

Gaza Exposes the World's Double Standards, and Ben-Gvir Destroys the Occupation's Narrative



International anger toward the Israeli entity is escalating after shocking footage circulated showing abuses against more than 170 activists from the “Steadfastness Flotilla” heading to the Gaza Strip at the hands of Israeli security forces, in an incident that sparked a wave of widespread condemnation, especially after National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir boasted about publishing the footage with unmistakable racism.

The circulated clips showed the activists with their hands bound, forced to kneel in humiliating positions, while being subjected to verbal and physical abuse by some security personnel, amid mocking laughter and threats of further mistreatment and detention, in a scene observers said reveals the true face of occupation policies not only against Palestinians, but even against anyone who peacefully and humanely thinks of breaking the blockade imposed on the Strip.

The incident quickly turned into an open diplomatic crisis, prompting several European countries to adopt escalatory positions ranging from summoning ambassadors to issuing strongly worded statements of condemnation. It even drew the anger of the US ambassador to “Israel”, Mike Huckabee—known for his blunt Zionism and unlimited support for the occupying entity—who described those abuses as “humiliating and internationally unacceptable.”

These scenes and the reactions to them reflect the scale of the rapid shift in

Israel's global image, as the false narrative it spent decades promoting—of being a civilized, democratic, humanitarian state—has gradually collapsed. The Gaza war, and the repeated abuses that followed, have exposed the occupying entity's true racist face and its savage, criminal mindset, deepening Tel Aviv's international isolation and widening the trust gap between it and many of its traditional allies, especially in Europe.

International anger

The footage sparked a broad wave of international anger, pushing many countries to take escalatory diplomatic measures against Tel Aviv, most notably summoning Israeli ambassadors for reprimand and formal protest. Nine countries took this step: Canada, Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand.

Several European capitals also adopted sharply worded rhetoric over the incident. British Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper expressed “deep shock” at the circulating footage, while France described what happened as “unacceptable conduct” by the Israeli security minister. At the same time, lawmakers and figures from the French left called on the government to act urgently to secure the release of the activists whom “Israel” had detained “illegally.” Germany, for its part, said the scenes were “absolutely unacceptable,” while the Italian government stressed that the treatment of activists trying to deliver humanitarian aid to Gaza was “completely unacceptable.”

Condemnation was not limited to Europe. South Korean President Lee Jae-myung described what happened as “a blatant crossing of boundaries,” while Turkey accused Benjamin Netanyahu's government of embodying a “savage and criminal mentality” in its treatment of activists and international solidarity campaigners. Qatar's Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, called on the international community to act urgently to stop the “Israeli provocations,” stressing the need to hold its government accountable for its “ongoing crimes and violations” and to put an end to policies of impunity.

Western media: “Israel's” image in danger

Western media also launched a parallel attack alongside the official diplomatic offensive, with many Western newspapers and media outlets considering the circulating footage a “revealing moment” that deepened the crisis surrounding Israel's global image and exposed the extent of the rapid erosion of its traditional narrative before international public opinion.

In this context, The Guardian said the scenes “double the moral and political pressure” on the Israeli government, stressing that the way European activists and international solidarity campaigners were treated would fuel rising public

anger across Europe, especially amid growing criticism linked to the war on Gaza. For its part, The New York Times said the crisis had gone beyond the detention of activists to become a new test of “Israel’s” image before Western public opinion, especially after the wide circulation of the video clips through the media and social platforms. The French newspaper Le Monde focused on the “humiliating nature” of the scenes, saying the circulated images reinforce accusations against “Israel” regarding the “excessive use of force and retaliatory treatment of solidarity activists.”

The BBC, meanwhile, said the angry European reactions reflect a gradual shift in the Western political and media mood toward “Israel’s” policies, particularly after the Gaza war and the images of destruction and civilian casualties it left behind. In the same context, CNN spoke of widening debate within the United States itself, with growing voices arguing that such scenes “harm “Israel’s” image more than they serve its security,” while the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera described Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir as “the most extreme” within the “Israel’s” government.

