serious claims submitted during the ongoing UN investigation.

The timing and nature of the leaks — including the release of Khan's arrest warrants against Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and war minister Yoav Gallant — have raised alarms about politically motivated efforts to de-

rail the ICC's Palestine investigation.

Former UK Foreign Secretary David Cameron reportedly warned Khan that such warrants would be a "hydrogen bomb", with threats that the UK might withdraw from the ICC.

Similar pressure came from U.S. lawmakers, while Israeli intelligence presence in The Hague further stoked fears of intimidation.

The report also alleges that Nicholas Kaufman, a British-Israeli lawyer linked to Netanyahu's circle, warned Khan that he and the court would be "destroyed" unless the investigation was dropped.

Khan stepped aside in May pending the outcome of the UN inquiry, amid speculation that the scandal has already impeded the court's ability to hold Israel accountable for actions in Gaza and the West Bank.

## Greta Thunberg Says Tortured With Others in Israeli Prison

STOCKHOLM (Dispatches) — Swedish activist Greta Thunberg revealed that she and other detainees of the Gaza flotilla were subjected to torture in the Israeli prison they were held.

Thunberg told a news conference in Stockholm that she and others were "kidnapped and tortured" by the Israeli military.

"Personally, I don't want to share what I was subjected to because I don't want it to make headlines and 'Greta has been tortured', because that's not the story here," she said, adding that what they were subjected to paled in comparison to what people in Gaza experienced daily.

Thunberg was part of the Global Sumud Flotilla, a group of vessels that tried to reach Gaza to bring aid supplies and draw attention to the plight of the enclave, where most of the 2.2 million residents have been driven from their homes and the United Nations says hunger is rampant.

Thunberg was detained along with 478 people in the flotilla and expelled from Israel on Monday.

Thunberg and other participants also complained that the Swedish government had not given them sufficient help while detained.

David Adler, a Jewish American activist and co-coordinator of Progressive International who was also detained, shared a detailed account of the events.

He described a violent naval interception involving water cannons and attempts to ram the flotilla vessels. Upon detention, activists were forced into submissive positions, stripped, zip-tied, blindfold-

ed, and taken to Ketziot prison in the Negev desert, a facility known for harsh conditions.

Adler recounted psychological pressure, beatings, and solitary confinement, especially when requesting vital medications such as insulin.

Activists also faced intimidation from Israeli far-right minister Itamar Ben Gvir, who reportedly referred to them as terrorists deserving strict treatment. They endured tear gas, riot gear, police dog attacks, and heard nightly sounds of Israeli fighter jets bombing Gaza.

Families of detainees expressed frustration with the limited support from U.S. and UK governments. Adler described the U.S. consular response as dismissive, calling the experience a difficult ordeal for peaceful activists attempting to deliver humanitarian aid.

Among those detained were four Polish activists, including Franciszek Sterczewski, a Polish parliamentarian, who described Israel as a "barbaric state" after their release.

The activists were detained following the flotilla's interception and were released after five days, returning to Poland.

"It is an honor to be a drop of this great wave of solidarity with you. We hope that politicians will also stand with society and begin to counteract this barbaric state that Israel has become and the genocide it is committing," Sterczewski, a ruling Civic Coalition (PO) member of Sejm, or the lower house of the bicameral parliament, wrote on Facebook from Athens after being released by Israel.

## Envoy: Russia Not Deploying Troops to Afghanistan

ISTANBUL (Dispatches) -- Russia's ambassador to Afghanistan said his country is not considering the deployment of its troops in the war-torn country as Moscow and Kabul's top diplomats held talks in the Russian capital.

"Absolutely out of the question," Zamir Kabulov told reporters following the seventh meeting of consultations on Afghanistan in the Moscow format, reminding Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's opening remarks during the meeting, which conveyed Moscow's rejection of the deployment of third-party military infrastructure in Afghanistan or neighboring states.

According to Kabulov, the meeting served to demonstrate the commitment of all regional states to continue actively developing ties with the interim Taliban administration in "all areas of mutual interest."

Kabulov further said that interim Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, who arrived in Moscow to take part in the event, told Lavrov that Kabul will not allow the deployment of foreign military bases in the country, noting: "And this also applies to the base in Bagram."

Late last month, Beijing said that China, Russia, Iran, and Pakistan have opposed any move

to reestablish military bases in Afghanistan after U.S. President Donald Trump asked the interim Taliban administration to return Bagram Air Base to the Pentagon.

Kabul rejected Washington's demand, while Trump warned "bad things" would happen if the Taliban administration does not cede control of the air base which served as the largest U.S. military site in the country before U.S.-led forces withdrew following the Taliban's return to power in August 2021.

Kabulov noted that Russia welcomes any dialogue ongoing between the U.S. and the interim Taliban administration on the reopening of each other's embassies, and that Moscow would welcome the possible opening of diplomatic missions by other countries as well.

Kabulov's remarks also came amid a bilateral meeting between Lavrov and Muttaqi in Moscow, during which the Russian foreign minister expressed his country's commitment to assisting Kabul in achieving new successes in various issues, including in the fight against drug trafficking, terrorism, and organized crime.

In July, Russia recognized the Taliban administration as the official government of Afghanistan, making it the first country to do so.