

Human Rights March
Kvinder i Dialog
Palæstina – Israel – Danmark



Fremsendes til Folketingets Udenrigsudvalg.

Til Orientering og videre behandling.

Med venlig hilsen.

Kirsten Grosen
Kirsten Grosen.

Udenrigsminister Per Stig Møller,
Asiatisk Plads 2,
1448, København K.

15. November 2005.

Vedr. kvinders deltagelse i fredsprocessen i Israel/Palæstina.

Kære Per Stig Møller!

Tak for dit svar af 19. Maj d.å. på vores brev om Israels bosættelser.
Desværre synes der ikke siden at være sket nogen positiv ændring af situationen på dette område.

Gennem vores kontakt med israelske og palæstinensiske kvindeorganisationer er vi blevet opmærksom på, at kvinder -i modstrid med FN's Sikkerhedsråds Resolution 1325 - ikke er officielt inddraget i fredsprocessen.

Idet vi anmoder dig om at gøre din indflydelse gældende på dette område, fremsender vi hoslagte kopi af skrivelse af d.d. med bilag til vores ambassadør i FN, Ellen Margrethe Løj.

Vi håber, at Ellen Margrethe Løj som kvinde og som tidligere ambassadør i Israel vil føle sig særlig forpligtet til at gøre en indsats for denne sag.

Samtidig undrer det os, at USA's kvindelige udenrigsminister end ikke har besvaret den appel, som den 6. Februar d.å er sendt til hende af "Ad Hoc Coalition of Palestinian and Israeli Women" (bilag) og som har foranlediget, at vi fremsender denne anmodning.

Vi håber, at du og Ellen Margrethe Løj vil udvirke, at der bliver rådet bod på denne oplagte forsømmelse.

Med venlig hilsen – på vegne af Human Rights March:

Kirsten Grosen,
Stenleddet 29, 4000 Roskilde,
Kirsten.grosen@mail.dk

Bilag.

Cc. Folketingets Udenrigsudvalg.

Kopi

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Til Danmarks Ambassader i FN,
Ellen Margrethe Løj.

15. 11. 2005

Vedr. Israel/Palæstina konflikten.

Undertegnede tillader os hermed at anmode dig om at vurdere, om du på en eller anden måde kan støtte den vedlagte appel af 6. Februar d.å. fra palæstinensiske og israelske kvinder til udenrigsminister Condoleezza Rice, USA, i forbindelse med dennes besøg i Israel.

Vi er en gruppe danske kvinder, som i december 2003 deltog i en international kvindemarch for menneskerettigheder i Israel og på Vestbredden. Marchen blev på initiativ af norske fredskvinder tilrettelagt af israelske og palæstinensiske kvindeorganisationer. Efterfølgende har vi etableret et nært samarbejde med organisationerne for at støtte deres bestræbelser på at opnå en snarlig løsning af konflikten.

En af initiativtagerne til appellen er Gila Svirsky, formand for "Coalition of Women for Peace" i Israel. Gila Svirsky, har oplyst, at ifølge USA's konsulat i Jerusalem har Condoleezza Rice modtaget og læst brevet, men hidtil har der ikke været nogen tilbagemelding fra hende.

Der findes en uendelig række af officielle rapporter og udsagn om Israels vedholdende overtrædelser af internationale konventioner og påbud fra FN. Alligevel medfører det ingen konsekvenser, at den nuværende israelske regering fortsætter med at udvide bosættelser og at etablere mur/hegn på palæstinensisk område, hvilket premierminister Sharon netop har bekræftet officielt. Dette støtter samtidig de palæstinensiske modstandsgruppers begrundelse for at udøve terror mod civile israelere.

Fornylig har FAO offentliggjort en rapport om en truende hungerkatastrofe blandt den palæstinensiske befolkning affødt af høj arbejdsløshed og heraf følgende fattigdom, som skyldes de israelske hindringer for, at palæstinenserne får mulighed for at opbygge en levedygtig samfunds- og erhvervsstruktur: bosættelserne og disses misbrug af fælles vandressourcer, ødelæggelse af palæstinensiske marker og boliger, check-points etc.