Netanyahu’s government in a bind

Netanyahu’s government found itself in a major political and media bind after the publication of these clips, which sparked widespread anger that reached even some figures known for their traditional support for “Israel”, foremost among them the US ambassador to Tel Aviv. For years, he defended “Israel’s” policies in Gaza and adopted the Israeli government’s rhetoric in various forums, but the circulating footage this time pushed him to denounce what happened, describing the national security minister’s actions as “shameful and internationally unacceptable,” in a clear indication of the scale of the embarrassment those scenes caused for “Israel’s” image before global public opinion.

The circulated clips also revealed, in an unprecedented way, the nature of Israeli practices based on violence and humiliation against civilian activists who were unarmed and posed no security threat, but had acted out of humanitarian motives in solidarity with the besieged residents of the Gaza Strip. This significantly weakened the traditional Israeli narrative that has long justified abuses under the banner of “self-defense.”

It appears that the widening international anger, reflected in numerous recent condemnatory actions, pushed Netanyahu to intervene directly and issue instructions to deport the activists outside the occupied territories in an attempt to contain the escalating fallout, alongside criticism from within the government itself holding Ben-Gvir responsible for damaging “Israel’s” image and deepening its international media and human rights crisis.

Thus, Ben-Gvir's conduct—with its extremist rhetoric and provocative practices—has become a factor in demolishing the narrative that the Israeli propaganda machine worked for decades to entrench, raising growing fears inside “Israel” and among its allies about the repercussions for its standing and image globally.

Gaza exposes the world's double standards

The abuses suffered by the “Steadfastness Flotilla” activists cannot in any way be compared with what the residents of the Gaza Strip have endured over two years of war. Civilians there have faced widespread violations that human rights and international organizations have described as amounting to crimes against humanity, including mass killing, starvation, forced displacement, arrests, and grave abuses against civilians, amid clear international failure to stop that humanitarian catastrophe or hold those responsible accountable.

When the state of European anger and the swift international reaction to some scenes of abuse against activists holding Western nationalities are compared with the silence—or limited action—regarding what more than two million Palestinians have endured over long months of war, siege, and widespread abuses, the crisis of double standards governing Western discourse on justice and human rights becomes even clearer.

The wide gap between the nature of the reactions in the two cases has brought back to the forefront profound questions about how universal the principles the West proclaims regarding equality and human dignity really are, amid a growing and practically proven sense that Palestinian life does not enjoy the same value within the Western political and moral system.

Since the outbreak of the war on Gaza, it has become clear that the international scene is passing through a historic test moment that has exposed many contradictions within the contemporary global order and gradually shattered the idealized image promoted for decades about international justice and human rights.

For this reason, the Gaza war has been described as one of the most revealing wars in exposing the nature of international balances—not only because of the scale of the humanitarian tragedy, but because it has redrawn the boundaries of global political and moral discourse and led many to believe that what comes after this war will not be the same as what came before it.

In sum, Gaza and its people deserve credit for succeeding, through the justice of their humanitarian and political cause, in exposing the true face of the “Israel”i occupation and dismantling a large part of the narrative Tel Aviv spent decades trying to entrench before the world. That reckoning has laid bare the Zionist

entity before international public opinion, expanding its global isolation day by day.

This growing shift in exposing “Israel’s” real image would not have been possible without the steadfastness of Gaza’s people—whether those who remained firm on the ground under the weight of war and siege, or those who gave their lives and blood to keep the Palestinian cause alive in the conscience of peoples and on the agenda of international human rights and humanitarian organizations.

These immense sacrifices have helped reshape global awareness of the cause, something gradually reflected in declining levels of international support for the Zionist entity, alongside growing global popular sympathy for Palestine and the legitimate rights of its people.

[رابط المقال](https://www.noonpost.com/en/374760/): <https://www.noonpost.com/en/374760/>