



Displaced Palestinians move with their belongings southwards on a road in the Nuseirat refugee camp area in the central Gaza Strip



‘Carnage’

UN rights chief demands end to ‘carnage’

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The UN rights chief yesterday condemned Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City as “utterly unacceptable”, demanding an end to the “carnage” and warning of growing evidence of genocide in the Palestinian territory.

“It is absolutely clear that this carnage must stop,” United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk told AFP and Reuters when asked about the launch of Israel’s long-anticipated ground assault on Gaza’s largest city.

“The whole world screams for peace. Palestinians, Israelis scream for peace. Everyone wants an end to this, and what we see is a further escalation which is totally and utterly unacceptable,” he said.

Turk highlighted that in recent days “we have seen expanding attacks in the north-western parts of Gaza, where the population had sought shelter from previous attacks.”

Israeli military vehicles by the border fence in the besieged Palestinian territory

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UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VOLKER TURK

Trump warns Hamas of ‘big trouble’ if they use hostages as human shields

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump said yesterday that Hamas would be in “big trouble” if they use hostages in Gaza as human shields during a new offensive launched by Israel.

He decried in particular “the ongoing bombardment of residential buildings, buildings that have served as shelters for people who have been displaced multiple times”.

“We’ll wait to hear what happens, because I hear Hamas is trying to use the old human shield deal, and if they do that they’re going to be in big trouble,” Trump told reporters when asked about Israel’s offensive.

“These attacks need to stop.” He pointed out that the Israeli military “repeatedly claimed that it is targeting so-called terrorist infrastructure”.

“So far, we haven’t seen any evidence of this,” he stressed, emphasising that “under the

rules of war, an attack may never be targeted at civilians who are not taking part in hostilities.”

The UN rights chief stressed that “the people of Gaza cannot sustain yet another intensification of violence and destruction and killings and lack of humanitarian assistance that needs to come.”

“I can only think of what it means for women, malnourished children, for people with disabilities, if they are again attacked in this way,” he said.

Turk’s comments came after an independent team of UN investigators published a report concluding that Israel was committing genocide in its war in Gaza, which erupted following Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack inside Israel.

“We see the piling up of war crime after war crime after war crime, of crime against humanity, and potentially even more,” Turk said said.

“It’s for the court to decide whether it’s genocide or not, and we see the evidence mounting.”



The October 2023 attack by Hamas resulted in the deaths of 1,219 people, most of them civilians, according to an AFP tally of official figures. Israel’s retaliatory campaign in Gaza has killed at least 64,964 people, also mostly civilians, according to figures from the territory’s health ministry that the United Nations considers reliable.

EU says Israel’s Gaza City assault spells ‘death’, ‘destruction’

Brussels, Belgium

The European Union warned yesterday that Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City will add to the toll of death and destruction, and worsen an already “catastrophic” humanitarian situation in the territory.

“The EU has consistently urged Israel not to intensify its operation in Gaza City,” EU spokesman Anouar El Anouni said.

“A military intervention will lead to more destruction, more death and more displacement, and we have been clear that this will also aggravate the already catastrophic humanitarian situation and also endangers the lives of hostages,” he said.

Brussels is expected Wednesday to put forward proposals for a raft of measures against Israel over the war in Gaza.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said last week they would include suspending the trade parts of a cooperation agreement and sanctioning “extremist” Israeli ministers.

But it will be very difficult to get the measures through given deep divisions between the European Union’s 27 countries over Israel’s war in Gaza.

Israel’s Gaza City assault ‘reckless and appalling’: UK FM

London, United Kingdom

British foreign minister Yvette Cooper yesterday condemned Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City as “utterly reckless and appalling”, calling instead for an immediate ceasefire.

“It will only bring more bloodshed, kill more innocent civilians and endanger the remaining hostages,” she said in a post on X.

Israel strikes rebel-held Yemeni port after evacuation warnings

Hodeida, Yemen

Israel struck Yemen’s Huthi-held Hodeida port yesterday, saying it targeted infrastructure used by the Iran-backed rebels, who reported a dozen strikes on the area.

Israel has stepped up attacks on the Huthis, killing their prime minister and nearly half of his cabinet last month and leaving dozens dead in strikes last week mainly targeting the rebels’ military media operation.

The rebels’ Al-Masirah television said “12 Israeli enemy air strikes targeted the port of Hodeida”.



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01



The healing of the ozone layer reminds us when we heed the warnings of science, progress is possible. Yet, we are hurtling towards pushing global temperature rise above 1.5°C. This #OzoneDay, let’s recommit to preserving our ozone layer & to protecting people & planet.

@antonioGuterres

02



Had a very good conversation with Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen of Denmark today. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to strengthening our Green Strategic Partnership and to an early conclusion of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement.

@narendramodi

03



I made a promise that as Prime Minister, I would bring in the Hillsborough Law, making sure the state can never hide from the people they are supposed to serve. Today, I make good on that promise.

@10DowningStreet

04



MY son Eric’s just Mout book, “UNDER SIEGE,” immediately went to NUMBER ONE on Amazon. Great going Eric, you deserve it!!!

@realDonaldTrump

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