 **POSITION PAPER**



**Committee:** United Nations High Commissioner

 for Refuges (UNHCR)

**Country:** Kingdom of Belgium

**Topic:** The Relocation of Palestinian People amid

 the Israel-Hamas Conflict and Third Party Involvement in the Post Conflict Zone

With regard to the Israeli-Palestinian war, the Kingdom of Belgium advocated secure borders for Israel and a free Palestine. The Palestinian-Israeli war began in 1948 and is still an armed conflict in Palestine today. The war started because both Israel and Palestine wanted to dominate the Middle East. In 1948, the Arab League intervened on behalf of the Palestinian Arabs, starting the Arab-Israeli war, which ended in a ceasefire in 1949. In 1967, Israel occupied the Palestinian territories. This situation was tried to be resolved with the Oslo Accords of 1993-1995, but today the Palestinian people continue to be subjected to Israeli military occupation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The Kingdom of Belgium values international law and human rights. It opposes Israeli pressure on Palestine and considers it unlawful. Belgium applies a policy of humanitarian aid to the people living in Gaza and the West Bank. This is implemented to support the basic needs of Palestinians, education and health. Belgium declares that Israel must return to its pre-1967 borders and that East Jerusalem must become the capital of Palestine once again.

Serious crises and widespread destruction in the Palestinian territories as a result of the Israel-Hamas conflict. As a result ofthe conflicts, the involvement of a third party is inevitable for the reconstruction process of the region and to and to ensure security. Belgium do not approve of these hardships fort he Palestinians.

The Kingdom of Belgium adopts a balanced and peaceful position on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. It advocates that the sides can be resolved through a two-state solution. This solution aims at an independent Palestinian state and a secure Israeli state. Belgian Foreign Minister Hadja Lahbib emphasised that Israel cannot ensure its permanent security unless the Palestinians have their own country. Moreover, Belgium cooperates with the European Union on this issue and strives for the recognition of Palestine as a country.