Først på året offentliggjorde Amnesty International en rapport "Israel and the Occupied Territories - Conflict, occupation and patriarchy - Women carry the burden". Heraf fremgår, hvorledes den fortvivlede situation i området på mange måder rammer kvinderne - og dermed børnene - hårdest. Således er der konstateret en betydelig underernæring hos mange palæstinensiske kvinder.

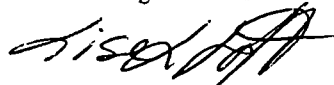
Rømningen af bosættelserne i Gaza synes at medføre et endnu større israelsk pres på befolkningen, hvilket bl.a. fremgår af vedlagte aktuelle "nødråb" fra den amerikanske skole i Gaza.


Vi finder, at der er al mulig grund til at støtte de palæstinensiske og israelske kvinders appel om at blive inddraget i forhandlinger om en løsning af den ødelæggende konfliktsituation i deres lande. Og det haster mere end nogensinde.

Vi håber derfor, at du vil bruge din indflydelse til at støtte appellen. Vi ser frem til at høre din mening om sagen.

Med venlig hilsen - på vegne af Human Rights March:


Kirsten Grosen
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4000 Roskilde.
kirsten.grosen@mail.dk


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Mathilda Feldthaus
Helenekildevej 4,
3220 Tisvildeleje
mathilda@feldthaus.dk

Bilag: Kopi af brev til Condoleezza Rice, Udenrigsminister, USA.
E-mail udskrift af brev til den Amerikanske Ambassadør i Tel Aviv.

C.c. Udenrigsmin. P.S. Møller,

Folketingets Udenrigsudvalg.

Kopi

The following letter was delivered to the Executive Secretariat that travels with Condoleezza Rice. It was also the subject of articles in the English and Hebrew editions of *Ha'aretz* newspaper on February 7, 2005.

Ad Hoc Coalition of Palestinian and Israeli Women

P.O. Box 10252, 91102 Jerusalem

Tel: (02) 672-5293; Fax: (02) 671-5778

Responses may also be directed to cwp@coalitionofwomen.org

February 6, 2005

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State, the United States

Dear Madame Secretary,

We welcome you on your mission to the Middle East.

We the undersigned are Palestinian and Israeli women, members of organizations from both sides of the political divide, who call upon you to use your good offices to bring women into the peacemaking process, and thereby advance peace in the region.

For the past two decades, women in the Middle East have been at the forefront of peacemaking efforts. On both sides, women have worked to end the violence and militarization of our respective societies, have vigorously opposed the human rights abuses, and have even forged peace agreements that would bring a just end to the occupation.

Women are the majority stakeholders in this enterprise, with proven expertise in reconciliation and rapprochement, yet not a single Israeli woman, and only one Palestinian woman, has held an official role at any Middle East peace summit. This is not only in violation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325, mandating the involvement of women in all areas of national decision-making, but a squandering of formidable skill, talent, and experience that both nations can ill afford.

Madame Secretary, you are well aware of the suffering - the bloodshed, suicide bombings, reprisals, destruction of homes, and erection of barriers preventing access to schools, hospitals, and places of work. Women on both sides oppose these acts of violence, and are committed to swiftly concluding the brutal reality. We understand the price for every hour of delay.

We ask for your intervention, Madame Secretary, in breaking the silence imposed on women. We ask that you meet with a combined delegation of Israeli and Palestinian women peacemakers, a forum that would allow us to present our views, and that you seek additional ways to promote the involvement of women in the peacemaking process. We believe that our involvement would hasten the advent of peace.

Kepi.

We wish you success in your efforts, and offer our partnership in all initiatives for peace.

