

# *Netanyahu's Gaza depopulation remarks are modern blueprint for ethnic cleansing: Euro-Med*

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Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on an UNRWA school sheltering displaced

Geneva, May 12 (RHC)-- An independent international human rights organization has vehemently denounced the latest remarks by Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu on demolition of Gaza and displacement of its population as a “modern blueprint for ethnic cleansing.” Netanyahu said recently that the Tel Aviv regime “will continue destroying homes in Gaza until Palestinians are left without shelter, with no option but to leave.”

The Geneva-based Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, in a statement released on Sunday, said the comments mark yet another official admission from the top political authority in the Zionist entity, confirming a “deliberate” scheme aimed at uprooting a whole population through the systematic eradication of their means of survival.

Euro-Med emphasized that Netanyahu's statements go against the reasons the regime provides for its military campaign against Hamas or any other Gaza-based resistance group, revealing that the declared aim is the forced displacement of Palestinian civilians.

The organization characterized the statements as a contemporary manifestation of ethnic cleansing occurring openly, saying the options facing Palestinians are grim: face death or endure forced expulsion. Even more concerning is that the barrier identified by Netanyahu is not international law, but rather the practical difficulties in locating nations prepared to accept the displaced individuals, it added.

The Euro-Med outlined what it called a clear roadmap of the crime in progress, which it said is, “Demolish homes, choke the crossings, terrorize and starve the population — then impose exile as the only path forward.”

The rights group stated that Israel's policy is not for the sake of security; rather “it is a comprehensive act of forced displacement, utilized as a mechanism within a larger crime of genocide that has persisted for the last 19 months.”

The Israeli military resumed bombardment of Gaza on March 18, killing thousands of Palestinians, and injuring many others, after it shattered the 2-month ceasefire agreement with the Palestinian group Hamas and the deal on the exchange of Israeli captives with Palestinian abductees.

At least 52,829 Palestinians have been killed, mostly women and children, and another 119,554 individuals injured in the brutal Israeli military onslaught on Gaza since October 7, 2023.

The International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants last November for Netanyahu and former Israeli minister of military affairs Yoav Gallant, citing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza. Israel also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice for its war on the besieged coastal territory.

[ SOURCE: REUTERS and NEWS AGENCIES ]



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