



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **Global Land Mobilizations Erupt in Defiance of israeli State Piracy at Sea; Civilians Across the Globe Rise to Defend the Right to Break israel's Illegal Siege of Gaza**

**April 30,  
2026**

**Mediterranean Sea** – More than 200 land mobilizations have been organized globally with even more coming up by the moment on the heels of israel's violent kidnapping and sabotage of the Global Sumud Flotilla. From major capital cities to port towns, people are taking to the streets, livid at the escalation of israel's impunity, continuous war crimes and breaking of international laws and outright piracy committed by their naval forces—a maritime extension of the same doctrine of starvation and destruction deployed against the Palestinian people for decades.

In Italy alone, over 40 planned direct actions are underway as citizens express outrage that their governments have done nothing to stop the export of these tactics of annihilation to the high seas. This ground-level fury is compounded by recent institutional failures. Last week, the European Union failed to pass a vote to suspend its association agreement with israel, demonstrating a brazen contempt for Palestinian life that has now reached a breaking point on the streets.

This disconnect between the people and their leadership has reached a breaking point, fueled by the "weaponized neglect" that left civilian observers stranded on broken vessels in the path of a massive approaching storm. While the israeli military attempted to break the mission through calculated sabotage, the resolve of the participants remains firm: 31 of the 53 vessels that were sailing yesterday successfully reached safe waters and are currently recalibrating, fully prepared to continue the journey to break the illegal siege of Gaza.

### **A Violent Raid on Humanitarians**

The recent naval assault was a wrecking operation targeting a peaceful formation that was not even attempting to reach Gaza at the time of the attack. The formation was sailing toward Greece to regroup, and many on board - including medical professionals - were never intended to sail the entire distance, only to reach the "orange line".

The brutality of the raid was further highlighted by the fact that many participants were supporting other fleets and had left their passports on their initial boats. By boarding these ships only to destroy engines and jam communications before fleeing, the israeli military intentionally left these humanitarians stranded and undocumented in the face of a life-threatening storm.

### **Demanding Immediate International Accountability**

The lack of response from the international community is being viewed as complicity in a state-sanctioned violent act. Organizers are calling on the flag states—Poland, Italy, Spain, Slovenia, and France—to immediately uphold their legal obligations to ensure the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) for their vessels and citizens.

The global mobilization will not cease until the siege is broken and the perpetrators of this state-sanctioned piracy are held responsible for their crimes against humanity both at sea and on the land of Palestine.

Due to weather, safety and as part of our commitment to due diligence, land mobilizations will continue and GSF will provide updates in the coming days.

### **SEARCH & RESCUE SUPPORT CONTACT**

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