

From: [REDACTED] s 47E(d)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 3:18 PM

To: [REDACTED] s 47E(d)

Cc: Media <Media@acnc.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

Hi [REDACTED] s 47E(d)

Please see draft response below for your review / approval.

Hi Stephanie,

Please see a reply to your queries below, and if needed, please attribute to an ACNC spokesperson.

- 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?**

Australian registered charities that operate outside of Australia must meet the External Conduct Standards set out in Division 50 of the ACNC Act. The External Conduct Standards require registered charities to comply with Australian laws. Compliance with Australian laws includes an obligation for charities to take reasonable steps to ensure they are not breaching international sanctions.

The ACNC cannot enforce international law unless that law has been incorporated into Australian domestic legislation.

- 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?**

The Australian government has regularly affirmed its view, in alignment with the United Nations' view, that settling civilian populations in an occupied territory is contrary to international law. At this stage, those laws have not been incorporated into domestic Australian law. The ACNC can only enforce 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?

While we cannot comment on specific charities due to our [secrecy provisions](#), we can confirm that between 7 October 2023 to 31 December 2025, the ACNC received 896 concerns relating to 88 charities in relation to the Israel/Gaza conflict.

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?

The ACNC can only enforce Australian law.

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?

The ACNC works collaboratively with other Australian Government agencies to ensure the best placed agency takes a lead. We support a whole-of-government approach to addressing fraud, and work with other government agencies when it is appropriate to do so.

Thanks,

s
47E(d)

s 47E(d) (she/her)

Senior Media and Communications Officer | Education and Public Affairs

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

s 47E(d)

| E

s 47E(d)

| W [acnc.gov.au](https://www.acnc.gov.au)

From: [redacted] s 47E(d)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 2:17 PM

To: [redacted] s 47E(d)

Subject: FW: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

OFFICIAL

After discussion with [redacted] s 47E(d) – [redacted] s 47C
[redacted]

To assist with the draft Cate provided the following:

[redacted] s 22
[redacted]
[redacted]

 [redacted] s 22

 [redacted] s 22

The brief answer on settlements is that the Australian government has regularly affirmed its view, in alignment with the United Nations' view, that settling civilian populations in an occupied territory (i.e. Israeli settlements in Gaza) is contrary to international law. But those laws have not been incorporated into domestic Australian law. The ACNC can only enforce Australian law.

[redacted] s 47E(d) (she/her)

Director | Advice Services, Education and Public Affairs | Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

[redacted] s 47E(d) | www.acnc.gov.au

The ACNC acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and Elders past and present.



OFFICIAL

From: [redacted] s 47E(d)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 2:12 PM

To: [redacted] s 47E(d)

Subject: Re: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

OFFICIAL

Hi [redacted] s 47E(d)

[redacted] s 47E(d)
[redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] s 47E(d)
[redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] s 47E(d)
[redacted]
[redacted]

Released under FOI Act 1982
Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

s 47E(d)

Regards,

s 47E(d)

Senior Manager Compliance

Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission

s 47E(d)

E compliance@acnc.gov.au | **W** www.acnc.gov.au



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OFFICIAL

From: s 47E(d)

Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 1:35 PM

To: s 47E(d)

Subject: FW: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

OFFICIAL

Hi s
47E(d)

As discussed appreciate your views on below from a potential disclosure perspective

- s 47E(d)
- [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
[Redacted]

s 47E(d) (she/her)

Director | Advice Services, Education and Public Affairs | Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

s 47E(d) | [W www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

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From: [REDACTED] s 47E(d)
Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 10:13 AM
To: [REDACTED] s 47E(d)
Cc: Media <Media@acnc.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

From: Media
Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 10:08 AM
To: [REDACTED] s 47E(d)
[REDACTED] s 47E(d)
Cc: Media <Media@acnc.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Request for comment: ACNC oversight of charities funding IDF and West Bank settlements

Hi [REDACTED] s 47E(d) A Michael West media query with a deadline of 12pm tomorrow deadline. Sharon.

From: Stephanie Tran [REDACTED] s 47F
Sent: Tuesday, 20 January 2026 10:03 AM
To: Media <Media@acnc.gov.au>
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:

- [REDACTED] s 47E(d)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

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,

--

Stephanie Tran

Journalist

www.michaelwest.com.au

