



**Alyn Smith MEP**

Member of the European Parliament for Scotland  
Scottish National Party, on your side in Europe  
[www.alynsmith.eu](http://www.alynsmith.eu)

19th August 2014

Our Ref: AES/Gaza

**When replying please reply to: Edinburgh**

Rt Hon David Cameron MP  
10 Downing Street  
London  
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister,

**'Call to end arms trade with Israel'**

I'm writing to you to back calls for UK Government to impose an arms embargo on Israel following the month-long war in the Gaza Strip.

The UN has said that there is a strong possibility that international law has been violated and the UN Secretary General described the recent shelling of a UN school in Rafah - sheltering displaced people - as a criminal act.

It is imperative that there is an investigation into whether or not UK arms have been used in any violation of international law. Until that has been confirmed the UK Government should implement a complete suspension of arms sales to Israel.

While we condemn rocket attacks from Gaza, we condemn in the strongest possible terms the heavily disproportionate response from the Israeli Government.

The human cost of any war is deplorable, and when governments sell weapons into war zones they cannot simply absolve themselves of responsibility for what happens when they are used.

The UK's relationship with Israel may have been profitable for arms companies, but it had a devastating impact on the people of Gaza.

The Scottish Government already announced £500,000 in humanitarian aid, in addition to the UK contribution, to help people affected by the crisis in Gaza. The Scottish Government has also offered to treat casualties requiring specialist care as a result of the conflict in Scottish hospitals.

You will be aware of numerous protests against Israeli military action in Gaza but mass outrage expressed on the streets of Scotland and the UK is yet to be reflected in the actions of this government, and this is unacceptable.

I urge you to implement a two-way arms embargo on Israel until it ends its human rights violations and complies with international law.

Yours sincerely,

**Alyn Smith MEP**

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