

11. marts 2010

Dear Madam/Sir,

Please find enclosed a letter sent by Aprodev, CIDSE, Front Line, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders to the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Moratinos and the High Representative Baroness Ashton re the **recent attempts of the Israeli government to restrict the space and freedom of Israeli civil society organisations to operate in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT).**

The abovementioned organizations are particularly concerned re the government back bill which is currently discussed in the Israeli Parliament and which will restrict the freedom of association of Israeli civil society organizations if adopted.

The undersigning organisations call on the EU and its Member States to **raise these concerns during the upcoming UE-Israel Association Council on 23 March and during the visit of Baroness Ashton in Israel on 17-18 March.**

Yours Faithfully,

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