

31st October 2023

A&S DEFENCE STATEMENT

The Unite Executive Committee members for the Aerospace and Shipbuilding sector and its lead defence convenors and reps condemn the massacre of Israeli civilians by Hamas on the 7th of October 2023.

We also concur with the United Nations Secretary General António Guterres, who on Tuesday 24th of October 2023 said the bombardment and blockade of Gaza amounted to the “collective punishment of the Palestinian people” and violated international law. The Secretary General also said the attack on Israel did not happen “in a vacuum” and followed “56 years of suffocating occupation” for the Palestinian people by Israel, adding “They have seen their land steadily devoured by settlements and plagued by violence; their economy stifled; their people displaced, and their homes demolished. Their hopes for a political solution to their plight have been vanishing.”

We call for an immediate ceasefire, the release of all hostages in Gaza, an end to the Israeli blockade and international aid to Gaza with water, food, fuel, medicine, and electricity being restored to the levels that existed before the current conflict started.

We want an end to this humanitarian disaster, a lasting and guaranteed peace with the widespread internationally supported two state solution implemented, which successive Israeli governments have ignored and undermined for decades.

We want to ensure that our members are not targeted or blamed for what is happening in this conflict. If any of our members have concerns, questions or feel unsafe in relation to their job and the products they are involved with, please contact your Unite reps for advice and support.

Yours in solidarity



Rhys McCarthy
Unite National Office
Aerospace and Shipbuilding



Mahf Khan
Chair
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