



Defence for Children International
XIIIth International General Assembly
10 and 11 November 2022
Nouakchott, Mauritania

ADOPTED RESOLUTION No. 5

**“Israel should immediately stop its aggression against
Palestinian children and civil society organisations”**

In view of the facts that Israeli authorities and armed forces have been regularly implicated in widespread and systematic human rights violations, against Palestinian children – including the killing of Palestinian children - living in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), and that Israel is the only state in the world to arrest and prosecute children in military courts (500 children arrested and prosecuted on an annual basis),

The XIIIth International General Assembly of Defence for Children International (DCI), meeting in Nouakchott, Mauritania, on 10 and 11 November 2022,

RECALLS that the State of Israel refuses the application of the UN conventions, including the Convention on the rights of the child, in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt).

STRESSES that children affected by armed conflict, including Palestinian children, are entitled to special respect and protections under international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

EMPHASISES that Israeli authorities and armed forces consistently disregard their obligations under international law and flagrantly violate these protections resulting in torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, arbitrary detention, and extrajudicial killing of Palestinian children in the oPt.

IS APPALLED by the continuous use of indiscriminate and disproportionate Israeli military attacks against Palestinians which routinely result in the unlawful killing and maiming of Palestinian children that amount to war crimes. In 2022, the National Section DCI-Palestine (DCI-P) verified the killing of 46 Palestinian children, including 29 Palestinian children shot and killed by Israeli forces or settlers in the occupied West Bank. DCI-P documented the killing of 17 Palestinian children between August 5–7, 2022, after Israeli forces launched a military offensive in the Gaza Strip.

STATES that the Israeli authorities are increasingly shutting down Palestinian civil society space, clamping down on the ability of CSOs, especially human rights organisations, to operate freely.

RECALLS that human rights organisations should have the space to advocate for respecting children’s rights, provide services to children, and help hold governments accountable.

EMPHASISES that designating Palestinian human rights civil society organisations, including DCI-P, as terrorist organisations criminalises the entire children’s rights and human rights community, including the entire DCI Movement.

CALLS UPON the international community to unequivocally put pressure on Israeli authorities to immediately cease their aggression against Palestinian children and reverse and redress their decisions designating civil society organisations in Palestine as terrorist organisations.