

# Baby Killers: The State of Israel, Its Patrons, and the Industrialized Slaughter of Children

By [Laala Bechetoula](#)  
Global Research, April 20, 2026

Region: Middle East & North Africa  
Theme: Law and Justice, United Nations  
In-depth Report: PALESTINE, THE WAR ON LEBANON

Translate Website

Share < 49 Tweet < 7 Email < 26 Share < 84



*They were not collateral damage. They were the target. And we knew. And we watched. And we supplied the weapons. And we vetoed the resolutions. And we called it self-defense. — The Verdict History Will Record*

To read this article in the following languages, click the [Translate Website](#) button below the author's name.

Hebrew, Farsi, Русский, Español, Portugues, عربي, 中文, Français, Deutsch, Italiano, 日本語, 한국어, Türkçe, Српски. And 40 more languages.

## The Confession Nobody Made

Let us begin with the one sentence that every Western foreign minister, every White House spokesman, every European Union spokesperson has refused to utter in 18 months of slaughter:

Israel is killing children. Deliberately. Systematically. With our weapons. With our money. With our diplomatic cover. And we are letting it happen.

That is the sentence. It is not propaganda. It is not antisemitism. It is not a conspiracy theory circulated on fringe websites. It is the documented, verified, cross-referenced conclusion of UNICEF, the World Health Organization, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the International Court of Justice, The Lancet, and — since January 2026 — Israeli military sources themselves, who finally accepted the Gaza Ministry of Health's death count.

More than 21,289 children confirmed killed in Gaza since October 7, 2023. More than 44,500 children injured, many permanently. More than 172 children killed in Lebanon in six weeks of renewed war. At least 254 children killed in Iran since February 28, 2026, including more than 165 schoolgirls killed in a single strike on the Shajareh Tayyebah girls' elementary school in Minab. More than 50,000 children killed or injured across the region in less than thirty months.

This is not war. This is not self-defense. This is not a tragic but unavoidable byproduct of complex military operations in densely populated areas. This is the systematic, industrial-scale extermination of Arab children, underwritten by the United States of America, enabled by the cowardice of

Europe, and executed by the state of Israel with a precision and consistency that leave no room for the word 'accident.'

This text will not be diplomatic. Diplomacy, in the face of what has been committed, is obscurity.

## Before the Lie of October 7th: The Long Record

The story that Israel and its Western sponsors tell begins on October 7, 2023. In their telling, a civilized, democratic state — a beacon of Western values in a turbulent region — was attacked without warning by savage terrorists, and responded, regrettably but necessarily, with military force. Everything that came before is erased. Everything that happened after is justified.

This is a lie of such magnitude that to call it propaganda is to be too kind. It is the deliberate manufacture of historical amnesia in the service of genocide.

Here is what was happening before October 7:

Between September 2000 and October 2023, Israeli forces killed more than 2,171 Palestinian children. Not in a single operation. Not in a war with a beginning and an end. Continuously. Routinely. As a feature, not a bug, of military occupation. In the West Bank, in Gaza, in East Jerusalem — one child per week, year after year, decade after decade, each killing investigated by no one, prosecuted by no one, punished by no one.

Operation Cast Lead, December 2008 to January 2009: 22 days, 1,383 Palestinians killed, 333 of them children. Isra' Qusay al-Habbash, 13, and her cousin Shadha, 10, were killed by a missile while playing on the roof of their home in Gaza City. They were not fighters. They were children on a roof. The UN Fact Finding Mission concluded the operation was 'a deliberately disproportionate attack designed to punish, humiliate and terrorize a civilian population.' The highest sentence imposed on any Israeli soldier for the entirety of Operation Cast Lead's crimes was seven and

a half months — for stealing a credit card.



Damage to the Zeitoun neighbourhood (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Operation Protective Edge, July to August 2014: 50 days, 551 children killed, 3,436 children injured, more than 1,000 permanently disabled, more than 1,500 orphaned. Of the 180 youngest victims — babies, toddlers, children under six — not one was a combatant. In two days alone — what became known as Black Friday — Israeli forces killed 207 people in Rafah, including 64 children. The B'Tselem investigation found that not a single senior commander faced any legal consequence.

