

I am writing this letter to express my grave concern for Yousef al-Kronz, a young journalist who has been shot by the Israeli forces while covering the Land Day protests, east of al-Borej refugee camp on 30 March. He was among the hundreds of people shot and wounded with live ammunition by Israeli forces during Land Day protests near the fence that separates Gaza from Israel.

He was transferred to a hospital in Gaza city, but as the hospital did not have the required equipment, doctors referred him to a hospital in Ramallah.

However, despite of the repeated requests for permission, he has not been granted the exit permit until now. In the meantime, one of his legs had to be amputated. If he does not receive immediate and adequate medical treatment, his another leg may have to be also amputated.

I urge you to facilitate the immediate transfer of critically injured Yousef al-Kronz, and other ill patients, to hospitals outside the Gaza Strip in order to receive life-saving specialized treatment.

I also urge you to lift the illegal blockade on Gaza and respect your obligation, as the occupying power, to ensure that residents of the Gaza Strip have access to adequate medical care.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Sincerely yours,