

ISRAELI SANCTIONS ARE LEGAL AND REASONABLE

- Imposing economic sanctions is a perfectly reasonable and legal means of responding to acts of hostility by a foreign country. Israel is under no legal obligation to engage in trade with Gaza, or to maintain open borders, and it is fully entitled to withhold commercial items and seal its borders at its discretion.
- Israel has responded with exceptional restraint to the extensive commission of war crimes and acts of terrorism by the Palestinians. In conformity with the requirements of international law, it has focused its efforts on bringing Palestinian war criminals and terrorists to justice, preventing genocidal attacks on its citizens and blocking the funding of Palestinian terrorist groups and those complicit with them.
- It is false to claim that, since Gaza is an “occupied territory” Israel, as the “occupier”, is duty-bound to provide for the basic needs of its population. The Fourth Geneva Convention defines as occupied a territory in which the occupier “exercises the functions of government”. This is not the case in Gaza, which has been completely self-governing since Israel’s withdrawal in mid-2005.