Between 2015 and 2022, the United Nations attributed over 8,700 child casualties to Israeli forces. During the same years, the UN Secretary-General's annual 'list of shame' — which names military forces that fail to protect children and requires them to create action plans — systematically excluded Israel. Forces that killed far fewer children were listed. Israel was not. Not once in eight years.

In the first nine months of 2023 alone — before a single rocket fell on October 7 — 38 Palestinian children had been killed by Israeli forces in the West Bank, making it the deadliest year on record for Palestinian children there. Save the Children said so. UNICEF said so. OCHA said so.

October 7 did not create this reality. It punctuated it. And the world's response — to arm the perpetrator, shield it from accountability, and call the escalation 'self-defense' — is the most morally catastrophic political decision of the twenty-first century.

## The Taxonomy of Killing

Let us be precise. The killing of Palestinian children takes multiple forms, each documented, each systematic, each carrying the fingerprints of deliberate policy.

By bombs.

One child every 15 minutes during the first weeks of October 2023. More than one hundred children killed per day at the peak of the campaign. By September 2025, at least 19,424 children reported killed. By February 2026, 21,289 confirmed. These are children struck in their homes, in their schools, in hospitals, in shelters, in UNRWA facilities explicitly marked with UN coordinates shared with the Israeli military in advance. Israeli forces bombed them anyway.

By starvation.

Israel imposed a blockade that reduced 2.3 million people to surviving on 245 calories per day — less than a 12th of the minimum human requirement. The residents ate grass, wild herbs, contaminated water. More than 54,600 children were acutely malnourished by August 2025. Jinan Iskafi was four months old when she died on May 3, 2025. She died of marasmus — severe protein-energy malnutrition — because the specialized infant formula she needed was blocked at the border by Israeli military decision. She had four months of life. She was murdered by a blockade.

Amnesty International reviewed her medical records.

Human Rights Watch documented the blockade mechanism.

Oxfam named it: 'Israel is making deliberate choices to starve civilians.'

The UN Special Committee confirmed it meets the legal definition of using starvation as a weapon of war — a crime under the Rome Statute.

The ICC has jurisdiction. It has not acted.



Source

By amputation.

By June 2024, doctors in Gaza estimated 3,000 children had lost one or more limbs.

By January 2025, UNICEF counted 4,000 child amputees. The WHO coordinator cautioned that some amputations were unnecessary — performed not because they were medically required but because hospitals lacked the equipment and expertise for more precise care, and because there was no time: the next wave of casualties was already arriving.

Children losing legs, arms, hands, eyes — not because any weapon had to hit them, but because a blockade ensured the instruments needed to save them did not exist.

By imprisonment and torture.

Since 1967, more than 55,500 Palestinian children have been arrested by Israeli forces. Since October 7, 2023, more than 1,700 in the West Bank alone. As of December 2025, 351 children detained in Israeli prisons — 180 of them, or 51 percent, held without charge, without trial, on the basis of scant evidence, renewable indefinitely. Israel refused the International Committee of the Red Cross access to any Palestinian detainees since

or secret evidence renewable indefinitely. Israel refused the international Committee of the Red Cross access to any Palestinian detainee since October 7, 2023. A 2023 Save the Children report found that 86 percent of detained Palestinian children were beaten; 69 percent strip-searched; 60 percent placed in solitary confinement; 68 percent denied medical care. Waleed Ahmed, 17 years old, died in an Israeli prison in March 2025. An Israeli judge concluded he had likely been starved to death. In prison. In 2025. In a state that calls itself a democracy.



Source

By psychological annihilation.

By August 2024, an estimated 19,000 children had lost one or both parents. By early 2026, more than 58,000. Within displacement camps that had themselves been bombed repeatedly, 70 percent of children showed clinical signs of psychological distress: sleep disorders, dissociation, uncontrolled terror. The term used by aid workers — WCNSF, 'Wounded Child No Surviving Family' — entered the medical lexicon in November 2023. It describes a child who has been physically injured, has lost every member of their family, and now exists in a condition for which no humanitarian protocol was designed, because no one had imagined a war that produced this outcome at this scale.

