



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



Department
for International
Development

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Tareq Shrourou (Director) and Natalie Sedacca
Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights
c/o Bates Wells Braithwaite
10 Queen Street Place
London
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Dear Tareq & Natalie

Thank you for your email of 24 September about the shooting of a Palestinian woman at the Qalandiya crossing. In line with Cabinet Office guidance for correspondence with prospective parliamentary candidates during the pre-election period, I am replying as Private Secretary to the Minister for the Middle East and North Africa.

The British Government is very concerned at the high numbers of Palestinians killed and injured by Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in the West Bank and Gaza. Officials from our Embassy in Tel Aviv recently raised the issue of excessive use of force, including the use of live ammunition by the IDF, with the Office of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories on 25 June. Ministry of Defence officials based in our Embassy in Tel Aviv have also raised this particular case with the Israeli International Cooperation Unit. In instances where there have been accusations of excessive use of force, we continue to advocate swift, transparent investigations.

We repeatedly call on Israel to abide by its obligations under international law and have a regular dialogue with Israel on legal issues relating to the occupation, including the importance of the Israel security forces providing appropriate protection to the Palestinian civilian population.

Private Secretary
Minister to the Middle East and North Africa