

Call to Israeli soldiers,

You have been told that you are the guarantors of the State of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East.

You are young and your future should be ahead of you.

Your government, led by Mr Netanyahu, is no longer a democratic government, and the orders it gives you in the war of extermination of the Palestinians in Gaza, and even in the West Bank, are opposing humanitarian law as well as international conventions, especially those of Geneva.

On this 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the anniversary of the creation of your very State by the United Nations, listen to the appeal of the Secretary-General of this noble assembly of Nations, Antonio Guterres, to put an end to this offensive against the people of Gaza and to open humanitarian corridors to help the civilian populations who are victims of the blockade imposed by your government.

Your honor as soldier, your conscience as human beings, must compel you to react and refuse to contribute to the perpetration of what the world will call a crime against humanity.

Israeli soldiers, the Portuguese army was able to refuse to continue the colonial occupation of Africa by returning to its barracks in 1975, thus re-establishing democracy in their country. You have the right and the moral obligation to refuse the colonial war against Gaza and the Palestinians. This will be your most honorable contribution to peace, and an example to the whole world, as you will show that you are the defenders of an Israeli democracy ready to coexist with the Palestinian people.

Christiane Hessel, Pierre Galand, Gianni Tognoni, Ronnie Kasrils, Roger Waters, Jean Ziegler.

Pierre Galand, General coordinator of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine, President of the World Organization Against Torture-Europe (OMCT-Europe), Belgian.

Christiane Hessel, Militant for Gaza, Member of the Russel Tribunal on Palestine, France

Ronnie Kasrils, Former Intelligence Minister and Struggle Veteran of South Africa, Member of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine.

Gianni Tognoni, Secretary General, Permanent Peoples Tribunal, Member of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine, Italy

Roger Waters, British singer-songwriter (Pink Floyd), Member of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine.

Jean Ziegler, Professor, Member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Human Rights, Member of the Russell Tribunal on Palestine, Swiss.