These are not the byproducts of war. They are its architecture.

### **The Names That Judgment Demands**

Statistics are the language of bureaucracies. Names are the language of justice. Here are some of the names.

Jinan Iskafi. Four months old. Gaza. Died May 3, 2025, of marasmus caused by blockade-induced formula shortage. Medical records reviewed by Amnesty International.

Abdelaziz. Born premature at Kamal Adwan Hospital, February 24, 2024. His mother had survived on legumes and canned food. He was placed on a hospital ventilator. The ventilator stopped when the hospital ran out of fuel. His father kept his death certificate. He died within hours of birth.

Nour al-Huda. Eleven years old. Cystic fibrosis. Admitted to Kamal Adwan Hospital March 15, 2024, with malnutrition, dehydration, lung infection. Her mother told Human Rights Watch: 'I can see her chest bones sticking out.'

Laila Khatib. Two years old. Shot dead in the bedroom of her house in Jenin by Israeli sniper fire during Operation Iron Wall, January 25, 2025. She is the youngest named fatality in the UN Human Rights Office report of October 2025.

Rida Ali Ahmed Bisharat. Eight years old. Hamza Ammar Ahmed Bisharat, ten years old. Brothers. Killed January 8, 2025, in their family courtyard in Tammun, Tubas, by an Israeli air-to-ground missile. They were unarmed. The Israeli military later admitted it had not verified who the victims were before firing.

Waleed Ahmed. Seventeen years old. Died in Israeli detention, March 2025. An Israeli judge concluded he was likely starved to death.

Jawad Younes. Eleven years old, Saksakieh, south Lebanon. He had just walked his four-year-old brother Mehdi home from their football game because the little one was tired. He returned to the game. An Israeli strike hit his uncle's house. His mother said: 'My heart told me.' He was killed on March 27, 2026.

Zeinab al-Jabali. Ten years old. Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. Killed March 5, 2026, while helping prepare iftar during Ramadan. In 1982, her father's brother—also ten years old—was killed by an Israeli missile in the same country.

The schoolgirls of Minab. At least 165 people killed when an Israeli strike hit the Shajareh Tayyebah girls' elementary school in Minab, Iran, on February 28, 2026. Most were children. Iranian Foreign Minister Araghchi shared their photograph. The school's name means 'The Good Tree.'

The children of the al-Najjar family. Nine children killed in Khan Younis, May 2025. All under 10 years old. Killed from the rubble of their home.

The children of the al-Najjar family. Nine siblings killed in Khan Younis, May 2025. All under 12 years old. Pulled from the rubble of their home. One survived, with critical injuries.

These are ten names from a register that contains more than twenty-one thousand. Each one had a name before they became a number. History demands we say their names. History also demands we name those responsible.

## **The Geography of Impunity Expands: Lebanon, Iran**

Gaza was the laboratory. Lebanon is the replication. Iran is the escalation. The doctrine moves across borders with the consistency of a policy, not the chaos of a war.

In Lebanon, since March 2, 2026: 172 children killed, 600 children killed or injured, nearly 390,000 children displaced. Israeli forces have struck homes far from any front line, in religiously mixed neighborhoods considered safe, in apartment buildings with no military presence, without warning, in the early hours of the morning, during Ramadan, during iftar, while families ate together. When asked, the Israeli military did not deny that children were killed. It said it had targeted 'Hezbollah facilities.' It provided no evidence. It named no targets. It faces no consequences.

In Iran, since February 28, 2026: at least 254 children confirmed killed in US-Israeli strikes, according to the human rights organization HRANA. Total civilian death toll in Iran: 1,701. An analysis by BBC Verify confirmed that US Precision Strike Missiles struck residential buildings and a sports hall in the town of Lamerd, killing 21 people including 4 children. At least 65 schools were hit across Iran. At least 14 medical centers. More than 5,500 residential units. An internal American military investigation into the Minab girls' school massacre acknowledged the strike resulted from 'outdated targeting data.' That is what the United States calls 165 dead schoolgirls: outdated targeting data.

