



25 June 2024

PUBLIC STATEMENT

The **Australian National Imams Council (ANIC)**, the **Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM)**, and the **Australian Muslim community** welcome the Greens' motion in the Senate to recognise the State of Palestine. We also strongly support **Senator Fatima Payman's** support of the motion.

Senator Fatima Payman's decision to cross the floor to support the motion is **courageous** and, importantly, **consistent** with supporting **human rights** and **justice**.

The Greens' motion states, *"In the opinion of the Senate, the following is a matter of urgency: the need for the Senate to recognise the State of Palestine."*

We express our **deep disappointment** and **dismay** at the Government and the Coalition's refusal to support the motion to recognise the State of Palestine.

It is important to give agency and recognition to Palestinians even as the Israeli Defence Forces and so-called Israeli settlers **persecute** and **murder them**.

Since October 2023, more than **40,000** Palestinians, mostly women and children, have been murdered by the Israeli Defence Forces, and over **100,000** are injured. Each day, Israeli forces commit **war crimes** and **genocidal acts** against Palestinians.

We urge the Australian Government and all politicians to **support** what is a **just** and **critical step** in standing with the Palestinians as steps are taken by Israel to **exterminate** them and drive them out of their lands.

When presented with the opportunity to recognise the state of Palestine, the government and coalition's failure to support the recognition has serious consequences for the further **breakdown of social cohesion**. People's religious and justice-based identity is continually being **suppressed** when expressing their views and support for the recognition of the **State of Palestine**.

The Australian Government must take a clear **stand against** Israel and its aggressions and **war crimes**, **condemn** these **horrific acts** and immediately **recognise the State of Palestine**.

For media inquiries, please contact: media@anic.org.au

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) represents over 270 Imams and the Alliance of Australian Muslims (AAM) over 200 Muslim organisations from all states and territories