

## **Emergency motion Response to US Military Action in Iran – Motion as adjusted approved.**

8 Councillor Leinster, seconded by Bailie Pike, moved that

“Council expresses grave concern at the escalating crisis in the Middle East following the recent unilateral military strike ordered by US President Donald Trump against Iranian targets.

Council condemns this reckless and destabilising action and considers it a dangerous provocation that threatens to escalate into a wider regional conflict.

Council further notes with concern that this latest escalation appears to have been carried out in concert with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu whose government continues to wage a devastating campaign in Gaza. At a time when the international community is calling for an immediate ceasefire and accountability for war crimes, this strike on Iran shifts global attention away from the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and undermines efforts to secure justice and peace for the Palestinian people.

Council recognises that the Iranian government has itself been a bad actor on the international stage - with a deeply troubling human rights record, including violent repression of dissent, discrimination against women and minorities, and support for proxy forces across the region. However, Council believes that these serious issues cannot and must not be addressed through military escalation. The only credible path to peace, stability and accountability - both within Iran and in the wider region - lies in sustained, principled diplomacy rooted in international law and human rights.

Council reaffirms its belief in respect for international law, which exists precisely to prevent unilateral acts of aggression and to uphold the statement in the preamble to the UN Charter which calls *‘to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained’*. The use of force without a clear legal mandate undermines the global rules-based order, erodes the legitimacy of international institutions, and increases the risk of a spiral into further violence and instability.

Council expresses the genuine hope that the ceasefire which appears to have been agreed holds. However, Council recognises that recent ceasefires in the region have been short-lived, undermined by continued aggression and a failure to engage in meaningful diplomacy or adherence to international law.

Council therefore:

1. Urges the UK Government to unequivocally oppose unilateral military actions that risk further conflict in the Middle East and to work constructively with international partners to restore calm and pursue peaceful solutions;
2. Calls on the US Government to exercise restraint, prioritise diplomacy, and recommit to working within the framework of international law;
3. Reaffirms Glasgow’s status as a city of peace and international solidarity.”

Councillor Hussain, seconded by Councillor Carson, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) at paragraph 4,
  - (a) after “and support for proxy forces across the region” insert:

“Council also expresses serious concern regarding Iran’s nuclear ambitions, which poses a significant threat to regional and global security.”;
  - (b) after “international law and human rights” insert new sentence as follows:

“and welcomes the UK Governments calls for de-escalation and diplomacy as the route to peace.”;
- (2) remove the first resolution of “Urges the UK Government to unequivocally oppose unilateral military actions that risk further conflict in the Middle East and to work constructively with international partners to restore calm and pursue peaceful solutions;” and replace with the following:

“1 Calls upon the UK Government to reaffirm its commitment to diplomacy, support renewed talks around a long-term peace framework, and press for a peaceful resolution, through diplomacy, in partnership with international allies”; and
- (3) add 2 resolutions as follows:
  - “4. Reaffirms our unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace globally, including in Gaza and Ukraine.”; and
  5. Welcomes the UK Government efforts to assist British nationals in the region and offers any assistance that may be required.”

Councillor Massie, seconded by Councillor Bruce, moved as an amendment:-

- (1) after paragraph 3 ending “...the Palestinian people.”, insert:

“Council recognises Israel’s unprovoked attack on Iran as a deliberate attempt to break negotiations which would see the threat of nuclear war in the region decrease and therefore delegitimise its own maintenance of nuclear weapons.”;
- (2) after paragraph 4 ending “...and human rights.”, insert:

“Council also recognises the right of every society to develop organically towards being a free and fair society without the looming threat of international actors such as the US who would have Iran not free but subject to its own social, political financial hegemony.”;

- (3) after paragraph 5 ending "...violence and instability.", insert 3 additional new paragraphs:

"Council recognises Glaswegians have regularly stood up against breaches of international and humanitarian law in the Middle East in recent months and years through regular peaceful protests, including protests which target those who are considered by some to be complicit in the genocide being committed in Gaza.