Netanyahu, as the Islamabad ceasefire with Iran held, announced publicly that Lebanon was 'not part of the ceasefire' and continued bombing it for a 45th consecutive day. He said this openly. Without shame. Because he has never been given a reason to feel shame.

The pattern is not a coincidence. It is a doctrine: kill enough children, in enough countries, with enough consistency, that the world eventually accepts child-killing as a permanent feature of the Middle Eastern landscape — as natural as weather, as inevitable as geography. The babies of Gaza, the schoolgirls of Minab, the footballers of Saksakieh: all reduced to a category called 'the cost of regional security.'

Security for whom?

## **Trump, America, and the Business of Killing Children**

Donald Trump re-entered the White House in January 2025 with a promise to end wars. He ended none. He started one: the war on Iran, launched jointly with Israel on February 28, 2026, in which US Tomahawk missiles and Precision Strike Missiles struck Iranian cities, killing children in schools and civilians at Ramadan iftar gatherings. Trump called it an effort to 'induce regime change.' He called Iran's supreme leadership a regime that 'oppresses its people.' He said the Iranian people deserved freedom.

The schoolgirls of Minab were Iranian people. They did not receive freedom. They received a US missile. One hundred and sixty-five of them.

Trump sent \$3.8 billion in annual military aid to Israel when he re-entered office. He accelerated weapons transfers paused by the Biden administration. He moved the US Embassy to Jerusalem. He recognized Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights. He endorsed the annexation of the West Bank. He vetoed UN Security Council ceasefire resolutions. He blocked ICC jurisdiction over Israeli officials. He called Benjamin Netanyahu 'the greatest leader in the history of Israel.' He attended no funeral of any Palestinian child.

The United States has for three decades been the primary financial sponsor, the primary arms supplier, the primary diplomatic shield, and the primary propagandist of the Israeli state. Every bomb dropped on a Gazan school carries an American serial number. Every missile that struck a Lebanese apartment building was paid for by American taxpayers. Every veto that prevented a UN ceasefire resolution was cast by an American diplomat with full knowledge of what their veto permitted to continue. This is not allegation. This is accounting.

99 American healthcare workers who had served in Gaza wrote to President Biden in October 2024 to state that, using standard food security metrics, at least 62,413 deaths in Gaza had resulted from starvation — most of them young children — and at least 5,000 from lack of access to care for chronic diseases. They wrote to the President of the United States. He did not respond by changing policy. He sent more weapons.

America does not merely support Israel. America is Israel's operational partner in the killing of children. The distinction between the two governments, in the context of Palestinian child mortality, is a distinction without a difference.

And Trump, who rode to power a second time on the promise of being the man who would speak truth no one else dared speak, who styled himself the enemy of the corrupt establishment, who claimed to represent forgotten working people against a global elite: this is the man who chose, as the crowning achievement of his Middle East policy, to bomb a girls' school in southern Iran and send more money to a government that starves babies in Gaza. The hypocrisy is not incidental. It is the product.

## **Europe's Comfortable Cowardice**

If America is the armed accomplice, Europe is the well-dressed bystander who watched the crime, checked that no one was looking, and went home to dinner.

European governments have, since October 2023, issued statements of concern. They have expressed deep worry. They have called for humanitarian pauses. They have voted for non-binding UN resolutions. They have sent small amounts of aid that Israel has blocked at the border. They have attended conferences where they discussed the situation with grave faces and empty hands. And then they have continued to export weapons to Israel, renewed trade agreements, invited Israeli officials to their capitals, and allowed their populations to be told, by state-funded

broadcasters, that what was happening in Gaza was a 'conflict between two sides.'

The United Kingdom sold £69 million in arms to Israel in 2023. Germany continued weapons exports for months after October 7. France maintained diplomatic and commercial relations throughout. Italy wavered and continued. The Netherlands was legally ordered by its own courts to halt F-35 component exports to Israel — and found procedural means to delay compliance.

