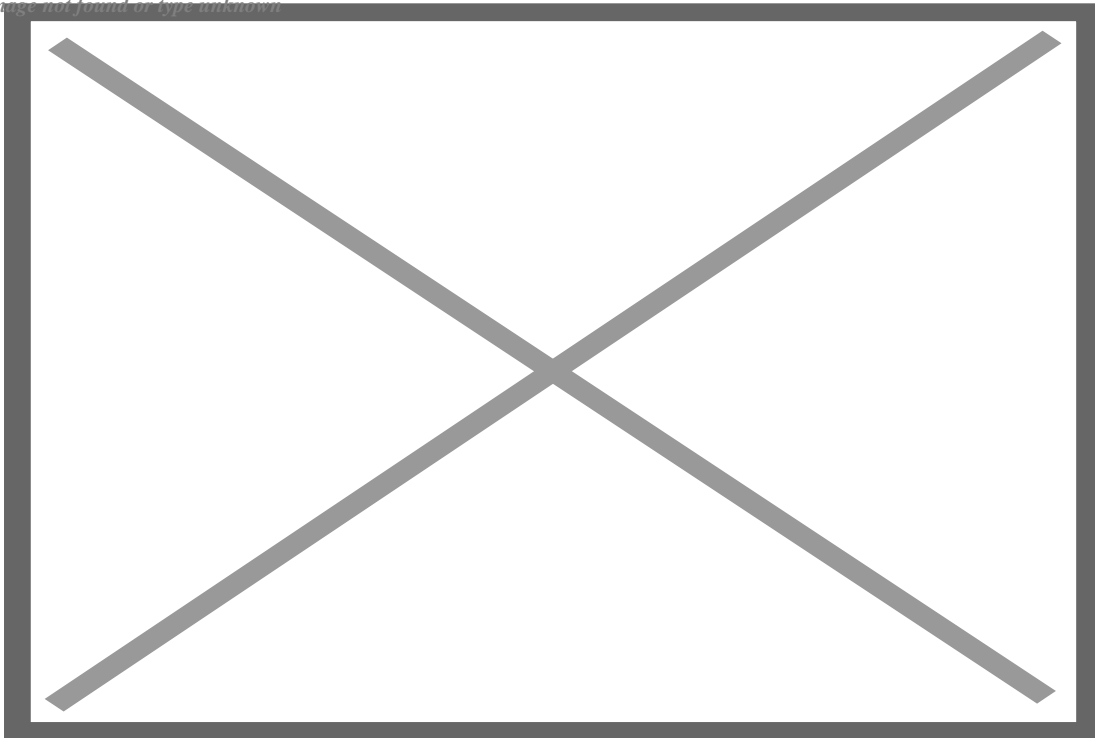


UN aid chief warns of collapse in Gaza humanitarian relief over UNRWA

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Palestinian Health Ministry workers bury the bodies of unidentified Palestinians in a mass grave in southern Gaza after the bodies were returned by Israel on January 30, 2024 [Mohammed Abed/AFP]

Geneva, January 31 (RHC)-- Martin Griffiths, the UN's undersecretary general for humanitarian affairs, has warned that the defunding of the UN's Palestinian refugee agency "would result in the collapse" of the aid system in the Gaza Strip.

The withdrawal of funds from UNRWA – which several mostly Western countries have announced – was "perilous", Griffith said, and would have "far-reaching consequences" in the occupied Palestinian territories and the region.

“The world cannot abandon the people of Gaza,” Griffiths said in a joint statement with other humanitarian organization leaders on Tuesday.

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