

It is an anomaly for Foreign Minister Bishop to be bidding for Australia to be on the Human Rights Council 2018-20, with its notorious betrayal of obligations under international law, to play its part in upholding Palestine's political & human rights.

Shamefully, our government has recently actually defied that law, by refuting the illegality of the Settlements (better labelled colonies ?), as against our friends & allies; against UN resolution 2234; & incredibly also opposing UN's adoption of 20 resolutions critical of Israel between 2014 & 15. Now it is even wishing to deny justice for Palestinians in the International Criminal Court – i.e. granting further immunity for Israel to continue, indeed worsen, its war crimes & crimes against humanity!

It is surely well past time, that Australia prove a responsible member of UN & become part of the consensus of 138 states to recognise the State of Palestine. That must be a reality well before any contemplation of in the future becoming considered for inclusion in the Human Rights Council!

Sincerely,  
Alice Beauchamp,