The European Union speaks of its 'rules-based international order' with the fervor of a religion. The rules, it turns out, apply to Russia's invasion of Ukraine with exemplary swiftness and determination. They do not apply to the killing of 21,000 Palestinian children. The order, it turns out, is based on the preservation of Western strategic interests, not on the protection of Arab children's lives.

This double standard is not a flaw in European foreign policy. It is its operating principle. Arab lives have always been valued differently in the calculus of European civilization. The children of Gaza are not sufficiently European for their deaths to constitute a crisis of conscience. They are sufficiently distant, sufficiently brown, sufficiently Muslim, sufficiently Palestinian, to be processed as a 'humanitarian situation requiring a political solution.' Their deaths are a situation. Israeli military needs are a commitment.

What Europe has demonstrated, with crystalline clarity, over these thirty months, is that 'Never Again' — the foundational pledge of post-Holocaust European civilization — was always conditional. It meant: never again to us. It did not mean: never again to anyone. It certainly did not mean: never again, including when the state established in the name of Holocaust survivors is the one doing the killing.

This is not a paradox. It is a policy. And every European foreign minister who has signed another statement of concern while approving another arms license bears personal moral and legal responsibility for what those arms have done to the children of Gaza, Lebanon, and Iran.

## The Ideology of the Killing

It would be comfortable to attribute this to individual actors — a Netanyahu, a Trump, a compliant European foreign minister. It would make the problem manageable: remove the individuals, change the policy. But the killing of Palestinian children is not a personal aberration. It is the product of a coherent ideological system, and that system must be named.

Israeli settler-colonial ideology — in its current, maximalist, governing form — holds that the land between the river and the sea belongs exclusively to the Jewish people, that Palestinian presence on that land is a demographic and security problem to be managed, reduced, and ultimately eliminated, and that the deaths of Palestinian civilians are either justified as collateral damage in the pursuit of legitimate security goals, or dismissed as the responsibility of Hamas for 'using them as human shields.' This framing — every dead child is Hamas's fault — has been repeated with such consistency by Israeli officials, Israeli military spokespeople, and Western governments that it has acquired the status of received wisdom.

Let us examine what it means. It means that when Israeli forces bomb a hospital, it is because Hamas was using it. When they bomb a school, it is because Hamas was hiding there. When they bomb a UN shelter, it is because Hamas tunneled beneath it. When they starve 2.3 million people, it is because Hamas is using food as a weapon. When they shoot a two-year-old in her bedroom in Jenin, it is because Hamas's presence in the West Bank requires a security response. The doctrine of Hamas-as-shield is infinitely elastic: it absorbs every atrocity, explains every massacre, justifies every blockade. It is the ideological perpetual motion machine of impunity.

But there is a clause in international law — a principle so elementary it is taught in the first week of humanitarian law courses — that makes this entire construction irrelevant. It is the principle of proportionality. Even if a military target exists. Even if Hamas is present. Even if there is a legitimate military purpose. It is still illegal to cause civilian harm — including to children — that is disproportionate to the anticipated military gain. Killing 21,000 children to pursue Hamas is disproportionate by any conceivable metric. The ICJ said so in January 2024. The ICC prosecutor said so. Every major human rights organization said so. Israel continued. America vetoed. Europe expressed concern.

And underneath the legal argument lies a moral one that requires no legal training to understand: these are children. They are not abstractions. They are not demographics. They are not security threats. They are Jawad who took his little brother home before his game. They are Zeinab who helped her mother prepare iftar. They are the girls of Minab whose school was called the Good Tree. They are Jinan who needed formula and got a blockade. They are Abdelaziz who needed a ventilator and got a fuel shortage.

The ideology that makes their deaths acceptable — that manufactures the language to process their killing without grief, without rage, without accountability — is not unique to Israel. It is the ideology of all colonial powers throughout history: the idea that some people's children matter more than others. The British in Kenya. The French in Algeria. The Americans in Vietnam. The Belgians in the Congo. The children of the colonized have always been the ones who could be killed without consequence, mourned without international alarm, buried without anyone in the powerful world changing their policy in response.

