



**To whom it may concern;**

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chairman of the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Türkiye, which has been established on 20.04.2016 to operate as national human rights institution, national preventive mechanism and equality body.

As it is well-known, the recent conflicts between Palestine and Israel have resulted in a significant loss of civilian lives and have deeply wounded the global conscience due to the disruption of peace and security in the region. The heavy bombardment of Gaza and the use of disproportionate force have led to a severe humanitarian tragedy in the area.

Undoubtedly, one of the foremost measures to be taken under international humanitarian law is the establishment of humanitarian corridors for the civilian population. The cutting off of essential food, energy, and humanitarian aid to Gaza, as well as the indiscriminate targeting of civilian settlements, constitutes a clear and grave violation of international law.

The Israel-Palestine conflict must be brought to an end as soon as possible before causing further humanitarian disasters. Many innocent civilians are losing their lives in the conflict, and the increase in civilian casualties is of great concern. From a humanitarian law perspective, the primary priority is to ensure the safety of the lives and properties of the civilian population in these conflicts.

Our institution, main mission of which is to protect and promote human rights and monitor international developments in the field of human rights, in line with the basic norms set forth by international human rights law and standards, strongly condemns inhumane treatment such as "collective punishment." We call upon peer national human rights institutions to raise awareness about the protection of civilians in all circumstances and conditions and the need for a fair and expeditious resolution of the issue through diplomatic means.

Respectfully yours,

**Prof. Dr. Muharrem KILIÇ**  
Chairman