

PALESTINE MONITOR

exposing life under occupation



[Fact sheets](#)

- [contact us](#)
- [archives](#)
- [about us](#)

[Home page](#) > [Press release](#)

> Human Rights Organizations Petition Supreme Court Demanding an Injunction (...)

Human Rights Organizations Petition Supreme Court Demanding an Injunction against Israeli Government to Prevent Disruption to Supply of Electricity and Fuel to Gaza

Adalah – The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

28 October 2007



Adalah The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

عدالة المركز القانوني لحقوق الاقلية العربية في اسرائيل
 عدالة المركز المسפטי לזכויות המיעוט הערבי בישראל

The [Israeli] Government Openly Decides, Apparently for the First Time, to Impose Collective Punishment on 1.5 million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip;

Petitioners: The Decision is Illegal and will Damage the Health, Safety and Welfare of the Population of Gaza.

Ten Palestinian and Israeli human rights organizations, in cooperation with the deputy director of a water company for towns along the coast of Gaza and a farmer from Beit Hanoun, petitioned the Supreme Court of Israel on 28 October 2007.

The petitioners demanded the immediate issuance of an injunction against the Minister of Public Security and the Prime Minister to prevent them from disrupting the supply of electricity and fuel to the Gaza Strip. The petitioners argued that the [Israeli] government's recent decision to interrupt electricity and fuel supplies to the Gaza Strip is illegal, and if implemented, would endanger innocent civilians.

The petitioners argued that, contrary to the governments' claims that the population of Gaza will be only slightly harmed, the implementation of this decision could cause widespread humanitarian damage. It is likely to endanger the functioning of hospitals and sewage and water services, and will interrupt the operation of medical equipment as well as vital household electrical equipment, such as refrigerators, including those needed to refrigerate essential medical supplies. The damage that will be inflicted by the disrupting of electricity and fuel supplies cannot be controlled, nor can its consequences.

Deliberately obstructing the civilian infrastructure in the Gaza Strip is illegal. International law does not



allow minor damage: it bans collective punishment entirely, argued the petitioners. The petitioners emphasized the dependency of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on Israel for their electricity and fuel needs. The [Israeli] state's claim that the population of Gaza should provide electricity for themselves is astonishing. In the decades of Israel's direct control of Gaza, it permitted the establishment of an electricity network with an extremely limited capacity (which can provide Gaza with just 38% of the electricity that its population needs). After implementing the 'disengagement' from Gaza, Israel bombed the local power plant. This behaviour imposes duties on Israel towards the population of the Gaza Strip in general, and in the field of electricity supply in particular.

The human rights organizations demanded that the Supreme Court issue an immediate injunction to freeze the aforementioned governmental decision pending an examination of the petition. A number of media reports indicated Israel's intention to implement this decision as early as today.

- ▶ Adalah, The Legal Centre for Arab Minority Rights in Israel
- ▬ Gisha - Legal Centre for Freedom of Movement
- ▬ HaMoked Centre for the Defence of the Individual
- ▶ Physicians for Human Rights (Israel)
- ▶ The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights
- ▶ The Public Committee Against Torture in Israel
- ▶ Gaza Community Mental Health Programme
- ▶ B'Tselem: The Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
- ▬ Al-Haq
- ▶ Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights

For more information

www.adalah.org

 [RSS 2.0](#) | [Private area](#) |  spip

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.