Gaza is not an exception. It is the latest iteration of the oldest crime. And we are all old enough to know it.

## The Silence That Kills

Alan Kurdi was a Syrian child. He drowned in the Mediterranean on September 2, 2015, along with his mother and brother. A Turkish photojournalist named Nilüfer Demir found his body face-down on the beach near Bodrum, in his red shirt and blue trousers and small sneakers, and she photographed him. The photograph went viral in hours. European leaders wept. Donations to refugee charities surged fifteenfold in twenty-four hours. The image appeared on every front page in the world.

The world paused for one day.

Then it continued.

More than 21,000 Palestinian children have been killed since October 2023. Each one had a face, a name, a pair of sneakers. Their deaths have

been photographed, documented, broadcast, live-streamed, published on every social media platform in the world. The images exist. The evidence is not missing. What is missing is the political will to act on what the images show.

This gap — between witnessing and acting, between knowing and preventing, between seeing and stopping — is not ignorance. It is policy. The Western governments that have watched these images and continued arming Israel have made a choice. They have chosen that the strategic relationship with Israel — its intelligence sharing, its technological collaboration, its role as a military platform in the Middle East, its value as a domestic political asset in elections shaped by pro-Israel lobbying — is worth more than 21,000 Arab children's lives. They have made this calculation explicitly, repeatedly, and with full information.

This is the silence that kills. Not the silence of not knowing. The silence of knowing and choosing to continue.

The doctors who returned from Gaza and spoke to journalists. The UN officials who published reports and were ignored. The legal scholars who argued at The Hague and watched their rulings unenforced. The journalists — some of whom were killed by Israeli strikes while reporting — who produced images and testimony the world saw and the world's governments processed as politically inconvenient. The teachers, nurses, parents, and ordinary citizens across the Global South who watched and felt something that the West's comfortable populations have been carefully insulated from feeling: the visceral understanding that the international system does not protect them. That the rules are not for them. That their children can be killed and the world's powerful will call it complicated.

The UN Secretary-General said in November 2023: 'Gaza is becoming a graveyard for children.' He said it in public, in front of cameras, to the Security Council. Three of its five permanent members continued to arm, shield, or silently enable the state doing the burying.

## **What Is Next: The Expanding Theater of Child Killing**

What is next? — is the most important question of this moment, and the most dangerous one to answer honestly.

The answer, based on the established pattern, is: it continues. It expands. Gaza is the laboratory. Lebanon is the application. Iran is the escalation. The next theater is already visible.

The West Bank, where annexation proceeds daily, where 224 Palestinian children have been killed since January 2023 — nearly half of all child killings recorded there since records began in 2005. Where a 20-fold increase in the use of airstrikes has occurred since October 2023, in a territory which, under international humanitarian law, is not an armed conflict zone. Where Israeli settlers, armed and protected by the state, attack Palestinian villages with the frequency and impunity of a colonial militia, because that is what they are.

Syria, where Israeli strikes on civilian infrastructure have resumed. Yemen, where US-Israeli military operations have killed civilians alongside Houthi fighters. The expanding geography of a project that has never been about Hamas, never been about October 7, never been about security. It has always been about land, and about who is permitted to live on it, and about whose children are considered human enough to mourn.

The lesson being taught right now to the governments of the Global South — to every country watching from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Arab world — is this: the international system will not protect you. The ICC will not prosecute the powerful. The UN Security Council will be vetoed. The ICJ will be ignored. The arms will keep flowing. The children will keep dying. The statements of concern will keep being issued. And nothing will change.

This lesson, once learned, will not produce the stable, rules-based world order that Western governments claim to want. It will produce the opposite: a world in which every state that can acquire nuclear weapons will do so, because those are the only ones that cannot be bombed with impunity; a world in which international institutions are understood to be instruments of Western power and treated accordingly; a world in which the children killed in Gaza, Minab, Saksakieh, and the West Bank are remembered not as a tragedy but as a warning that was not heeded.

