[Add your address here]

[Add date here]

Dear [MP Name],

**Urgent request: Ceasefire in Gaza**

I’m writing to express my ongoing concern about the devastating violence in Gaza which has resulted in civilian casualties of an unconscionable scale.

Following the atrocities committed by Hamas on 7 October, it cannot be disputed that Israel has a right to defend itself. Nevertheless, war must be fought according to international humanitarian law. Therefore, these horrific acts cannot justify Israel’s disproportionate and indiscriminate response against Palestinians which, according to UN experts, is resulting in crimes against humanity. More than 8,500 civilians in Gaza have been killed since Israel launched its response.

The UK and its allies must leverage their influence to preserve humanity, respond to the humanitarian crisis unfolding and ensure that all parties comply with the laws of war.

All states have a responsibility to protect civilians. The UK has a special responsibility - as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, former colonial power in the region, and the world’s second-largest arms exporter - including at least half a billion in export licences to Israel over the past decade. It is thought that [around 15%](https://www.declassifieduk.org/uk-arms-israel-as-it-bombards-gaza/) of the value of each of Israel’s F-35 combat aircraft is produced in the UK. The aircraft are being [heavily used](https://theaviationist.com/2023/10/12/iaf-aircraft-war-with-hamas/?utm_content=cmp-true) in Israel’s bombing campaign on Gaza.

Civilians in Gaza cannot wait. An immediate ceasefire must urgently be secured and all parties must unconditionally:

1. Facilitate the delivery of lifesaving assistance, including food, medical supplies, fuel, and the resumption of electricity and internet to Gaza, in addition to safe passage of humanitarian and medical staff
2. Free all civilian hostages, especially children and those with underlying health conditions
3. Allow humanitarian convoys to reach UN facilities, schools, hospitals, and health facilities in northern Gaza and commit to protecting them along with the civilians and staff inside them at all times
4. Rescind orders by the Government of Israel for civilians to depart northern Gaza
5. Allow patients in critical condition to be medically evacuated for urgent care

**As my MP, I am asking you to do whatever you can to show your support for the people of**

**Gaza and to urge the Foreign Secretary to help end the violence by taking action to save lives and secure a humanitarian ceasefire.**

Please consider:

* Requesting a meeting with the Foreign Secretary, either alone or jointly with other politicians and international NGOs
* Writing a letter to the Foreign Secretary
* Raising your concerns as oral and written questions in parliament.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name]
[Your postcode here]