

**State of Palestine**  
**Palestine Liberation Organization**  
**Negotiations Affairs Department**

**October 13, 2014**

**Declaration from Heads of Foreign Affairs of the Anglican and Catholic Churches in the UK: Recognize Palestine**

"At a time of great uncertainty in the Middle East and North Africa, we hold that it is the reasonable aspiration of all peoples to belong to a state and enjoy the merits of full and active citizenship on their own lands. We equally believe that the right of Palestinians for such statehood has been long overdue."

"Given the benchmarks established by international law and universal legitimacy, and in light of the support offered by the Christian Church in the Holy Land, we believe Palestinians should also have a state that they can at long last call home. Such a principled recognition by our Parliament and Government will facilitate rather than hamper the negotiations that would inevitably follow between Israelis and Palestinians to agree upon the details of this new and sovereign state created next to a secure Israel."

"Peace needs a bold vision."

**Rt Revd Declan Lang**

*Bishop of Clifton*

Chair, Department for International Affairs

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

**Rt Revd Dr Christopher Cocksworth**

*The Lord Bishop of Coventry*

Church of England's Lead Bishop for Foreign Affairs

**Link:** <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/palestinian-state-131014>

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