Yours very truly,

Signatories (in alphabetical order):

1. Achoti [my sister]
2. Anwar: Jewish and Arab Women's Leadership Group
3. Bat Shalom
4. Coalition of Women for Peace
5. Community School of Women
6. Economic Empowerment of Women
7. Haifa Women's Coalition
8. Isha l'Isha: Haifa Feminist Center
9. Israeli Association for Feminist and Gender Studies
10. Itach: Women Lawyers for Social Justice
11. Kayan Feminist Organization
12. Kol Ha-Isha: Jerusalem Women's Center
13. Lily Habash / Palestinian Women's Forum
14. Machsom Watch: Women for Human Rights
15. Palestinian Campaign for Freedom and Peace
16. Shin: The Israeli Movement for Equal Representation of Women
17. Shouruq Society of Women in Palestine
18. TANDI: Movement of Democratic Women for Israel
19. Women Against Violence
20. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom – Israel section
21. Women's Studies Center
22. Women's Parliament

Kopi.

Kirsten Grosen

Fra: marwan <pr2@gcmhp.net>
Til: <diabmarwan@yahoo.ca>
Cc: <pr2@gcmhp.net>
Sendt: 27. oktober 2005 13:12
Vedhæft: NŌÇÁÉ Çáí ÇÁÓÝİŦ ÇáÇáŦİBİ Ýİ Éá ÇÈİÈ.doc
Emne: Fw: Urgent-From the American school in Gaza

Dear friends,

Please find attached a letter (Arabic & English) to the American Ambassador in Tel.Aviv. It is written by the American School in Gaza and translated and distributed by GCMHP.

Thanks

Marwan Diab
Public Relations Department
Gaza Community Mental Health Programme

To the U.S. Ambassador, Tel Aviv, Israel
 October 26, 2005

Dear Ambassador:

While the world is occupied with the cycle of violence in the Middle East, few know about a modest project of peace that has taken root in the ancient soil of Gaza. The labor is educational and the harvest a future generation of Palestinian leaders. In the forefront of this worthwhile undertaking is a group of international teachers, most of whom hail from North America. They work at The American International School in Gaza. Now in its sixth year, the school has been operating without major interruptions throughout the second Intifada. It produced its first class of graduates last year, some of whom proceeded to pursue a university education in the U.S.A. The school has high standards and is on its way to become accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Although the current teachers are working hard to achieve this goal, our efforts may soon be put to a halt. The reason is the change in the Israeli response to the violent actions of Palestinian extremists. Whereas before the disengagement, Israel responded to such actions by targeted military action, this response is now reinforced by a weapon out of the arsenal of psychological warfare. During the dead of night and also during the day, IDF fighter jets fly low over Gaza breaking the sound barrier with deafening

noise, causing havoc to people and buildings. The blast and the anxious anticipation of it gradually wear on peoples' nerves. Innocent people are being punished.

The Israeli retaliation undermines the learning process at our school by disabling students and incapacitating teachers. In a very real sense the fabric of learning literally disintegrates. Each morning when we arrive, we

face the next stage in the gradual destruction of our school. Tiles have dropped from the ceiling, windows and steel doors have popped out of their frames, and large cracks zigzag through the cement walls of the classrooms.

Teachers and students are coping but our lives are in danger. If the destruction continues, the moment will come when we must close the school doors. We think this would be an unfortunate turn of events considering the

few options that are left for Gaza and its people.

Does the US government care? Will it tell the Israeli government to stop?

Hendrik Taatgen
 Principal, The American International School in Gaza

Kopi

Ambassador Richard Jones
Embassy of the United States of America
71 Hayarkon Street
Tel Aviv
63902

Fax. No. 00972 3 5173227

2005-10-31

Dear Ambassador,

It is with grave concern that I am writing to you.

The situation in the Gaza Strip with regard to the closure and the constant flights of IDF fighter jets over Gaza, which break the sound barrier with incredible noise, causing psychological problems and trauma, in short, collective punishment of a captive population of 1.400.000 people, is something which cannot be justified by any means.

Psychological warfare against the entire population of Gaza, which includes hundreds of thousands of children, is inhuman and collective punishment is in contravention of international law.

I urge that pressure be put on the Government of Israel to stop this inhuman action. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the withdrawal of settlers in Gaza might have had other reasons than the interest of peace. To punish children in this way, and all the others forced to spend their lives in Gaza, is criminal and without excuse.

Yours sincerely,