

L4SI Replies to Request to Federal Court to Fast Track Gaza Visa Applicants

Lawyers for Secure Immigration (L4SI) reaffirms the importance of thorough security vetting for Palestinian applicants seeking entry into Canada.

A group of lawyers have recently petitioned the Federal Court of Canada 1 to expedite litigation aimed at facilitating the entry of Palestinians from Gaza on humanitarian grounds. While these efforts are rooted in compassion and urgent humanitarian concerns, they highlight the critical need to balance humanitarian protection with Canada's national security obligations.

Given the ongoing conflict in Gaza and the presence of Hamas, an organization listed as a terrorist entity under Canadian law, rigorous, case-by-case security vetting must be applied to every Palestinian applicant seeking temporary residence in Canada.

The US State Department issued a statement on August 16, 2025, announcing their decision to temporarily suspend its own Gazans visitor visa program pending a full review of the processes and procedures. In February 2025, L4SI called on the Government of Canada to do the same.

Canada has a responsibility to ensure that its immigration and refugee processes and procedures are conducted with the highest regard for public safety. This is essential because, in such a complex environment, individuals may be associated with Hamas or affiliated terrorist groups either directly or indirectly. Robust screening is not a matter of discrimination, but a matter of national security and public trust.

Timely processing of all applications must be balanced with rigorous security vetting to protect Canadians

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¹ https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/canadian-families-of-gazans-seek-to-fast-trackresettlement-case-fearing-loved-ones-may-die/article 1c1f4d8c-036e-4856-bbd9-719fbf21622d.html