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From: s9(2)(g)(ii)

Sent: Friday, 22 May 2026 2:24 pm

To:APPLETON, Michael (Inet) <Michael.Appleton@parliament.govt.nz>; ... s9(2)(g)(ii)

Subject: RE: Summons of Israeli Ambassador [SEC=RESTRICTED]

Background

All three New Zealanders were deported from Israel to Türkiye overnight. Sumud flotilla organisers were present on arrival in Istanbul. They coordinated medical checks and treatment, legal briefings, and transport to pre-arranged accommodation. New Zealand consular officials were not at the airport, consistent with the position that only standard consular assistance would be provided. Consular officials have been in contact with the New Zealanders and their families. The New Zealanders have raised allegations of harsh mistreatment, and disappointment we could not offer more than our standard consular services. Family members have expressed gratitude for our updates.

s9(2)(a)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs' statement yesterday has received factual coverage in both Israeli and Turkish media:

- o [Sumud Filosu ilk amacına ulaştı! Soykırıma sessiz kalan ülkelerden İsrail'e tepki yağdı - Hürriyet Son Dakika Güncel Haberler](#)
- o [Yeni Zelanda İsrail büyükelçisini Dışişleri Bakanlığına çağırdı - Haber 7 DÜNYA](#)
- o [New Zealand summons Israeli ambassador over Ben Gvir's treatment of Gaza flotilla activists | The Times of Israel](#)
- o ["מצית מהומה עולמית": סערת ההשפלה של בן גביר בראש הקתורת](#)
- o [The diplomatic crisis following Ben Gvir's video deepens | N12](#)

We continue to receive emails relating to the flotilla, although the volume had dropped.

Unless there are further significant developments, we will not report further on the consular situation.

Media lines

The three New Zealanders have now been deported from Israel. Consular support is available to the New Zealanders if needed. We are in contact with their family members. New Zealand was very clear that we expected Israel to adhere to its international legal obligations. This included its treatment of the three New Zealanders participating in the flotilla.

New Zealand has a long-standing 'do not travel' advisory in place for Gaza. The advisory explicitly warns New Zealanders against any attempt to enter Gaza by sea in breach of Israeli Navy restrictions, including participation in flotillas to deliver aid.

Ngā mihi

s9(2)(g)(ii)

Te Ohu Atawhai | Consular Division
Manatū Aorere | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(g)(ii)

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Out of scope - remainder of email chain