What comes next, if nothing changes, is not peace. It is the proliferation of the logic of Gaza: that civilian lives are acceptable costs, that children can be killed if the killer is sufficiently powerful, that law is for the weak, and that the only protection that exists is the protection you build yourself, with weapons that no one can veto.

This is where the silence leads. This is what the arms exports purchase. This is what the UN vetoes enable. Not security. Not stability. The systematic destruction of the idea that human life has equal value regardless of the nationality, religion, or geopolitical position of the body it inhabits.

## **The Indictment**

This is not the conclusion of an article. It is the opening of an indictment. History will complete it. But let the record begin here.

### ***The State of Israel***

For the systematic killing of more than 21,000 children in Gaza since October 2023. For the killing of 172 children in Lebanon in six weeks of renewed war. For the killing of children in Iran including 165 schoolgirls in Minab. For the deliberate use of starvation as a weapon of war, causing the deaths of infants including Jinan Iskafi, four months old. For the amputation of limbs from 4,000 children. For the imprisonment and torture of Palestinian children in military detention facilities, including Waleed Ahmed who was starved to death in March 2025. For 60 years of documented, continuous, systematic killing of Palestinian children with virtual total impunity. For conducting all of the above in the name of a people who were themselves the victims of the worst crime in modern European history, thereby committing the obscenity of weaponizing that history against its own moral logic.

### ***The United States of America***

For providing \$3.8 billion in annual military aid to the executing state. For supplying the bombs, the missiles, the fighter jets, the Precision Strike Missiles that killed schoolgirls in Minab and civilians in Lamerd. For vetoing every UN Security Council resolution that would have imposed a ceasefire. For blocking ICC jurisdiction over Israeli officials. For joining Israel directly in the bombing of Iran on February 28, 2026, and thereby becoming a co-belligerent in the killing of Iranian children. For 99 healthcare workers' testimony about 62,413 starvation deaths ignored. For decades of unconditional diplomatic, financial, and military support that has created and maintained the conditions of impunity in which the killing has been possible.

### **Donald Trump Personally**

For accelerating all of the above upon re-entering office in January 2025. For bombing a girls' school in Iran and calling it a policy. For attending no funeral of any Arab child killed by US weapons, while publicly celebrating the relationship with the government responsible for their deaths.

The European Union and its member states

For continuing arms exports to Israel after October 2023. For issuing statements of concern while signing arms licenses. For applying the principle of international law with exemplary rigor to Russia and with deliberate selectivity to Israel. For the comfortable cowardice of watching 21,000 children die and calling it a situation requiring a political solution.

The United Nations Security Council

For structural complicity in the impunity it was designed to prevent, through the veto mechanism that allows one permanent member to shield its client state from all legal consequence regardless of the scale of the crime.

And to all the others — the think-tankers who wrote the justifications, the broadcasters who called it a conflict, the politicians who said it was complicated, the intellectuals who found nuance in the bombing of schools, the experts who cautioned against rushing to judgment, the diplomats who urged patience while children starved: history is patient too. It has a long memory. And it does not forgive the comfortable.

### **Epilogue: The Register**

The Nuremberg Trials established a precedent that has never been revoked: that individuals bear criminal responsibility for crimes against humanity regardless of the orders they followed, regardless of the political necessity invoked, regardless of the sovereign authority in whose name they acted.

Nuremberg happened because Germany lost. The trials were conducted by the victors. This is the uncomfortable truth about international justice: it is applied by the powerful to the defeated. It has rarely been applied to the powerful themselves.

But history is not finished. The powerful do not always remain powerful. And the register of what has been committed here — the names, the numbers, the photographs, the medical records, the bomb fragments with their serial numbers, the invoices, the diplomatic cables, the vetoes, the arms licenses, the statements of concern issued while children starved — this register exists. It is being compiled. It is being preserved. It is being transmitted to the generations that will come after us with a clarity and a permanence that no political power can erase.

