



PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Abducted Flotilla Participants Being Forcibly Transported to Israeli Port; Arrival Expected Within Two Hours

May 19, 2026 **MEDITERRANEAN SEA** – The Global Sumud Flotilla has received confirmation that hundreds of civilian participants abducted during yesterday's illegal high-seas Israeli naval assault are currently being forcibly transported by Israeli occupying forces to a port in occupied Palestine.

The naval vessel carrying our kidnapped participants—including doctors, journalists, and human rights defenders from over 40 nations—is scheduled to dock within approximately two hours (at approximately 9:30 AM EDT / 4:30 PM local time).

The Global Sumud Flotilla demands the immediate, unconditional release of all our participants, alongside the more than 9,000 unjustly detained Palestinian political prisoners facing a codified regime of state-sanctioned terror. GSF also calls on world leaders to demand the release of the flotilla participants, release of the Palestinian political prisoners and hostages and an end to the genocide and blockade on Gaza.

Given testimonies from the April 29th illegal abduction of GSF participants in international waters, detailing patterns of torture, severe physical abuse, and invasive sexual violence perpetrated by Israeli occupation forces, we hold grave and immediate concerns for the physical safety and well-being of everyone illegally detained.

Journalists, international observers, and solidarity networks are urged to mobilize immediate coverage and monitor the arrival. Further updates on legal actions and global land mobilizations will follow as the situation develops.

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