

The Israeli Government Has Confiscated Medical Supplies for Gaza

By [Freedom Flotilla Coalition](#)

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#), [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

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The Freedom Flotilla Coalition continues to strongly demand the immediate release of the 114 boxes of medical supplies for the health services of Gaza that were carried on the [Al Awda](#) and [Freedom](#) boats of the 2018 Freedom Flotilla to Gaza, recently hijacked by Israeli forces. As Swedish Foreign Affairs Minister Margot Wallström [has stated](#), the cargo must be released, according to international law.*

As we reminded the Israeli Government in our August 9, 2018 statement, international law requires the delivery of medical supplies. Article 23 of the Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War ([Geneva Convention IV, 1949](#)) says that "Each High Contracting Party shall allow the free passage of all consignments of medical and hospital stores ... intended only for civilians of another High Contracting Party, even if the latter is its adversary."

Additionally, the [San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea](#) (12 June 1994) says in paragraph 104:

"The blockading belligerent shall allow the passage of medical supplies for the civilian population or for the wounded and sick members of armed forces, subject to the right to prescribe technical arrangements, including search, under which such passage is permitted. Further, [The Manual on the Law of Non-International Armed Conflict \(2006\)](#), says in point 2 in the commentary to Rule 2.3.10: "By extension, all objects indispensable to the survival of civilians should be protected, especially medications. The protection means that the enemy is not permitted to attack, destroy, remove, or render useless the aforementioned items."

Our Israeli attorney, Gaby Lasky has been in contact with Israeli Occupation authorities to arrange delivery of the humanitarian medical supplies, but to date none have arrived in Gaza.

Full inventories of the medical supplies in each box have been provided previously and can be produced on request.

We urge concerned citizens around the world to call your [Foreign Ministry](#)** and the Israeli Embassy (if there is one) in your respective country to demand that the Israeli Government

immediately releases the 114 boxes of medical supplies to Gaza, as required by international law.

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Notes

*Two boxes of medical supplies were also on the *Falestine*, which was unable to complete the final leg of the mission.

** [Some Foreign Ministries detailed here.](#)

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