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**From:** Stephanie Tran [REDACTED] s 47F  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 January 2026 10:03 AM  
**To:** Media  
**Subject:** Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL – Think quick before you click\*\***

Dear ACNC media team,

We are preparing an article examining Australian charities with tax-deductible status that have provided funds to Israeli military units and to organisations or projects connected to Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, which are considered illegal under international law.

The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories, Francesca Albanese, raised concerns about the role of foreign, tax-deductible charities in funding military-linked activities and settlement expansion in occupied Palestinian territory in her [July 2025 report](#) “From economy of occupation to economy of genocide”.

- “Faith-based charities have also become key financial enablers of illegal projects, including in the occupied Palestinian territory, often receiving tax deductions abroad despite strict regulatory charitable frameworks. The Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF) and its 20+ affiliates fund settler expansion and military-linked projects. Since October 2023, platforms such as Israel Gives have enabled tax-deductible crowdfunding in 32 countries for Israeli military units and settlers. United States-based Christian Friends of Israeli Communities, Dutch Christians for Israel and global affiliates, sent over \$12.25 million in 2023 to various projects that support colonies, including some that train extremist settlers.”

We have evidence that the following ACNC-registered charities have provided funding to the Israel Defense Forces and/or to organisations operating in, or supporting, Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank:



We are seeking comment from the ACNC on the following questions:

1. What obligations do ACNC registered charities with deductible gift recipient (DGR) status have to ensure their activities and overseas funding comply with Australian law, including sanctions law and counter-terrorism financing requirements, as well as Australia’s international legal obligations?
2. How does the ACNC assess whether a charity’s overseas activities are consistent with the requirement to pursue a charitable purpose and to operate for the public benefit, particularly where funds may support foreign military units or activities in occupied territory?

3. Does the ACNC consider funding directed to Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, which is illegal under international law, to be compatible with charitable purposes under Australian law?
4. Has the ACNC received complaints or opened compliance reviews or investigations into any Australian charities alleged to be funding the IDF or settlement-related activities since October 2023?
5. What enforcement or regulatory action is available to the ACNC if a registered charity is found to be supporting activities that may contravene international humanitarian law or undermine Australia's stated foreign policy position on settlements?
6. Is the ACNC working with other government agencies, including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or AUSTRAC, to monitor or address risks associated with overseas charitable funding in conflict zones?

As we are planning to publish the article tomorrow afternoon, we would appreciate a response by **12pm tomorrow**.

If we do not receive a response by that time, we will note in the article that the ACNC was contacted for comment but did not respond.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

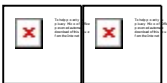
Kind regards,

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**Stephanie Tran**

Journalist

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Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission