



*Human Rights Council*

**Draft Resolution No. ....**

**Establishment of an Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon**

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as other relevant human rights instruments,

Recognizing that peace and security, development, and human rights constitute the pillars of the United Nations system,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which the Assembly decided that the Human Rights Council shall:

- (a) Address situations of human rights violations, including gross and systematic violations, and make recommendations thereon;
- (b) Respond promptly to human rights emergencies,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, relevant human rights instruments, and international humanitarian law, in particular the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 concerning the laws and customs of war on land, which prohibit the attack or bombardment of civilian populations and civilian objects, and set out obligations to ensure general protection against dangers arising from military operations affecting civilian objects, hospitals, relief supplies, and means of transport,

Recalling the obligations of the High Contracting Parties under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,

Reaffirming the obligation of each High Contracting Party to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Geneva Convention) to take measures against persons alleged to have committed, or to have ordered to be committed, grave breaches of the Convention, and recalling the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity,

Affirming that human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Affirming that the right to life constitutes the most fundamental of all human rights,

Condemning the Israeli military operations in Lebanon that constitute grave and systematic violations of human rights among the Lebanese population,

Deeply alarmed by the widespread human rights violations committed against the Lebanese population by Israel, which have resulted in the killing and injury of thousands of civilians, the extensive destruction of civilian infrastructure, the displacement of one million people, and the flow of refugees fleeing intense shelling and bombardment targeting civilian populations,

Strongly condemning indiscriminate and large-scale Israeli airstrikes, particularly those carried out on 8 April 2026, which within approximately ten minutes targeted at least 48 areas, including densely populated residential neighborhoods and civilian infrastructure, across southern and northern Lebanon, Mount Lebanon, the Bekaa, as well as Beirut's suburbs and central districts, resulting in the killing of at least 200 people and the injury of more than 1,000 others,

Taking note of the strong condemnation by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the killing of civilians in Lebanon on multiple occasions, her calls for measures to protect civilian lives and civilian objects, and her reaffirmation of the need for an independent investigation involving international experts,

Affirming that the targeting and killing of innocent civilians, as well as the destruction of homes, property, and infrastructure in Lebanon, constitute a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, and international humanitarian law, and amount to a flagrant violation of human rights,

Expressing concern at the targeting of media outlets in Lebanon and media teams, which has resulted in the killing of at least 22 journalists and the injury of dozens more,

Outraged by Israel's continued impunity in the ongoing and indiscriminate killing of children, women, the elderly, ambulance crews, rescue and relief teams, and other civilians in Lebanon,

1. Strongly condemns the grave Israeli violations of human rights and breaches of international humanitarian law in Lebanon;
2. Condemns the massive bombardment of the Lebanese civilian population, which has caused thousands of deaths and injuries, the majority of whom are children and women, and the displacement of more than one million civilians, according to preliminary assessments, thereby exacerbating the humanitarian suffering of the Lebanese people;
3. Also condemns the Israeli bombardment of vital civilian infrastructure, which has caused widespread destruction and severe damage to public and private property;
4. Calls upon Israel to comply immediately and fully with its obligations under international human rights law, particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and international humanitarian law;

5. Urges all parties concerned to respect the rules of international humanitarian law, to refrain from violence against the civilian population, and to treat all detained combatants and civilians in all circumstances in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949;
6. Calls upon Israel to immediately cease military operations against civilian populations and civilian objects, which result in killing, destruction, and serious violations of human rights;
7. Decides to urgently establish and immediately dispatch an independent, impartial, and adequately resourced international mechanism mandated to:

(a) Investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law, and crimes under international law committed by all parties in Lebanon since 7 October 2023, including the recent escalation of hostilities, and document them, establish the facts, circumstances, and root causes, with a view to ensuring accountability and identifying those responsible;

(b) Draw upon all relevant information collected by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, as well as reports of the United Nations, international organizations, and independent national bodies mandated under domestic law to monitor the conflict and investigate violations of international humanitarian law, in order to support ongoing and future judicial proceedings;

(c) Collect, analyze, and assess evidence, and, where possible, identify individual responsibility, while adopting an integrated methodology for the preservation of evidence, including witness testimonies, interviews, and forensic material, in accordance with the highest international standards;

(d) Work, with full respect for the principle of informed consent and the protection of victims, to share the information and evidence collected, and the analyses produced, with relevant authorities, and to prepare case files to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law, before national, regional, or international courts or tribunals that have, or may in the future have, jurisdiction over these crimes;

8. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all necessary administrative, technical, and logistical assistance to enable the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon to fulfill its mandate promptly and effectively;
9. Requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to establish a central repository for information and evidence, in order to collect, consolidate, preserve, and securely store all information, evidence, and analyses gathered by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon, with proper documentation, to support ongoing and future legal proceedings before national and international courts, including through the proactive sharing of information, evidence, and analyses with relevant judicial and investigative authorities;

10. Requests the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon to submit to the Human Rights Council, no later than 1 September 2026, a report on progress made in the implementation of its mandate, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue on its findings and recommendations.

draft