À l'attention de :

Monsieur Emmanuel MACRON Président de la République française Palais de l'Élysée 55, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré 75008 Paris – France

Objet : Appel solennel en faveur de la reconnaissance de l'État de Palestine et de la protection du peuple palestinien à Gaza et en Cisjordanie, y compris à Jérusalem-Est et dans la Vallée du Jourdain

Monsieur le Président,

Nous, organisations et associations chrétiennes de France, unies dans la fidélité à l'Évangile de justice et de paix, avons l'honneur de porter à votre haute attention les appels pressants que les Églises et communautés chrétiennes de Terre Sainte vous ont récemment adressés. Ces lettres, que nous joignons au présent courrier, traduisent avec gravité la détresse d'un peuple accablé et la conscience morale d'institutions spirituelles profondément attachées à la dignité humaine et au respect du droit.

La souffrance infligée au peuple palestinien a atteint un seuil insoutenable, humainement et moralement. Devant cette situation, chaque initiative susceptible de mettre un terme aux violences et de prévenir de nouvelles tragédies s'impose comme un devoir impérieux.

Vous avez exprimé, Monsieur le Président, votre détermination à reconnaître l'État de Palestine à l'occasion du prochain Sommet international que vous coprésiderez avec le Royaume d'Arabie saoudite, le 22 septembre à New York. Ce geste attendu, porteur d'espérance, ne saurait toutefois demeurer un acte purement symbolique. Il doit s'accompagner de mesures concrètes, effectives et vérifiables, permettant au peuple palestinien d'en percevoir les fruits tangibles dans sa vie quotidienne.

Les propositions formulées par les Églises de Terre Sainte répondent précisément à cet impératif. Nous en partageons l'esprit et la finalité, et nous vous assurons, Monsieur le Président, de notre entier soutien pour que la voix de la France s'élève avec clarté et force en faveur de la justice, du droit et de la paix.

Nous nourrissons l'espérance que votre action, allant bien au-delà d'une reconnaissance formelle, contribuera à faire cesser la spirale de la violence et à ouvrir un chemin vers une solution politique juste, durable et digne des idéaux universels que la France incarne.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de notre très haute et respectueuse considération.

Signataires



Jean-Jacques GRUNSPAN Grunspan2024@gmail.com

Marilyn PACOURET Présidente chretiensdelamediterranee@gmail.com



Mme Virginie AMIEUX Présidente Mr Guillaume NICOLAS Délégué Général



Mr Mathieu BUSCH Directeur



Mme Elisabeth BLANCHARD Secrétaire Nationale



Mme Monique GUYOT Présidente



Mr Hervé DORY Vice-Président



Mr Giuliani FOUCAULD Président

Pièces Jointes:

- ➤ Lettre de Sa Béatitude Michel SABBAH Patriarche Latin Emérite et de Rifat KASSIS Secrétaire Général de KAIROS Palestine
- Lettre de Mr Omar HARAMY, Directeur du Centre Théologique Oecuménique de Libération SABEEL



August 14th 2025

To:

His Excellency Emmanuel MACRON President of the French Republic Palais de l'Élysée 55, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré 75008 Paris – France

Subject: Solemn appeal for the recognition of the State of Palestine and the protection of the Palestinian people in Gaza, the West Bank, especially East Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley

Mr. President,

On behalf of our Christian communities in the Holy Land, we address to you this solemn appeal in your capacity as President of the French Republic, a recognized defender of international law and of the universal values of justice and human dignity.

The situation in the occupied Palestinian territory has reached an unprecedented level of gravity—humanly unbearable and morally unacceptable. The tragedy unfolding in Gaza for nearly two years—marked by relentless bombardments, a deliberate famine, and a humanitarian blockade—has been accompanied by an alarming intensification of settlement expansion in the West Bank, escalating violence perpetrated by settlers, illegal expropriations, systematic demolitions in East Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, and repeated assaults against Palestinians.

In the face of this dramatic deterioration, an immediate, strong, and determined response from the international community is imperative.

In this context, your forthcoming co-presidency—alongside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—of the International Summit on Palestine under the auspices of the United Nations, scheduled for September in New York, represents a historic opportunity. On this occasion, you have expressed your intention to officially recognise the State of Palestine. Since this announcement, we have observed a notable momentum among other nations, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Portugal, and Australia.

This summit constitutes a pivotal moment for the future of the region. We therefore respectfully urge you to make this recognition a strong political act with tangible consequences, and not merely a symbolic gesture. It must affirm France's commitment to actively contributing to the dignity, protection, and self-determination of the Palestinian people.

Faithful to our mission of peace and justice, we, the Christian communities of the Holy Land, invite you to accompany this recognition with concrete commitments, including:

- The establishment of an immediate, total, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, along with guaranteed free and secure humanitarian access:
- The cessation of all forms of violence in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem;
- The release of all hostages held in Gaza, as well as Palestinian prisoners held in administrative detention in Israel, in full compliance with international humanitarian
- The effective implementation of the United Nations resolution of 18 September 2024, calling on the State of Israel to end all settlement activity, terminate the occupation, and withdraw from the occupied territories by 18 September 2025.

The recognition of the State of Palestine—however powerful symbolically—will only acquire its full meaning if its effects are felt concretely in the daily lives of the people on the ground. To that end, it should be accompanied by tangible measures, such as:

- The establishment of an official French diplomatic representation in Palestine, or the opening of a fully operational embassy:
- The deployment of French missions in the humanitarian, medical, agricultural, and economic fields, designed and implemented in close coordination with the competent Palestinian authorities.

Such diplomatic and civilian presences would serve both to deter abuses committed against the Palestinian population and to document those that may occur in the future.

We are convinced that such a position would have a profound impact, both in Palestine and in Israel. It would affirm France's vocation as an active force for peace, guided by a deep sense of justice and moral responsibility, and would likely encourage other nations to follow this example, paving the way for an international dynamic capable of restoring hope to a longsuffering people.

Mr. President, a credible, fair, and lasting political solution is now within reach. The voices of the Palestinian people must be heard. The time has come to act with courage and determination.

Your co-presidency of the New York Summit represents an unprecedented opportunity to advance a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. We earnestly urge you not to let this historic opportunity slip away.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Omar Haramy

Director of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre

On behalf of the Christian Communities of the Holy Land

Copies to:

The French Bishops' Conference

The Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church of France

The Protestant Federation of France

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Mr. President.

On behalf of many Christians in the Holy Land, we have the honour to address to you this solemn appeal in your capacity as President of the French Republic, a recognized defender of international law and of the universal values of justice and human dignity.

The situation in the occupied Palestinian territories has reached an unprecedented level of gravity—humanly unbearable and morally unacceptable. The genocide unfolding in Gaza for nearly two years—marked by relentless bombardments, a deliberate starvation, and a humanitarian blockade—has been accompanied by an alarming intensification of settlement expansion in the West Bank, escalating violence perpetrated by settlers, illegal expropriations, systematic demolitions in East Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, and repeated assaults against Palestinians.

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Faithful to our mission of peace and justice, we, the Christian community in the Holy Land, invite you to accompany this recognition with concrete commitments, including:

- The establishment of an immediate, total, and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, along with guaranteed free and secure humanitarian access;
- The cessation of all forms of Israeli violence against the Palestinians in the West Bank and East Jerusalem;
- The release of all hostages held in Gaza, as well as Palestinian prisoners, especially the ones, held in administrative detention in Israel, in full compliance with international humanitarian law;

- Demand that Israel be held fully accountable for its violations, including the execution of the ICC's arrest warrants against Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity, and the immediate, full implementation of the ICJ's binding provisional measures to halt genocide risks, preserve evidence, ensure humanitarian access, and report compliance as ordered.
- The effective implementation of the United Nations resolution of 18 September 2024, calling on the State of Israel to end all settlement activity, terminate the occupation, and withdraw from the occupied territories by 18 September 2025.

The recognition of the State of Palestine—however powerful symbolically—will only acquire its full meaning if its effects are felt concretely in the daily lives of the people on the ground. To that end, it should be accompanied by tangible measures, such as:

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Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Signatories:

Patriarch Emeritus Michel Sabbah, Kairos Palestine chair,

Mr Rifat Kassis, Kairos Palestine General Secretary

On behalf of the Christians of the Holy Land

Copies to:

- The French Bishops' Conference
- The Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church of France
- The Protestant Federation of France