

**Honourable François-Philippe Champagne**  
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Dear Minister,

I am writing to you out of deep concern for the lives of Palestinian children living under Israeli military occupation. They experience insecurity in so many ways. I am especially concerned about Israel's practice of detaining children in military prison.

Israel detains 500 to 700 Palestinian children aged 12 to 17 each year. Three quarters of these children experience physical violence from soldiers and guards. They are routinely denied contact with family members and legal services during arrest and interrogation. Because of the trauma of their experience, they have great difficulty readjusting to home life upon release.

All children deserve a life of safety and security, a life free from fear and want. Please take steps to appoint a Special Envoy to monitor and report on the human rights situation of Palestinian children the occupied territories, including Gaza. Canada must do more to urge protection of Palestinian children.

Sincerely yours,