



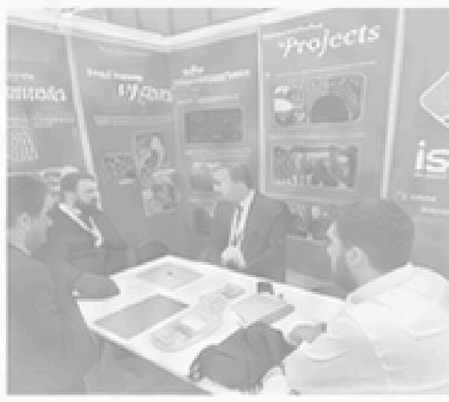












Mavi Marmara

Monthly Newsletter

October 2026











mavimarmara
ÖZGÜRLÜK VE DAYANIŞMA DERNEĞİ
FREEDOM AND SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION

Our Humanitarian Aid Efforts in Gaza Continue Uninterrupted

With the support of our donors, we at the Mavi Marmara Freedom and Solidarity Association continue to provide humanitarian aid to meet the urgent needs of people in Gaza, who are enduring genocide at the hands of the Israeli occupation.

Through our office in Gaza, we continue to distribute hot meals every day at the community kitchens we have established.





We also deliver clean water by tanker to communities that have lost access to safe water after the Israeli occupation destroyed water infrastructure and pipelines.

Alongside these efforts, we continue our long-standing orphan sponsorship programmes, zakat distributions, food parcel deliveries and educational support.

Humanitarian Aid

We Continue to Stand with the People of Gaza



Through our social support projects, we continue to stand with vulnerable people in Gaza, particularly those with physical or intellectual disabilities, whether present from birth or caused by the genocide.

Sadly, many vulnerable people are struggling to cope with illness and disability because of inadequate healthcare, restrictions on leaving Gaza and a range of other difficulties.



Medical and Social Support

Although we cannot provide treatment directly, we offer medical and social support to help make daily life easier for people with disabilities and other vulnerabilities.



OUR AID TO GAZA CONTINUED THROUGHOUT OCTOBER

Throughout October, we continued distributing hot meals and water in Gaza. We provided tents, boots and winter jackets to people in need, distributed chocolate to children and organised two festivals for orphaned children.

50,000
HOT MEALS

80
WATER TANKERS

2,000
CHOCOLATES

15
TENTS

750
BOOTS

750
WINTER JACKETS

2
FESTIVALS FOR ORPHANS

Five Days of Palestine Solidarity in Üsküdar Come to a Close

From 7 to 11 October, we at the Mavi Marmara Freedom and Solidarity Association held Palestine Solidarity Days in Üsküdar Square. The five-day programme brought people together for Palestine through talks, concerts, children's workshops and a march, with 12 organisations taking part. Following opening prayers by Kubilay Aşkın Durdağ and Muhammed Emin Yıldırım, the programme featured a press statement, talks and a concert by Murat Bozkurt.





The programme continued with talks featuring Turgay Turan, founder of Türkiyemin.com, and Erdem Özveren, founder of Boykot Dedektifi (Boycott Detective).

Muhammed Azzami addressed participants at our Gaza Witnesses evening. A live link from Gaza brought updates from the region, while a talk by Recep Songül and a concert by Emir Şamur sustained the spirit of solidarity.

Palestine Solidarity Days in Üsküdar

Talks, Concerts and Children's Workshops

Our discussion, 'From Mavi Marmara to Sumud: The Journey of the Freedom Flotillas', brought Muharrem Güneş, Ali Tokluman and J. Zekeriya Crist together with participants. A concert by Grup İslami Direniş continued the gathering in the square. We also hosted Turan Kışlakçı, Zahide Tuba Kor and Süleyman Ragıp Yazıcılar for talks. Palestine Solidarity Days concluded with a concert by Grup Kıyam.



Children took part in workshops and banner-making activities throughout the event. We then took our message of solidarity with Palestine from the square to the streets with a march in Üsküdar. Talks by Adem Özköse and Ramazan Kayan were followed by a concert by Grup Sancaktar.





