

Submission sheet

Individuals, groups and organizations wishing to submit information and documentation to the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel (hereafter the “COI”) are kindly asked to fill in this sheet with any information they are able to provide, and attach it to their submissions.

It is not a requirement to provide all requested information if not available, though particular attention should be given to filling in the section on consent.

Unless indicated otherwise in the form, the COI will consider all materials received to be usable in its reports, but without attribution as to the source

Name of submitting individual/entity	The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA)
Contact of submitting individual/entity	Email(s): tomerila@gmail.com Telephone/WhatsApp/Signal/Other: Web Address: Agree to be contacted by the COI: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Relationship of submitting entity/individual to the alleged victim/s	The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs is a leading independent research institute specializing in public diplomacy and foreign policy. Founded in 1976, the Center has produced hundreds of studies and initiatives by leading experts on a wide range of strategic topics. The Center is headed by Amb. Dore Gold, former Israeli ambassador to the UN and director-general of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Human rights violation/s or abuses alleged to have occurred	The JCPA hereby submits a report detailing one of the War Crimes committed by Hamas – the use of child soldiers. As detailed in JCPA Submission #3 to COI-OPTEJI, Hamas committed numerous war crimes during the 2021 Gaza war. This submission details the crime of use of child soldiers by Hamas. Hamas’ indoctrination of children is cruel and inhumane, stripping these children of their childhood and naïveté. Moreover, it violates international humanitarian law as well. The 2007 Paris “Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups” ¹¹ define a “child soldier” as any person below the age of 18 who has been recruited or used by an armed group in any capacity, not just a child who has

taken direct action in hostilities. By this internationally accepted definition, Palestinian children in Hamas' summer camps and those brainwashed by armed groups through other media, all fit into the category of "child soldiers." Both the use of child soldiers and the indoctrination of youth by Hamas violate international human rights laws, including the following:

The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court¹² stipulates:

- Article 8(b)(xxvi) considers the conscription or enlisting of children into the armed forces a war crime.

The 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child¹³ includes:

- Articles 28 and 29, which refer to the right of the child to an education.
- Article 36, which protects the child against all forms of exploitation.
- Article 38(2) prohibits children under the age of 15 from directly engaging in hostilities.

The 2000 Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict "exists to strive for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child."¹⁴

- Article 1 prohibits the conscription of children under 18 into the armed forces.

Please see the full report: <https://jcpa.org/hamas-summer-indoctrination-camps-for-50000-children/>

Violations of the laws and customs of war (international humanitarian law)	
Date/s of incident/time period	
Place of incident	Village/township/city: Province:
Name/s of alleged victim/s gender, age	Name: Gender: Age: Father's name: Nationality: Profession: Phone number/email: Address:
Identification of those allegedly responsible	Name of alleged perpetrator if known: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hamas Chief of the Political Bureau Ismail Haniyeh 2. Hamas Deputy Chief of the Political Bureau - Mousa Abu Marzouq and Khaled Mashal 3. Yahya Sinwar, leader of Hamas in the Gaza Strip 4. Mohammed Deif born Mohammed Diab Ibrahim al-Masri, chief of staff and supreme military commander of Hamas' Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades <p>State or non-state entity with which perpetrator is affiliated, if any: Hamas</p> <p>Any identifying marks of the perpetrator which indicate their affiliation, such as the colour or pattern of their uniform and uniform's insignia:</p>
Description of the incident(s)/allegations (2000-word limit)	
Description of the State's response, (500-word limit)	Indicate whether the incident was reported to the authorities: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, which authorities: Information on any investigations, judicial processes, decision/judgements and sentences, including reparations, in response to the incident:
Methodology employed in the collection of information	Please provide a description of the methodology employed in the collection of the information shared- primary, secondary sources, means of verification, etc., along with how informed consent was gained from the information provider. If needed, attach a copy of the relevant standard operating procedures followed.

<p>Consent</p>	<p>Please indicate whether you, the person submitting the information, agree to the following use of the information by the COI with or without personally identifiable data:</p> <p><u>INFORMED CONSENT TO USE THE INFORMATION:</u></p> <p>1. Use internally and publicly (e.g. public report, press release), with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p>2. Use internally only (within the COI), with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p><u>INFORMED CONSENT TO SHARE THE INFORMATION:</u></p> <p>1. Raise the case with national authorities, courts or accountability mechanisms that respect international standards (including due process) with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p>2. Share info with national human rights institutions, with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p>3. Refer to national or international organizations (including UN human rights mechanisms and other UN entities) providing victim assistance (e.g. ICRC, medical, legal), with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p>5. Share info with international and regional courts – including the International Criminal Court (ICC) -, or accountability mechanisms of other States that respect international standards (including due process) with <input type="checkbox"/> without <input type="checkbox"/> personally identifiable data. Agree</p> <p><u>Additional Details on Consent:</u></p> <p>Please indicate if consent to provide this information to the CoI has been received from the alleged victims (any consent given must be provided by the victim or by relatives or legal representatives on their behalf, or by a parent/legal guardian in case of a child) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>; consent provided by: _____</p> <p>If necessary, please explain:</p>
<p>Description of any broader issues not related to specific violations (2000-word limit)</p>	<p>Description should be succinct, highlighting issues of relevance to the mandate of the COI, and include concrete examples whenever possible.</p> <p>Please also include information on the impact of these violations, as well as age and gender-sensitive considerations (e.g. how these violations affected women and men, girls and boys differently) as relevant.</p>

Any other human rights NGOs to whom you reported the incident	If appropriate, please provide name and contact information of any other person or organization to whom the incident was reported.
Additional materials (documents, images, videos, etc) relevant to the incident(s)/allegation(s)	<p>Please indicate, if you are aware of, or in possession of, any additional materials from other sources (including the media and NGOs) in which the above incident(s)/allegations are cited, that are deemed relevant/useful. The COI may follow-up at a later date in order to receive the material(s) indicated.</p> <p>Date of publication: Published: 28/06/2021</p> <p>Title: Hamas' Summer Indoctrination Camps for 50,000 Children</p> <p>https://jcpa.org/hamas-summer-indoctrination-camps-for-50000-children/</p> <p>Type of material: 1 Document <input type="checkbox"/> (total doc); Image <input type="checkbox"/> (total images); Video <input type="checkbox"/> (total videos); Other (please specify)</p>