

**Annual Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people,
29th November 2021**

On the occasion of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, I would like to share with you the message of His Excellency President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey to Mr. Cheikh Niang, the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. I quote:

**“MESSAGE OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN
REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE**

Ankara, 29 November 2021

**Dear Mr. Cheikh Niang
Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian
People**

Honourable Chairman,

On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, I once again reiterate, on behalf of myself and my nation, our strong support for the just cause of our Palestinian brothers and sisters.

Turkey continues to support the efforts towards the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of established United Nations parameters, leading to the establishment of an independent State of Palestine on the borders of 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

It is clear that the current policies of occupation, annexation and blockade against Palestine do not contribute to the efforts aimed at achieving peace and stability in the Middle East or strengthening dialogue and reconciliation. On the contrary, these policies plunge the entire region into deeper instability.

We welcome the establishment of an Independent International Commission within the UN Human Rights Council to investigate violations committed in the occupied Palestinian territory. We are ready to provide every assistance and support to the work of the Commission.

Likewise, we also welcomed the ruling of the International Criminal Court that it has jurisdiction over the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, which has been under Israeli occupation since 1967.

We consider this decision of the International Criminal Court as a meaningful step towards preventing impunity for crimes committed in the Palestinian territory and thereby also preventing possible future crimes.

We believe that this decision will also contribute to the implementation of the Resolution on the Protection of the Palestinian Civilian Population, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly, under the leadership of Turkey during its Summit Presidency of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Efforts to change or erode the historical, legal and demographic status of Jerusalem constitute another challenge that we are faced with. These steps violate international law, including UN resolutions on the status of Jerusalem, undermining the vision of a two-state solution and prospects for peace in the region.

All members of the international community should respect the international parameters on the historical and legal status of Jerusalem.

Turkey attaches great importance to the intra-Palestinian reconciliation process and continues to encourage all Palestinian groups towards unity and solidarity.

The only way to find a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Palestinian issue is to end the Israeli occupation.

We will continue to work together with the brotherly Palestinian people for the establishment of an independent, sovereign and contiguous State of Palestine based on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

We deem it important that the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People continues to work effectively in order for the peace process to be revitalized on a solid ground.

On this occasion, I would like to thank the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its successful work. May Allah bless your endeavours with success.

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN
President of the Republic of Turkey”

Thank you.