

Letter to the *Sydney Morning Herald*

by Jo Errey

Has anyone in the Israeli Government even bothered to calmly examine and listen to Hamas' very reasonable demands for a 10 year ceasefire (and hopefully beyond?).

Included in these are the opening of Gaza's borders and freedom of movement for Gazan residents, permitting Gazan fishermen to sail up to 10 kilometers from shore, allowing Palestinian farmers to work their fields inside the Gaza strip near the wall, release of Palestinian prisoners arrested in the West Bank following the kidnap and murder of three Israeli teenagers and the creation of an international committee to oversee implementation.¹

Eventually, if both sides want a lasting peace with justice, there will be no choice but to enter into negotiations with the enemy and, by doing so sooner rather than later, it will prevent further escalation of violence, bloodshed and tears.

18th July 2014

¹ For all ten conditions, see Ira Glunts, ' Hamas offers Israel 10 conditions for a 10 year truce', Mondoweiss, 16 Jul 2014: <http://mondoweiss.net/2014/07/report-israel-conditions#sthash.JiFikBjg.dpuf>