

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 Judgement in the Ziada Case Against Israeli Generals to be Delivered in The Hague

The Hague, 30 November 2021

On Tuesday 7 December at 10:00am, the Appeal Court of The Hague will deliver the appeal judgement in the case brought by Ismail Ziada against Benny Gantz, Israeli Minster of Defence, and Amir Eshel, former Commander of the Israeli air force for the bombing of the Ziada family home in Gaza. The Court previously heard oral arguments from the parties on 23 September 2021, at which Ismail Ziada and his legal team challenged a first instance ruling which extended immunity to the defendants, denying Mr Ziada access to justice.

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, and 12-year-old nephew. 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 functional immunity to the accused as such immunity is not offered in war crimes cases, thus violating Mr Ziada's right to justice and 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.

The Ziada case is kindly supported by hundreds of individuals and organisations through donations and an <u>international crowdfunding campaign</u>.

For further information please contact the Palestine Justice Campaign spokesperson by email at palestinejusticecampaign@gmail.com or by telephone at +31 614294120.

For more information on the case people follow this <u>link</u>
To donate the campaign please follow this <u>link</u>
For a documentary on the case, follow this <u>link</u>









Practical Information

The pronouncement of the judgment will begin at 10:00 CET on Tuesday 7 December at the Appeal Court of The Hague. The pronouncement will last approximately 30 minutes.

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

The court is located within walking distance of The Hague Central Station. We invite all friends and followers of the Ziada case and the Palestine Justice Campaign to join us in a show of solidarity at the Appeals Court of Hague.

Please refer to the Court's website for the latest information on COVID-19 rules for attending the hearing.