

Your excellency,

On behalf of DWARS, the youth organisation of GroenLinks, I want to express my concern about the humanitarian water crisis in Gaza. As you are well aware, the drinking water supply in Gaza is severely damaged during the war in 2014. Because of the Israeli blockade of Gaza this supply cannot be rebuilt and hundreds of thousands of people have no access to clean drinking water. As is apparent from research by Oxfam the situation is unfortunately not improved by the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism. Most of the components required for quality water purification are on the dual-use-list or are awaiting approval. Meanwhile only 4% of the water in the Gaza Strip is suitable for consumption.

I want to emphatically ask you to make this negotiable in Israel. The blockade and the water pollution it causes does not just damage Palestinian, but also Israeli citizens: as it happens, the polluted water is flowing into the sea, influencing Israeli fishing. On behalf of the Young Greens I ask you: end this humanitarian water crisis and give the Palestinians the opportunity to restore their water supplies.

Included you will find a label that we are going to be handing out at festivals and lectures in the coming weeks, to generate attention for this pressing issue. The red-blue droplet with barbed wire symbolises the need for access to clean water for all. Clean water is a human right that you cannot deprive the Palestinians of.

We are hoping for your support.

Noortje Blokhuis

Chairperson of DWARS, the youth organisation of GroenLinks