

Mr Antonio GUTTEREZ Secretary-General United Nations 405 East 42nd Street New York, NY, 10017 USA

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Mr Secretary General,

Following the long-awaited release of the Israeli hostages held by the terrorist organisation Hamas, the press alerted the international community to the fact that these hostages were being held captive on the premises of UNRWA, an agency for which you are responsible.

As UNRWA is also financed by the European budget, we, Members of the European Parliament, representing various European countries and political parties, call on you to put an end to the operations of UNRWA, which contravene the neutrality of the United Nations and do great harm to your essential work and to the image of the organisation you represent.

UNRWA has contravened all its missions and has helped a terrorist organisation to hide hostages, which is politically, morally and legally highly reprehensible.

Of course, we understand that refugee management is an important part of the UN's mission, but we believe that it can be managed by UNHCR.

The universality of the values espoused by the UN requires intransigence towards organisations that contravene these values.

We count on you to remove UNRWA from the United Nations agencies so that the values we collectively defend are not tarnished by the actions of a few.

We remain at your disposal to provide any kind of support.

Very respectfully yours,

Céline IMART, France, European People's Party (EPP)

François-Xavier BELLAMY, France, EPP Jorge BUXADE VILLALBA, Spain, Patriots for Europe (PfE) Jaroslav BZOCH, Czechia, PfE Laurent CASTILLO, France, EPP Susanna CECCARDI, Italy, PfE Henrik DAHL, Danemark, EPP Dick ERIXON, Swedish, European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) Christophe GOMART, France, EPP Maria GRAPINI, Romania, Socialist and Democrats (S&D) Niclas HERBST, Germany, EPP Monika HOHLMEIER, EPP, Germany Fernand KARTHEISER, Luxembourg, ECR Ondrej KOLAR, Czechia, EPP Rihards KOLS, Czechia, EPP Ondrej KRUTILEK, Czechia, ECR Lukas MANDL, Austria, EPP Jorge MARTIN, Spain, PfE Nadine MORANO, France, EPP Tiago MOREIRA DE SA, Portugal, PfE Bert-Jan RUISSEN, Netherland, ECR Paulius SAUDARGAS, Lithuania, EPP Kristoffer STORM, Danemark, ECR Alice TEODORESCU MAWE, Swedish, EPP Cristian TERHES, Romania, ECR Beatrice TIMGREN, Swedish, ECR Sebastian TYNKKYNEN, Finland, ECR Jessika VAN LEEUWEN, Netherland, EPP Charlie WEIMERS, Swedish, ECR Tomas ZDECHOVSKY, Czechia, EPP