

Findings 'a joke', says Dr Mahathir
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KUALA LUMPUR: Perdana Global Peace Foundation founder and chairman, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said he was not surprised with the United Nations report that the raid by Israeli forces on the Mavi Marmara flotilla was legal.

"I'm not surprised. The UN is a creature of the United States and the US is a creature of Israel. The US will legalise every crime committed by Israel and the UN will rubber stamp any US directive," said Dr Mahathir in a written statement yesterday.

Dr Mahathir also called the report a "joke" and said it was "a waste of time and money".

"It should be thrown into the East River long ago."

There were 12 Malaysians onboard Mavi Marmara when it came under attack by Israel last year.

PGPF adviser Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir described the report as "disappointing".

"The way we see it, the blockade was not only illegal but inhumane.

"What needs to be understood is the intention of the flotilla, which was to send much-needed medical supplies and other essentials to the Gazans and to create greater awareness in the world on the injustice perpetuated on Palestine as a whole."

Mukhriz also said the phrase "excessive and unreasonable" was an understatement, considering that unarmed people were killed on board the ship.

"That was hardly an act of defence. Another Israeli transgression is that the incident happened in international waters. I don't see how Israel could have the jurisdiction to act in such a way."

The UN report said Israel's blockade of Hamas-run Gaza was "imposed as a legitimate security measure in order to prevent weapons from entering Gaza by sea and its implementation complied with the requirements of international law".

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