

25 November 2024

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **NETANYAHU AND GALLANT: THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL MUST IMMEDIATELY ENFORCE CHAPTER VII OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER**

The Policy and Economic Affairs Centre Malaysia Foundation (PEACE) fully supports the recent action taken by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in issuing arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant. This decision is a critical and timely response to the egregious violations of international law and human rights committed by these individuals.

The issuance of arrest warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant—both of whom are responsible for acts of war crimes, oppression, and violence against the Palestinian people—marks a significant step towards holding perpetrators of such grave violations accountable. The systematic brutality inflicted by the Zionist regime against the Palestinian population cannot and must not be allowed to go unpunished.

It is understood that the movement of Netanyahu and Gallant is now severely restricted, as both individuals risk arrest should they enter any of the 124 member states of the ICC. This growing international pressure is important, but more urgent and decisive action is required.

Considering the situation, PEACE urges the Government of Malaysia to take immediate steps in advocating for stronger international action by formally issuing a memorandum to the United Nations, calling for the immediate arrest and prosecution of Netanyahu and Gallant for their war crimes and the inhumane treatment of Palestinian civilians. These individuals have committed grave violations of international law, including collective punishment, indiscriminate attacks, and other forms of barbaric oppression that have devastated Palestinian society.

As Malaysia assumes the chairmanship of ASEAN in 2025, we call on the Malaysian government to leverage its position to mobilise regional support for this cause. We strongly encourage ASEAN member states to issue a unified, firm, and unequivocal statement condemning these acts of war crimes and demanding swift and decisive action from the international community to hold Netanyahu and Gallant accountable for their actions.

Furthermore, PEACE calls on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to convene an emergency session and take immediate action to enforce Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, in accordance with the ICC's decision. Under Chapter VII, the UNSC has the authority and responsibility to impose binding measures—under Articles 41 and 42—if it determines that there is a threat to international peace and security, or if acts of aggression or violations of international law are identified.

The world cannot stand idly by as such atrocities continue. PEACE calls on all responsible nations to act in accordance with international law, uphold human rights, and bring those who commit war crimes to justice.

**MOHD HASSANAL BOLQIAH MOHD YUSOFF**

Chief Executive Officer

Policy and Economic Affairs Centre Malaysia Foundation (PEACE)