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## **Middle East: Borrell and Lenarcic (EU), hunger and famine in Gaza. Opening all possible accesses to humanitarian aids**

“Five months into the Gaza crisis, the results of the updated Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) assessment released today indicate the unfolding of the worst possible forecast for Gaza”. A new statement has just come today from the High Representative for Foreign Affairs Josep Borrell, along with Commissioner Lenarcic, about famine in the Palestinian Strip. “Gaza is already facing famine, with 100% of people estimated to be acutely food insecure, according to the IPC. This is unprecedented. No IPC analysis has ever recorded such levels of food insecurity anywhere in the world. (...) While we are exploring all possible means of aid delivery, including airdrops and maritime corridors, these do not replace the most viable and effective solution which is the full and unconditional opening of land access”. Borrell and Lenarcic ask for an urgent increase “of existing access points for land deliveries, and the opening of additional access routes. These routes are needed to secure impactful food assistance for the entire population of Gaza, the provision of specialised medical aid to address malnutrition and the implementation of public health measures”.

Valentina Bombelli