Council condemns the UK Government's intention to proscribe Palestine Action as a terrorist group. Council believes this is a pathetic, authoritarian over-reaction to spray paint-based peaceful protest against the UK Government's active military support for the genocide in Gaza.

Council supports those - including those in Glasgow - who peacefully protest in support of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. Council believes that if Palestine Action are proscribed as a terror group that this would constitute an unacceptable attack on the right to protest and would support Police Scotland and the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in not charging or prosecuting peaceful protestors."; and

- (4) at the end of the bulleted list, add 3 additional actions:

- "3 Reaffirms Glasgow's status as a city of peace, international solidarity and opposes militarism in all its forms.
- 4 Requests the Leader of the Council writes to the Home Secretary to convey the Council's strong objections to the proscription of Palestine Action.
- 5 Requests the Leader of the Council writes to the Lord Advocate asking her to issue non- prosecution guidance on any offences relating to membership of or support for Palestine Action."

During the debate, Councillor Leinster, Councillor Hussain and Councillor Massie, with the agreement of their seconders, agreed to combine their motion and amendments resulting in the following adjusted motion:

"Council expresses grave concern at the escalating crisis in the Middle East following the recent unilateral military strike ordered by US President Donald Trump against Iranian targets.

Council condemns this reckless and destabilising action and considers it a dangerous provocation that threatens to escalate into a wider regional conflict.

Council further notes with concern that this latest escalation appears to have been carried out in concert with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu whose government continues to wage a devastating campaign in Gaza. At a time when the international community is calling for an immediate ceasefire and accountability for war crimes, this strike on Iran shifts global attention away from the ongoing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and undermines efforts to secure justice and peace for the Palestinian people.

Council recognises that the Iranian government has itself been a bad actor on the international stage - with a deeply troubling human rights record, including violent repression of dissent, discrimination against women and minorities, and support for proxy forces across the region. Council also expresses serious concern regarding Iran's nuclear ambitions, which poses a significant threat to regional and global security. However, Council believes that these serious issues cannot and must not be addressed through military escalation. The only credible path to peace, stability and accountability - both within Iran and in the wider region - lies in sustained, principled diplomacy rooted in international law and human rights and welcomes the UK and Scottish Governments' calls for de-escalation and diplomacy as the route to peace.

Council also recognises the right of every society to develop organically towards being a free and fair society without the interference of international actors.

Council reaffirms its belief in respect for international law, which exists precisely to prevent unilateral acts of aggression and to uphold the statement in the preamble to the UN Charter which calls '*to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained*'. The use of force without a clear legal mandate undermines the global rules-based order, erodes the legitimacy of international institutions, and increases the risk of a spiral into further violence and instability.

Council expresses the genuine hope that the ceasefire which appears to have been agreed holds. However, Council recognises that recent ceasefires in the region have been short-lived, undermined by continued aggression and a failure to engage in meaningful diplomacy or adherence to international law.

Council recognises Glaswegians have regularly stood up against breaches of international and humanitarian law in the Middle East in recent months and years through regular peaceful protests and believes the right to protest peacefully is fundamental in a free and open society and must never be criminalised.

Council therefore:

1. Calls upon the UK Government to oppose unilateral military action in the Middle East which risks inflaming further conflict, to reaffirm its commitment to diplomacy, support renewed talks around a long-term peace framework, and press for a peaceful resolution, through diplomacy, in partnership with international allies
2. Calls on the US Government to exercise restraint, prioritise diplomacy, and recommit to working within the framework of international law;
3. Reaffirms Glasgow's status as a city of peace and international solidarity, opposed to aggressive unilateral military action.
4. Reaffirms our unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace globally, including in Gaza and Ukraine
5. Welcomes the UK Government efforts to assist British nationals in the region and offers any assistance that may be required.

The motion, as adjusted, was unanimously approved.