

 International Conference

NAMING GENOCIDE:  
**THE GLOBAL  
RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR GAZA**

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Conference Booklet

22 Feb 2025 | London

# BACKGROUND

The ongoing crisis in Gaza represents one of the gravest humanitarian and legal challenges of our time. The devastation, displacement, and mass suffering inflicted upon Palestinians demand urgent and uncompromising global attention. In the face of ongoing atrocities, the international legal framework, particularly the **Genocide Convention**, compels states and institutions to act—yet, the response has largely been marked by inaction, impunity, and moral failure.

Against this backdrop, the **Palestinian Return Centre (PRC)** is convening a landmark conference, **Naming Genocide: The Global Responsibility for Gaza**, on **February 22, 2025, in London**. This conference is not just a platform for discussion; it is an urgent call to action. It seeks to interrogate the legal, political, and moral obligations of the international community in recognizing and responding to genocide and to explore the role of advocacy, media, and solidarity in countering erasure and impunity.

This conference brings together some of the world's leading experts in **international law, human rights, diplomacy, and media** to dissect the current reality in Gaza, challenge prevailing narratives, and propose actionable strategies to uphold justice and accountability.

# VISION

At a time when state violence is met with diplomatic complacency, and when the systematic destruction of a people is normalized under the pretext of self-defense, we seek to **shift the global discourse, redefine legal responsibility, and mobilize a serious, sustained response to genocide.**

The **vision** of this conference is threefold:

**1. To name genocide for what it is.**

The legal determination of genocide is a matter of historical and moral consequence. This conference aims to lay bare the patterns of mass atrocities against Palestinians and the urgent need to frame them within their proper legal context.

**2. To mobilize international mechanisms for accountability.**

By bringing together legal scholars, advocates, and policymakers, we seek to identify viable avenues for pursuing justice, whether through the **International Court of Justice (ICJ), International Criminal Court (ICC), universal jurisdiction**, or other forms of legal redress.

**3. To center Palestinian voices in defining their struggle.**

This conference will resist the erasure of Palestinian agency and experience, ensuring that their lived realities and political aspirations are at the core of the global discourse.



# MISSION

The **mission** of this conference is to create a **strategic and intellectual forum** that translates analysis into action. The discussions will be structured across three critical pillars:

- **Legal Frameworks & Accountability**  
How do international legal instruments, including the **Genocide Convention, Rome Statute, and ICJ rulings**, apply to the ongoing situation in Gaza? What obligations do states and institutions hold in preventing and prosecuting acts of genocide?
- **Media, Testimonies & Advocacy**  
How is the crisis in Gaza represented and misrepresented in global media? What role does journalism play in shaping public consciousness and countering disinformation?
- **International Solidarity & Political Mobilization**  
How can international movements, civil society, and diplomatic channels be leveraged to push for tangible political consequences against those complicit in war crimes and genocide?

This conference will serve as a catalyst for new coalitions and campaigns, ensuring that **the pursuit of justice for Palestinians moves beyond rhetoric to real-world consequences.**

At its core, this gathering is not just an academic or policy exercise—it is a declaration that genocide will not be met with silence. It is an insistence that the world must listen, act, and **hold perpetrators accountable.**

Through rigorous discussion, compelling testimonies, and strategic planning, we hope to **equip participants with the knowledge, networks, and tools needed to take decisive action.**

This is not a moment for passive reflection—this is a call to break the cycle of impunity and advance the cause of justice for Gaza and Palestine.

# ABOUT THE PALESTINIAN RETURN CENTRE

The Palestinian Return Centre (**PRC**) is a **London-based advocacy and research organization dedicated to defending the rights of Palestinians**, with a primary focus on the right of return for Palestinian refugees as enshrined in international law. Established in 1996, PRC works to ensure that Palestinian displacement remains a key issue on the international agenda by engaging policymakers, academics, diplomats, and civil society organizations worldwide.

**PRC holds special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, enabling it to participate in UN forums and advocate directly for Palestinian rights within international institutions. **PRC regularly engages with the UK and international parliaments**, as well as the United Nations, providing expert briefings, hosting events, and submitting reports that highlight the status of Palestinian human rights and the need for justice and accountability.

Through its advocacy, diplomatic engagement, public campaigns, and educational initiatives, PRC works to challenge misinformation, promote historical truth, and amplify Palestinian voices in global discussions. By **organizing international conferences, producing in-depth research, and facilitating dialogue**, PRC remains at the forefront of the fight for Palestinian justice, self-determination, and the right of return as enshrined in international law.



