



ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY

Military Court Watch

Your ref.:

Our ref.:

Date: 31 January 2017

**Re: Forcible transfer of protected persons from the West Bank**

Dear Sirs,

I was made aware today of a letter you had sent to me more than one year ago that had gone unanswered, due to a mishap with our internal email distribution. I apologize for not responding to you earlier.

In your letter, you ask what Norway will do to prevent the forcible transfer of detainees from the West Bank to prisons in Israel. You also mention that this practice has been challenged in the Israeli Supreme Court, most lately in 2010. I would like to point out that the organizations who presented the petition to the court at that time – Yesh Din, ACRI and HaMoked – all received financial support from Norway. The support to these organizations, and others - has continued over the following years, and constitutes an important part of our contribution to promote Palestinian legal rights. Of particular relevance to your question is the long standing Norwegian support for the work of HaMoked, who annually provides legal assistance in hundreds of cases involving detainee rights.

Furthermore, Norway has raised the issue of detainee rights on all relevant levels in our dialogue with the Israeli authorities – including the highest political levels. We have placed particular importance on the issue of minors in detention in these conversations. We will continue to promote these issues on the bilateral and the multilateral level, with an emphasis on existing obligations under international law.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Hanssen-Bauer  
Ambassador

Postal address:  
P.O. Box 17575  
61175 Tel Aviv

emb.telaviv@mfa.no

Office address:  
40 Einstein Street, Canion  
Ramat Aviv, 13th floor  
69101 Tel Aviv  
www.norway.org.il

Telephone:  
+972 3 744 1490  
Org. no.:

972417920

Norges ambassade i Tel  
Aviv

Simen Ekblom  
First Secretary