

# The “Day After”: Preventing Aid from Going to Terror

## **2025 Activity Report for Matanel Foundation**

<b>Report's Writer:</b> Olga Deutsch Vice President, NGO Monitor <a href="mailto:olga.deutsch@ngo-monitor.org">olga.deutsch@ngo-monitor.org</a> +972-2-566-1020 +972-54-665-8993	<b>Organization's website:</b> <a href="http://ngo-monitor.org">ngo-monitor.org</a> <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="https://facebook.com/NgoMonitor/">facebook.com/NgoMonitor/</a>
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**Number of active participants in the program:** Many dozens of European MPs and officials.

**Estimated number of impacted participants:** Millions of Jews and Israelis; tens of thousands of NGO employees and donors; millions of consumers of resulting media.

### **Introduction**

Through the “Day After” project, NGO Monitor engages extensively with decision-makers in the European Union, Germany, France, Sweden, the Netherlands, the UK, and Italy. Our goal is to drive meaningful policy changes to prevent taxpayer funds from ending in the hands of any actor that does not recognize Israel’s right to exist or that is affiliated in any way with a terror organization. We highlight deficiencies in aid oversight, report on diversion of aid funds to radical groups, propose concrete policy improvements, and provide tailored policy recommendations to each country.

### **State of the Program - 2025**

In 2025, there was unprecedented demand from European decision makers for our research and expertise. The attacks on Israel and the Jewish people have never been this intense, and our issues – NGOs, humanitarian aid, and anti-Israel discourse – are center stage. We succeeded in driving meaningful policy changes in countries and institutions across Europe.

### **Primary Achievements (Selected Highlights)**

- 24 MPs asked 19 parliamentary questions based on our research.
- NGO Monitor participated in 18 briefings and parliamentary hearings.
- NGO Monitor worked with 48 pro-Israel organizations with activities across Europe, including 34 in the project’s target countries.

- Our December report, “Puppet Regime: Hamas’ Coercive Grip on Aid and NGO Operations in Gaza” – based on internal Hamas documents – names and directly implicates 60 international NGOs that together have received hundreds of millions of euros from European governments. The report spurred a tsunami of media attention, and led to a flurry of parliamentary questions and letters, particularly to the MEP and French government. In light of the attention being paid by journalists and by MPs, governments must now answer for their insufficient vetting processes and lax eligibility criteria for funding.

### **European Union**

- NGO Monitor conducted high-level briefings at the European Parliament, where we presented our policy paper recommending that aid be conditioned so it does not fall into terrorists’ hands. We held a lunch briefing co-hosted by the chairs of the Control and Budget Committees.
- Using NGO Monitor research, an MEP demanded that the European Anti-Fraud Office and the French National Antiterrorism Prosecutor’s Office open investigations into whether EU funding had been diverted to Hamas.

### **Italy**

- The “Hamas Documents” report garnered significant media attention from several major Italian media outlets, which focused on the NGOs funded by Italy.

### **Sweden**

- Following recommendations by NGO Monitor, Sweden changed its selection process for NGOs supported under its Humanitarian Strategy. The process now includes (1) an analysis on whether beneficiaries support anti-democratic activity, violence, antisemitism, or other forms of hate; and (2) a media review, which can be directly attributed to NGO Monitor.
- Our recommendations resulted in Sweden ending its partnerships with Save the Children, Oxfam, World Vision, and the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine Israel (EAPPI). It also set the Human Rights Programme of the Palestinian NGO Development Center to conclude in 2026.
- In the wake of our communication with Swedish officials, the Ministry of Development launched an investigation into Palestinian NGOs’ affiliations with Hamas.

### **Germany**

Germany ended its funding to the radical Israeli NGOs Zochrot and New Profile, and the Palestinian NGO Miftah. The move followed the Bundestag’s 2024 resolution – advocated for by NGO Monitor to German decision-makers – to ban support for NGOs that spread antisemitism, question Israel’s right to exist, or actively support BDS.

### **Netherlands**

The Parliament passed a resolution to: (1) condition funding on grantees’ recognition of Israel and lack of terror ties; (2) increase transparency and accountability, including

detailed information on NGO board members and documentation of actual activities. We worked closely with Dutch partners to advocate for these changes.

#### **France**

- An MP in frequent contact with NGO Monitor presented a question regarding funding by the French Development Agency to the Platform of French NGOs for Palestine.
- In December, several MPs submitted a report connected to Palestinian terrorism to the government's commission of inquiry; they included our newly-released "Hamas Documents" report.

#### **UK**

- NGO Monitor issued a report documenting how British diplomats knew that a Hamas-controlled ministry would be involved in beneficiary selection for cash-based aid programs conducted with UNICEF and funded by the UK, but prioritized this risk as merely "reputational." Our report led to an explosion of media coverage worldwide, and triggered significant public and governmental scrutiny in Israel and the UK.
- Terror-linked NGO Al-Haq and local partners brought a legal case against the UK government, in an attempt to halt the F-35 program because Israel was involved. Amnesty, HRW, and Oxfam joined the case on the side of Al Haq to support the petition. NGO Monitor Legal Advisor Anne Herzberg stood as the sole counterweight to the NGO legal campaign. She filed several petitions to the Court to obtain documents; prepared an intervention in the case with the help of Col. Richard Kemp; and met with MPs and members of Congress, government officials, and pro-Israel community groups in the UK and the US (the US is the main partner on the F-35 program) to brief them about the case and broader issues. In July, the case was thrown out by the UK courts. NGO Monitor efforts garnered significant media attention.

#### **Evaluation**

Please see the attached report.

#### **Plans for 2026**

Moving forward, the "Hamas Documents" research will serve as an integral part of our work in Europe, as we continue — in collaboration with our European partners — to mount pressure on funders to improve their vetting mechanisms.