

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
REVIEW OF ISRAEL
STATEMENT BY TURKEY
(29 October 2013)

Mr. President,

One fact must be clear from the outset: Any improvement of the human rights record of Israel requires first and foremost the ending of the illegal Israeli occupation in the territories of the State of Palestine. No meaningful progress can be made without ending this shameful situation.

We concur with the findings of the compilation of the OHCHR on the instances of violations of human rights by Israel.

We are very concerned about the attempts of radical Jewish settlers to forcefully enter Haram Al-Sharif, the expansion of illegal settlements and the disproportionate security measures of Israel which increase the very high level of tension in the area. Israel's illegal settlement activities also involve the issue of impunity of Israeli settlers.

Moreover, the Israeli restrictions on the Gaza Strip constitute an illegal and inhumane attack on the global conscience.

In light of this tragic situation of human rights, we recommend Israel to:

- Fully cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967
- immediately cease its illegal settlement activities
- put an end to the ill-treatment of suffering Palestinian prisoners, particularly children, held in Israeli prisons

- act in conformity with UN resolutions and the norms of international law and to resume full cooperation with the UN Human Rights Council
- abide, as an occupying power, by all its obligations under international law in the Palestinian territories.

Thank you.