



30 May 2024

WHA 77th session

Item 20, «Health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan»

Explanation of vote

Chair

Armenia recognizes and shares the concern regarding the unacceptability of taking of hostages during armed conflicts, including women, children and elderly, and the unacceptability of armed attacks against medical personnel, hospitals, ambulances and other health facilities which is a serious violation of the international humanitarian law and may further exacerbate the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza.

Armenia voted in favor of this decision.

However, nothing in this decision should be interpreted as justification of armed attacks against medical personnel, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals, which is a gross violation of the international humanitarian law

In this regard, we would like to recall the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be a military target.

We also emphasize the paramount importance of States respecting and fulfilling the orders of the ICJ. We urge all States to honour and abide by the orders of the ICJ without delay, as it's crucial for maintaining international order and ensuring justice for all.

Thank you