





October 2, 2024

Statement on the Ongoing Situation in Lebanon, Gaza and Israel

I am deeply concerned by the ongoing escalation of <u>conflict and violence between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon</u>, and the ongoing war in Gaza. It's time for the violence to end. It's heartbreaking to see the spread of the conflict in Lebanon – the people of Lebanon deserve to live in peace and security.

I continue to call for an immediate halt to the attacks from all sides involved as a path toward a peaceful resolution and to avoid further human casualties. Just recently, thousands of residents in northern Israel have been displaced because of attacks by Hezbollah. Further, over 90,000 Lebanese have been newly displaced and hundreds of Lebanese civilians have been killed due to Israeli airstrikes.

At this juncture, global leadership matters more than ever. While a two-state solution remains the goal, immediate action is required ahead of negotiations. According to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, neither Hamas nor Israel appears to be interested in implementing a ceasefire. I believe international leaders must come together to act. We need bold solutions that will create a safe, independent, and prosperous Palestine and a safe, independent, and prosperous Israel.

<u>I support a two-way arms embargo</u> to prevent further loss of innocent lives. To achieve this, the <u>Government of Canada has already prohibited any Canadian-made weapons from reaching Gaza and Israel</u>.

To de-escalate the conflict now, an immediate ceasefire is necessary. We need to ensure the release of all remaining hostages and allow critical medical and humanitarian assistance into Gaza to help the innocent Palestinian civilians who are unable to escape to safety. Canada has been able to successfully deliver Polio vaccines into Gaza – we know it is possible to deliver more humanitarian aid. Concrete action can save lives and ensure support is provided to those who desperately need it.

Here in Canada, I continue to denounce, in the strongest possible terms, all forms of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and discrimination of any kind. Our diversity is one of our greatest strengths, and we must stand united against hate and violence.

Sincerely,

Julie Dzerowicz Member of Parliament – Davenport