Dear Anthony Blinken

In 1999, the US government decided to provide $2.67 billion per year in military aid to Israel. In 2017, this amount increased to $3.8 billion per year.

After the Hamas outbreak and massacre on Oct. 7, 2023, you made the pledge of 14 billion in additional aid. At the UN General Assembly, the US rejected a ceasefire on Oct. 27.

The atrocities until half march are numerous:

The destruction of the urban area of the Gazastrip is worse than what we saw in Dresden and Rotterdam during WWII. The total amount of bombs dropped on the Gazastrip are equivalent to twice the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in WWII (Balakrishnan Rajagopal).

By mid march we count more than 31000 civilian deaths, about 65% of them women and children. So many dead in such a short time - this is unprecedented since World War II. 1.8 million Gaza residents are internal refugees. Routes declared safe by Israel were bombed. Roads, cars, apartments, farmland - everything was destroyed to pave the way for Israeli ground forces. Ambulances were shelled. 348 Health care workers were killed; 165 UN staff and 125 journalists became martyrs.

There are now serious concerns about the lack of food. Half a million people are facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity (IPC Phase 5). There is no access to clean water in the northern governorates. Wastewater treatment systems are non-operational.

With its military retaliation to the atrocities of Oct. 7, Israel is flouting all international conventions.

Much of the above falls into the category of war crimes.

Breaking the Silence reports that the instructions for the IDF soldiers are: “If you see someone, you shoot”. Comment from a soldier: “the assumption is: everyone you see is a terrorist”.

Militarily, bombing urban neighbourhoods can hardly be understood as a “fight against Hamas”. But indeed: bombing poses 0% risk to the Israeli army.

Decennia of occupation left traces. Palestinians are denied the right to self-determination. In the occupied territories, water wells are being disabled. Utilities are denied to Palestinian communities. Homes are being razed to the ground. Roads are blocked. European-funded schools are blown up. Exports are thwarted. The silent ethnic cleansing of Palestinians in East Jerusalem. Administrative detentions without any legally valid charges. Torture of prisoners. Settler violence, in which the Israeli army does not intervene because, “We only protect Jews”.

The powerful US turns a blind eye to all these injustices.

The battle for equal civil rights for blacks was finally settled in the U.S. in 1968.

The Israel - Palestine case involves the exact same issue: equal rights.

We urge you to take position.

We call on you to stop military support to Israel immediately.

If the US continues to supply arms to Israel, it is complicit in the crimes Israel is committing.

Sincerely yours,