

Hamas are deemed terrorists, so the UK arms Israel to bomb Gaza. Sign to help stop the genocide

## **Join the call for removal of Hamas' Political wing from the UK's Proscribed List of Terrorist Bodies**

Dear Home Secretary,

We, the undersigned, are calling for the removal of the Hamas political wing from the Proscribed list. Whilst the military wing was proscribed by Blair's Government of 2001, the political party was only proscribed by your predecessor Priti Patel five years ago, following her secret meetings whilst on holiday in Israel, for which she lost her position. It was passed in parliament without a vote. It is incumbent upon you to help stop the ongoing slow genocide of Palestinians by reversing that decision.

Furthermore, Palestine, as a sovereign state, needs a government: the elected political party of Hamas is part of that government. As such they should not be proscribed; international law guarantees Palestinians the right to resist occupation.

Section 4 of the Terrorism Act 2000 provides "that the organisation or any person affected by a proscription can submit a signed, written application to the Home Secretary requesting that they consider whether a specified organisation should be removed from the list of proscribed organisations". We are all affected by the Hamas proscription, due to the loss of our freedom of speech on Hamas, so our signature on this letter cannot be used against us.

With continuing death and destruction in Gaza, we think we urgently need to re-open communications with the Hamas political party; they are the democratically elected leaders of Palestine. Britain regards the occupation of Palestinian land by Israel as wrong, yet by proscribing Hamas, we exclude those who are suffering from conversations about resolution. As we created Israel, the responsibility to resolve the occupation falls squarely upon us.

Hamas' most recent communiqué of 2017 underlines their commitment to abide by the democratic will of a new Palestine- one that includes their oppressors, on the understanding that they cease their Zionist aspirations. Hamas may seek an Islamic state, but they declare they will abide with the democratic preference of a majority- in an electorate that would include those identifying as Jews. No Jew would be forced to leave a Palestine run by Hamas. Muslim lands have always- and still do- welcome Jews, as "people of the book".

In 2006 the Palestinians appointed Hamas to lead them; note that the Palestine Authority rejects Hamas' annual calls for fresh elections. Furthermore, it is especially important we can communicate with Hamas, now that we recognise the state of Palestine. (Note that if Sinn Fein had been unable to communicate with our Government, then the troubles in Northern Ireland might still be ongoing.) If the situation in Gaza continues as it is at present, there may well be no Palestinians left there.

I declare that because we so recently proscribed Hamas as a political party, we leave Gazans without a voice. That decision must be reversed.

Sign at [www.tiny.cc/hamas](http://www.tiny.cc/hamas)

*Petition promoted by One Democratic Palestine.*

*The first tranche of 1410 signatures was delivered to Downing St in Jan 2024; make sure you're in the second tranche. This petition supports the Riverways Law de-proscription bid of 2025.*

More than a quarter of British students consider the Hamas attacks of Oct 7<sup>th</sup> to be "defensible"

Many of the Israeli deaths of Oct 7<sup>th</sup> were due to the IDF, under their Hannibal "no hostages" directive

Britain's Muslim police body (NAMP) defends Hamas and labels IDF "a terrorist group"