

# *French president calls establishment of a Palestinian state a moral duty and a political necessity*

---



Five-year-old Palestinian child Osama al-Raqab, who is suffering from severe malnutrition

**receives treatment at Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza Strip, 26 May 2025.**  
**The Government Media Office in Gaza reported on 24 May that at least 58 people died due to malnutrition, and 242 others due to a lack of food and medicine since 02 March 2025, when Israel closed border crossings, preventing the entry of essential supplies. EPA-EFE/HAITHAM IMAD**

Paris, May 31 (RHC)-- French President Emmanuel Macron has warned that his country could “apply sanctions” against Israelis unless the government in Tel Aviv responds to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Speaking during a visit to Singapore on Friday, Macron said the international community could not remain passive while Palestinians in Gaza face a deepening hunger crisis. The comments raise further the international pressure building on Israel, which has blockaded the Palestinian enclave for close to three months, with aid agencies warning of famine.

“The humanitarian blockade is creating a situation that is untenable on the ground,” Macron said at a joint news conference alongside Singapore’s Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. “If there is no response in the coming hours and days in line with the humanitarian situation, we will have to harden our collective position,” he added, suggesting that France may consider applying sanctions against Israeli settlers.

Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs lashed out later in the day, saying, “The facts do not interest Macron.” The ministry claimed that there was no humanitarian blockade on Gaza and that asserting the contrary was “a blatant lie”, despite UN top officials and international organisations having repeatedly stated that Israel has blockaded all entry of aid since March 2nd.

Israel recently said it was bowing to international pressure and would allow “minimal” supplies of food and medicine into Gaza, on which it continues to wage an intense military assault.

However, the trickle of aid entering the strip under the control of a new, shadowy NGO backed by Israel and the United States has been accompanied by intensive bombardment and the shooting of Palestinians desperately trying to reach aid distribution points.

In his comments, Macron called for an end to assumptions that Israel is respecting human rights. “But I still hope that the government of Israel will change its stance and that we will finally have a humanitarian response,” he added.

The French leader also stressed that recognition of a Palestinian state is “not only a moral duty, but a political necessity,” although he added that its establishment would need to come under specific conditions.

His remarks followed a joint statement earlier in the week with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto condemning any Israeli plans to seize control of Gaza or expel its population.

Paris is hoping to rally momentum for a conditional recognition of Palestinian statehood, which would require, among other things, the demilitarisation of Hamas.

French officials are weighing up the move before a United Nations conference, which France and Saudi Arabia are co-hosting between June 17-20, to lay out the parameters for a roadmap to a Palestinian state, while ensuring Israel’s security.

However, some diplomats and experts suggest that such moves would infuriate Israel and deepen Western splits.

Despite some aid starting to trickle into Gaza after the Israeli blockade, the humanitarian crisis remains dire. Experts warn that one in five people faces imminent starvation.

The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), a private initiative supported by the United States and Israel, expanded its relief operations on Thursday. But the group's efforts have been widely condemned by the United Nations and other agencies as insufficient, poorly managed and not adhering to humanitarian principles.

GHF centres have become sites of chaos, violence, and desperation, with scenes of disorder running through the week as huge numbers of hungry people have overwhelmed security forces at distribution points.

An Al Jazeera correspondent in Gaza reported on Friday that several people were wounded by Israeli army gunfire in the centre of the enclave as they tried to reach an aid distribution point set up by GHF.

UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, said on Friday that it was prepared to deliver supplies – including food parcels, hygiene kits and medical aid – from its warehouses in Amman, just a few hours' drive from Gaza, if allowed access.

Meanwhile, talks over a ceasefire in Israel's war with the Palestinian armed group Hamas continue, with the U.S. having put forward a new proposal. Hamas has said the proposal is "still under discussion", but in its current form would only result in "the continuation of killing and famine" in Gaza.

[ SOURCE: AL JAZEERA and EPA-EFE ]

---

<https://www.radiohc.cu/en/noticias/internacionales/383917-french-president-calls-establishment-of-a-palestinian-state-a-moral-duty-and-a-political-necessity>



**Radio Habana Cuba**