

Military Advocate General
Brig. Gen. Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi
Email: Pazar@idf.il

Dear Brig. Gen. Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi,

I am deeply concern over the enforced disappearance of **Haitham Abdelwahedm** and **Nidal alWaheidi**, two journalists from the occupied Gaza Strip whose whereabouts have remained unknown since October 7, 2023. The detention of the two journalists was widely documented as they were reporting from Beit Hanoun/Erez crossing. Two-and-a-half months since the two went missing while on duty, their families, colleagues, and friends have received no information about them.

As recently as December 18, the Israeli army told Israeli daily, Haaretz that a “number of” detainees from the Gaza Strip died in custody at the military detention facilities in the Beersheba Airfield, also known as Sdeh Teyman, where hundreds of Palestinians from Gaza are held in conditions that violate the prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment.

We urge you to immediately disclose the whereabouts of Nidal al-Waheidi and Haitham Abdelwahed, detail the legal grounds for their detention, ensure their humane treatment, including access to medical services and protection from torture and other ill-treatment, and grant them access to the lawyers appointed by their families. Unless they are charged promptly with a criminal offense and granted a fair trial in accordance with international standards, they must be immediately released.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Embassy of Israel in the United States
Ambassador Michael Herzog
3514 International Drive, NW, Washington DC 20008