

lawyers for palestinian  
human rights



First by email to: [letters@guardian.co.uk](mailto:letters@guardian.co.uk)

Letters to the Editor  
The Guardian  
Kings Place  
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Sunday, 4 October 2009

**RE: Palestinians bow to US pressure on Gaza report**

**FOR PUBLICATION**

Dear Editor,

It is deplorable that the Goldstone Report on the Gaza conflict was removed from the agenda of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) last week ('Palestinians bow to US pressure on Gaza report', Guardian, 3 October). In effect this means the report will not now be adopted by the Council and no action will be taken to implement its recommendations this year. The Report may instead be voted on at the HRC's next session in March 2010.

Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR) support the findings and recommendations of the report and is dismayed at the suggestion that accountability for the victims in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel, for violations allegedly committed by Israel, the authorities in Gaza and the PA, could adversely affect the peace process.

Justice Goldstone's words at the presentation of the report at the HRC on 29 September cannot be improved on: "This is the time for action. The lack of accountability for war crimes and possible crimes against humanity has reached a crisis point; the ongoing lack of justice is undermining any hope for a successful peace process and reinforcing an environment that fosters violence." As all the Palestinian NGOs have made clear in their condemnation of last week's deferral: delay is not an acceptable option for the victims as justice delayed is justice denied.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Machover, Chair, Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights