

From: [Minister Coveney's Office](#)
To: [Eileen Forde](#)
Subject: Response to your correspondence -DFA-MCO-04437-2021
Date: 01 June 2022 10:50:27

Reference No: DFA-MCO-04437-2021

Dear Cllr. Mallaghan,

On behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Mr Simon Coveney TD, I would like to thank you for your correspondence of 4 June 2021 regarding the Ambassador of Israel to Ireland. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding, your correspondence was forwarded to officials in the Middle East Unit of Department of Foreign Affairs at the time.

Your correspondence calls for Department of Foreign Affairs to give consideration to the position of the Israeli Ambassador in Ireland. Ireland's bilateral relationship with Israel is an important means for us to directly communicate our concerns, where necessary, around Israel's actions in the occupied Palestinian territory. By expelling the Ambassador, we would be closing down our channel of communication with the Israeli government.

The Minister would like to reiterate that the overall human rights situation in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory remains a priority for him, and Ireland will continue to take every opportunity to raise this with all appropriate interlocutors. Ireland will also continue to work with EU partners to promote coherent and effective EU action to work towards a lasting and peaceful two-state solution.

Yours sincerely,

Ciarán Doyle
Private Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs