

The Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP
Minister of State
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street
London
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04 April 2024

Dear Minister,

Israel's commitment to international humanitarian law

I am writing to raise the grave concerns I share with my constituents regarding serious reports that your Department has received legal advice that Israel has breached international humanitarian law, bringing into question the UK's involvement with the sale of arms to Israel.

It cannot be right that the Foreign Secretary continues to refuse to confirm whether or not Israel is complying with international humanitarian law, after stating new advice would be received nearly a month ago.

Following the death of heroic British nationals who put their lives on the line to get Palestinian civilians the aid they desperately need, the Foreign Secretary must act without further delay.

The law is clear. British arms licenses cannot be granted if there is a clear risk those arms might be used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of international humanitarian law.

I urge you to publish the legal advice received by your Department and if it says there is a clear risk that UK arms might be used in a serious breach of international humanitarian law, it is time to suspend the sale of those arms.

This war must stop now. Far too many people have died in this conflict and more than a million are facing starvation. Labour repeats our call for an immediate ceasefire, the immediate release of all hostages and full humanitarian access into Gaza.

I look forward to hearing what urgent action you will be taking to achieve these goals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stephen Morgan MP

Member of Parliament for Portsmouth South | Shadow Minister of State for Rail

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