

International Conference
«Protection of Rights and Constitutional Supervision»

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**Session I «Initiating Constitutional Review with the Aim to Ensure
Constitutional Rights and Freedoms»**

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Ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to begin my speech by expressing our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the President and members of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation for their gracious invitation, hospitality, and warm welcome. We wish this conference all success in achieving its objectives of enhancing and safeguarding individual and collective human rights through constitutional oversight of courts and constitutional councils worldwide.

In this context, it must be mentioned that constitutional courts and councils have played a pivotal and effective role in protecting these rights and establishing a framework of rules and principles for their maintenance and enhancement in recent decades. However, people around the world still aspire to a more powerful and influential role for these institutions in this field, especially concerning collective human rights and rebalancing individual and collective human rights based on the principle that individual human rights cannot be discussed in the absence of collective rights for them.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We take great pride in Palestine that we have initiated and succeeded to some extent in laying the initial foundations for a state based on the separation of powers and the establishment of necessary oversight bodies, including the State Audit and Administrative Control Bureau and the Anti-Corruption Commission,

foremost among them the Supreme Constitutional Court despite the specificity and complexities of our experience, and despite not yet achieving the victory of liberation and the ongoing occupation of the Palestinian land in violation of the charters and resolutions of the international legitimacy.

Undoubtedly, the recent establishment of the Supreme Constitutional Court in Palestine enhances the importance of benefiting from the experiences of other equivalent institutions taking in consideration the specifics and priorities of our own experience.

It is necessary to emphasize that our people cannot proceed to the stage of building without first achieving liberation. Our people, through their legitimate and sole representative (the PLO), continue to aspire to achieve their legitimate goals of freedom, return, and independence through the two-state solution affirmed by the international legitimacy. They aim to attain full membership in the United Nations and its affiliated organizations and institutions in the near future.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Our Palestinian people have been subjected to genocide for more than eight months claiming the lives of over fifty thousand martyrs and missing persons, in addition to nearly one hundred thousand injured and disabled individuals. Gaza has been returned to a pre-modern state, stripped of the necessities of life and transformed into an environment inhospitable to living. Moreover, the infrastructure of several Palestinian cities in the West Bank has been destroyed in addition to the thousands of prisoners and missing persons. The occupying state continues to ignore and turn a deaf ear to international calls and resolutions which demand it to halt the war against humanity that it wages against our people in which the continuation of occupation and the denial of Palestinian rights are unquestionably the main causes of this.

Our people, nevertheless, still believe and aspire to peace based on justice and international legitimacy, far from the culture of extremism and the agendas and interests of international and regional entities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The reality of the Palestinian experience confirms that ensuring and protecting collective human rights is the starting point for individual human rights. It clearly indicates that the jurisdictions of constitutional courts and councils should not be limited to the conventional frameworks of individual rights, rather, it should extend to encompass the rights of nations and collective human rights.

It seems that our destiny as the Palestinian people and our institutions is to raise the banner of truth high, while confronting the swords of oppression and its arrows with our bare chests.

Thank you for your attention.