



**National statement by Mr. Jawad Ali, Minister and Deputy Permanent Representative,
during Interactive Dialogue on the OHCHR report on the situation of human rights in
the OPT**

61st session of the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 26 February 2026)

Mr. President,

My delegation aligns with the statements delivered on behalf of the OIC group.

We thank the High Commissioner for his presentation and take note of the report.

Pakistan remains deeply concerned by the alarming situation of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT).

Israel's illegal actions across the OPT are undermining efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people under occupation and work towards a just and lasting peace.

In the Gaza Strip, the occupying power's deadly military strikes and severe restrictions on humanitarian assistance are undermining efforts to consolidate the ceasefire. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Israel's illegal decisions to expand control are rooted in a fundamental disregard for the human rights of the native Palestinian people and the tenets of international law. These illegal measures are null and void, constitute a clear violation of international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention, and contravene the July 2024 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice.

Throughout the OPT, there can be no sustainable solution without the realization of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and accountability for the occupying power's litany of crimes amounting to genocide.

Pakistan will continue to support international efforts for a credible, time-bound political process, consistent with international law, that results in the realisation of an independent, sovereign and contiguous state of Palestine based on pre-1967 borders with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

Thank you.

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