



Palestine Justice Campaign

The Palestine Justice Campaign is an international single-issue group of concerned citizens, trade unionists and human rights workers who volunteer to assist the Ziada family in their pursuit for justice.

Press Release

Appeal hearing scheduled in Ziada case against Israeli Generals for Gaza war crimes

The Hague, 28 August 2021

On Thursday 23 September, the Appeal Court of The Hague will hold an appeal hearing on the case brought by Ismail Ziada against the former Chief of General Staff of the Israeli armed forces, Benny Gantz and former Commander of the Israeli Air Force, Amir Eshel for the bombing of the Ziada family home in Gaza. Mr Ziada argues that the District Court of The Hague erred in its decision to offer functional immunity to the defendants, as such immunity is not enjoyed for war crimes.

Mr Ziada, who is of Palestinian origin, is seeking to hold the defendants accountable for the targeted attack on the Ziada family home on 20 July 2014 which resulted in the death of Mr Ziada's 70-year-old mother, three brothers, his sister-in-law, a 12-year-old nephew and a visiting friend. Mr Ziada contends that the attack was a violation of international humanitarian law and constituted a gross violation of internationally recognised human rights principles.

The case was filed in Dutch courts as Mr Ziada, like many others, is unable to gain access to justice in Israel due to the discriminatory practices faced by Palestinians seeking accountability for war crimes. On 29 January 2020, the District Court of The Hague ruled that, due to their positions in the Israeli armed forces, Mr Gantz and Mr Eshel were immune from prosecution before Dutch courts as the alleged actions were carried out in accordance with their official duties. Mr Ziada argues that the court erred in its decision to extend immunity to the accused, further denying his right to justice contributing to impunity for international crimes.

Mr Ziada is pursuing the case in accordance with Dutch law which upholds the principle of universal jurisdiction in civil proceedings for individuals who are unable to gain access to justice elsewhere. It is a unique case and the first time a Palestinian has been able to make use of civil litigation on the basis of universal jurisdiction to gain access to justice for war crimes.

On Monday 20 September at 18:30 CEST, in anticipation of the appeal hearing, the Nuhanovic Foundation, in cooperation with INTLawyers.org and the International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam, will hold a panel discussion on the case. To join the event and for more information follow this [link](#).

The Ziada case is kindly supported by musician Roger Waters as well as hundreds of individuals and organisations through donations and an [international crowdfunding campaign](#).

For further information on the case or the hearing, please contact the Palestine Justice Campaign spokesperson [by email](#) at palestinejusticecampaign@gmail.com or by telephone at +31 614294120.

To attend the panel discussion on the case, follow this [link](#)

For more information on the case, follow this [link](#)

For an English translation of the legal documents follow this [link](#)

To donate the campaign please follow this [link](#)

<https://palestinejusticecampaign.wordpress.com/>





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Practical Information

The hearing will begin at 09:30 CEST on Thursday 23 September at the Appeal Court of The Hague:

Court of The Hague
Prins Clauslaan 60
2595 AJ
The Hague
The Netherlands

The court is located within [walking distance](#) of The Hague Central Station. Due to COVID-19 attendance at the hearing is not guaranteed. Please refer to the courts website for the latest information.

Please note, the proceedings will be in Dutch.