

UNHRC Regular Session #59  
Oral Statement under Item #3  
ID with the SR on the Right to Health

**States' Failure to Protect UNRWA Constitutes Complicity in Genocide**

President,

The targeting of the healthcare system, including workers, has been a central policy in the Israeli regime's genocide in the Gaza Strip. At the heart of this campaign are Israeli attacks on UNRWA, which has served as a vital lifeline for Palestinians in Gaza, providing critical health services, aid, and shelter.

UNRWA [reports](#) that in 861 attacks, 317 of its staff members in Gaza have been killed and 311 of its facilities damaged. These material attacks are compounded by the Israeli regime's demonization of the Agency, encouraging its defunding and the laws [banning UNRWA's operations](#) in Palestine. This is magnified by the establishment of the [Gaza Humanitarian Foundation](#), which effectively replaces UNRWA's mandated role with a militarized aid mechanism.

The targeting of the healthcare system, including the incapacitation and replacement of UNRWA, violates the International Court of Justice's [provisional measures](#) against the Israeli regime and constitutes genocide, the weaponization of aid, and grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions. States' failure to act and their direct military and political support for the Israeli regime has enabled these crimes. To end the genocide, dismantle the GHF and fully restore UNRWA's mandate, states must impose military, economic, and diplomatic sanctions against the Israeli regime.

Thank you