

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 1, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,
N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear President Trump and Secretary Rubio,

We are writing to request that the United States officially recognize a Palestinian state, as this tragic moment has highlighted for the world the long overdue need to recognize Palestinian self-determination.

As we remain focused on the urgent priority of taking concrete steps to achieve a lasting ceasefire and end the man-made mass starvation, forced displacement and holding of hostages in Gaza, we must also recognize the need to meaningfully address the decades-long conflict and injustice underlying these 22 months of horrific war. The Hamas-led October 7, 2023 attacks on Israel and the subsequent Israeli assault made clear that progress toward a just and sustainable resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict cannot be deprioritized. Just as the lives of Palestinians must be immediately protected, so too must their rights as a people and nation urgently be acknowledged and upheld.

We therefore welcome French President Emmanuel Macron's announcement that, in addition to continuing to press for a ceasefire, release of the hostages and a massive humanitarian aid effort in Gaza, France will officially recognize Palestinian statehood in September. We encourage the governments of other countries that have yet to recognize Palestinian statehood, including the United States, to do so as well.

It has long been acknowledged by much of the international community and previous U.S. administrations of both major political parties that a Palestinian state recognized as a full and equal member of the community of nations is necessary to fulfill the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and ensure the state of Israel's survival as the democratic homeland of the Jewish people. International support for this outcome ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is enshrined in multiple UN Security Council Resolutions. With such an outcome opposed by the current Israeli government and actively undermined by its accelerating annexation campaign in the West Bank—as well as open calls by Israeli ministers to annex much if not all of Gaza—meaningful action is necessary to bolster the legitimacy of Palestinian statehood.

As French President Macron made clear, a viable Palestinian state will need to fully recognize Israel and adopt a framework to guarantee Israel's security, including the disarmament of and relinquishing of power by Hamas in order to be broadly embraced by the community of nations. We will need to work closely with the Palestinian people, the Palestinian Authority, our Arab allies, and Israel to make this feasible.

We believe recognizing Palestinian statehood and obligating Palestinian leaders to abide by the international law binding on states and their governments will make that far more achievable and sustainable than decades of statelessness and repression have.

Sincerely,

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