Jawad Younes, 11, was playing football. He took his little brother home. He came back to his game. An Israeli missile killed him.

His name is in the register.

The names of those who sent the missile, who paid for it, who manufactured it, who authorized the transfer, who vetoed the ceasefire, who issued the statement of concern and signed the next arms license: those names are in the register too.

History will read them all together. It will ask: what did you do, when you knew?

And the answer, for most of the world's powerful governments, will be: we watched. We calculated. We continued.

\*

Click the share button below to email/forward this article. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [X](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost Global Research articles with proper attribution.

*Laala Bechetoula is an independent Algerian historian, journalist, and geopolitical analyst. He has been writing on Trump, American hegemony, and the collapse of the international order since 2025. His work appears in Countercurrents, Global Research, Réseau International, Le Quotidien d'Oran, Sri Lanka Guardian, and other international platforms. This article integrates and crowns a corpus of analytical work produced between November 2025 and April 13, 2026.*

*He is a Research Associate of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG).*

### **Sources**

UNICEF State of Palestine Humanitarian Situation Update, February 2026; UNICEF Press Releases, May 2025 & March 2025

WHO Malnutrition Rates Alert, July 2025

UNRWA/The Lancet Gaza Malnutrition Study, October 2025

IPC Famine Review Committee, August 2025

Amnesty International: Operation Cast Lead 2008; Gaza: Evidence of Starvation, July 2005; Israel Daily Channel article, March 2006

Amnesty International: Operation Cast Lead 2009; Gaza: Evidence of Starvation, July 2025; Iran: Beit Shemesn strike, March 2026

Human Rights Watch: Gaza starvation, April 2024; West Bank child killings, 2023

B'Tselem: Operation Protective Edge fatalities 2016; Welcome to Hell, 2024

Defense for Children International – Palestine: child detention statistics 2008–2026

Save the Children: West Bank 2025; Lebanon 2024

UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR): 1,001 Palestinians killed in West Bank, October 2025

International Court of Justice: Provisional Measures, South Africa v. Israel, January 2024

Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRANA): Iran casualties report, April 2026

BBC Verify: PrSM analysis, Lamerd strike

Associated Press: Lebanon children killed investigation, April 15, 2026

Al Jazeera: Minab girls' school, February 28, 2026; Lebanon UNICEF figures, April 2026

Wikipedia: Effect of the Gaza war on children; Palestinian children in Israeli custody; Gaza Strip famine; Casualties of the Gaza war; 2026 Iran war; 2026 Lebanon war; Death of Alan Kurdi

The Lancet: Traumatic injury mortality, Gaza, January 2025

OCHA: Key figures, 2014 hostilities

Brown University Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs: Indirect deaths study, 2024

*Featured image source*

Global Research is a reader-funded media. We do not accept any funding from corporations or governments. Help us stay afloat. Click the image below to make a one-time or recurring donation.



The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © Laala Bechetoula, Global Research, 2026

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Accessibility icons (A+, printer, PDF) and a 'Translate Website' dropdown menu.

Social sharing buttons: Facebook Share (49), Twitter Tweet (7), Email (26), and a general Share button (84).

Articles by:  
**Laala Bechetoula**

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)

Global Research News  
I-BOOKS SERIES  
Countries Index  
Most Popular  
Links  
Contact  
Membership

**Themes**

US NATO War Agenda  
Global Economy  
Crimes against Humanity  
Militarization and WMD

**Geographic Regions**

Militarization and WMD  
Oil and Energy  
Police State & Civil Rights  
Religion

[Online Store](#)

[Militarization and WMD](#)  
[Law and Justice](#)  
[Police State & Civil Rights](#)  
[History](#)  
[9/11 & 'War on Terrorism'](#)  
[Media Disinformation](#)

[Religion](#)  
[Poverty & Social Inequality](#)  
[Science and Medicine](#)  
[United Nations](#)  
[US NATO War Agenda](#)  
[Women's Rights](#)



[Privacy Policy](#)

Copyright © 2005-2026 GlobalResearch.ca