# AGENDA OF THE DAY

Time	Details
09:30 – 10:00 AM	Registration and Welcome Coffee
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Opening Remarks
10:30 AM – 12:10 PM	<b>PANEL 1   GENOCIDE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: OBLIGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b>  Chair Haydee Dijkstal  Speakers Prof. Richard Falk Dr. Nimer Sultany Att. Lara Elborna Prof. Neve Gordon  Followed by Q&A Session
12:10 – 01:10 PM	Lunch Break
01:10 – 02:50 PM	<b>PANEL 2   VOICES FROM GAZA: LIVED REALITIES AND RESILIENCE</b>  Chair Prof. Penny Green  Speakers Dr. Ahmed Mokhallalati Dr. Mads Gilbert Mr. Wael Al-Dahdouh ● Mr. Ahmed Al Naouq Prof. Wesam Amer  Followed by Q&A Session
02:50 – 03:10 PM	Coffee Break

● Recorded Contribution

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**03:10 – 04:50 PM**

**PANEL 3 | INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY:  
TURNING ADVOCACY INTO ACTION**

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Chair **Dr. Mandy Turner**

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Speakers **Dr. Nadia Naser-Najjab**  
**Ms. Grazia Careccia**  
**Att. Mira Naseer**  
**Ms. Nuvpreet Kalra**

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**Followed by Q&A Session**

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**04:50 – 05:00 PM** **Closing Remarks**

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# SPEAKER PROFILES

## PANEL 1 | GENOCIDE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: OBLIGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### Chair:



#### **BARR. Haydee Dijkstal**

Is a barrister specializing in international criminal law and human rights. She has represented clients before various international courts, including the International Criminal Court (ICC), focusing on cases related to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

### Speakers:



#### **Prof. Richard Falk**

Richard Falk is an American professor emeritus of international law at Princeton University. He has served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories and has authored numerous books on international law and human rights.



#### **Dr. Nimer Sultany**

Nimer Sultany is a Reader in Public Law at SOAS University of London. His research interests include constitutional theory, comparative constitutionalism, and the intersection of law and political theory. He has published extensively on issues related to law and politics in the Middle East.



#### **Att. Lara Elborno**

Lara Elborno is a Palestinian-American international lawyer with experience in human rights advocacy and international litigation. She has worked with various organizations to promote justice and accountability in conflict zones.





**Prof. Neve Gordon**

Neve Gordon is a professor of international law at Queen Mary University of London. His research focuses on human rights, the ethics of violence, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He has authored several books and articles on these subjects.

## **PANEL 2 | VOICES FROM GAZA: LIVED REALITIES AND RESILIENCE**

### **Chair:**



**Prof. Penny Green**

Penny Green is a professor of law and globalization at Queen Mary University of London. She is the founder of the International State Crime Initiative and has conducted extensive research on state crime, genocide, and human rights violations.

### **Speakers:**



**Dr. Ahmed Mokhallalati**

Ahmed Mokhallalati is a plastic, hand, and reconstructive surgeon with experience working in conflict zones. He has provided critical medical care to victims of war and has been involved in training programs to enhance surgical capacity in underserved areas.



**Dr. Mads Gilbert**

Mads Gilbert is a Norwegian medical doctor and professor of emergency medicine. He has worked extensively in Gaza, providing medical assistance during conflicts. He is also an author and advocate for global health issues.



### Mr. Wael Al-Dahdouh

Mads Gilbert is a Norwegian medical doctor and professor of emergency medicine. He has worked extensively in Gaza, providing medical assistance during conflicts. He is also an author and advocate for global health issues.

● Recorded Contribution



### Mr. Ahmed Al Naouq

Ahmed Al Naouq is a UK-based journalist from Gaza and the founder of "We Are Not Numbers," an initiative that shares personal stories of Palestinians to humanize their experiences and struggles.



### Prof. Wesam Amer

Wesam Amer is a visiting professor in the Sociology Department at the University of Cambridge. His research focuses on social movements, political sociology, and Middle Eastern studies.

## PANEL 3 | INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY: TURNING ADVOCACY INTO ACTION

### Chair:



### Dr. Mandy Turner

Mandy Turner is a senior researcher at Security in Context, focusing on international relations and Middle Eastern politics. She has published extensively on issues related to conflict, peacebuilding, and international development.



## Speakers:



### **Dr. Nadia Naser-Najjab**

Nadia Naser-Najjab is a senior lecturer in Palestine Studies at the University of Exeter. Her research interests include Palestinian identity, political activism, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.



### **Ms. Grazia Careccia**

Grazia Careccia is the deputy regional director at Amnesty International, overseeing research and advocacy efforts in the Middle East and North Africa. She has extensive experience in human rights law and international advocacy.



### **Att. Mira Naseer**

Mira Naseer is a legal officer at the International Centre of Justice for Palestinians. She specializes in international human rights law and has worked on cases involving violations in conflict zones.



### **Ms. Nuvpreet Kalra**

Nuvpreet Kalra is a Digital Content Producer at CODEPINK, focusing on peace and human rights advocacy. She holds a BA in Politics and Sociology from the University of Cambridge and an MA in Internet Equalities from the University of the Arts London.





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