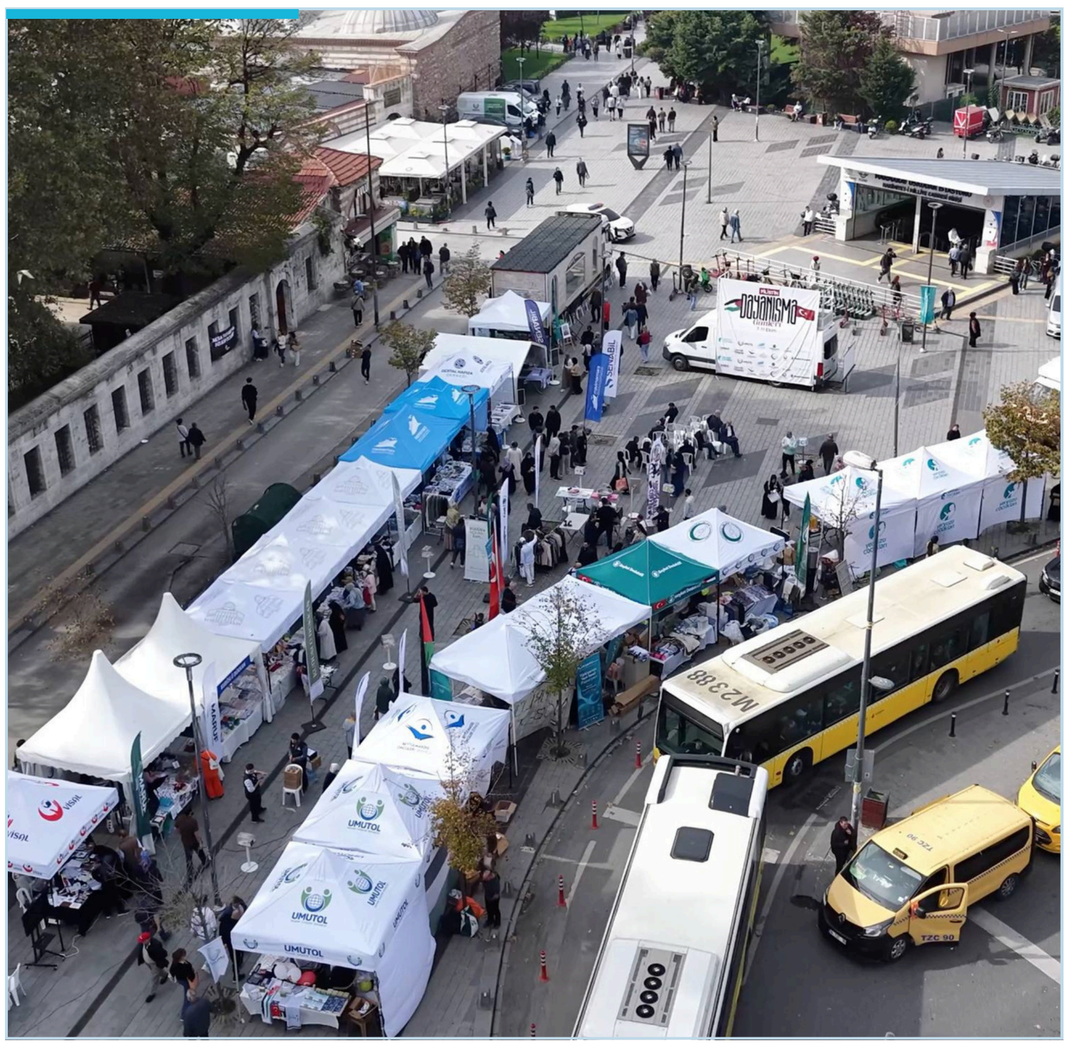
Palestine Solidarity Days in Üsküdar

Taking Our Solidarity to Gaza

Twelve organisations hosted stands in Üsküdar Square throughout the event. Proceeds from the stands will support humanitarian aid efforts in Gaza.







We extend our heartfelt thanks to the organisations, volunteers, speakers and performers who contributed to Palestine Solidarity Days, and to everyone who visited the square and joined us in solidarity.

As Mavi Marmara, we will continue to stand with the Palestinian people, sustain our humanitarian aid efforts in Gaza and strengthen this solidarity.

At Çağlayan Courthouse for the First Hearing in the Gaza Flotillas Case

23 OCTOBER 2026 / ISTANBUL



The first hearing in the case concerning the interception of flotillas sailing to deliver aid to Gaza and break the blockade took place at Istanbul's Çağlayan Courthouse on 23 October. Witnesses described their experiences during the interception and the rights violations they said they had suffered.

In our press statement outside the courthouse, we at Mavi Marmara stressed that those responsible must be held accountable before the law.



Witness Testimony and Our Call for Justice

Witnesses Recount Their Experiences in Court

At the first hearing in the case against Netanyahu and 34 Israeli officials, witnesses who had been aboard the Gaza flotillas shared their experiences with the court.

Their testimony raised allegations of communications being cut off, physical force, verbal abuse and the confiscation of professional equipment.





Our Call for Justice Outside Çağlayan Courthouse

While the hearing was under way, we delivered a press statement outside Çağlayan Courthouse. We stressed that the interception of flotillas carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza must not go unanswered and that those responsible must face justice.

Mavi Marmara President Beheşti İsmail Songür said the proceedings could pave the way for further international legal action, emphasising the need to continue seeking justice in other countries.

We Will Continue to Follow the Legal Process

“Netanyahu and his gang, listen carefully: we will pursue you everywhere!”





In our statement, we announced that we would continue our legal action and civic campaigning until those responsible are held accountable, while preparing larger flotillas and convoys in the period ahead.

The case concerning the interception of the Gaza flotillas is ongoing. Testimony heard at the first hearing is important for placing these events on the court record and ensuring the allegations are examined through the legal process.

We at Mavi Marmara will continue our legal action and civic campaigning to secure justice, hold those responsible accountable and sustain humanitarian aid efforts for Gaza.

Gaza in Focus
at Civil Society Night



Bringing Organisations Together

The Mavi Marmara Freedom and Solidarity Association took part in Civil Society Night, organised by Ümraniye Municipality.

Our Work in Gaza

We gave a presentation on the latest situation in Gaza and the humanitarian aid projects we are carrying out on the ground.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Meeting Humanitarian Organisations in Malaysia

During our visit to Malaysia, we met with leading organisations working in humanitarian aid:

Cinta Gaza Malaysia

Amal Foundation

Humanitarian Care Malaysia (MyCARE)

Muslim Care Malaysia

MAPIM

MERCY Malaysia

We discussed our work in support of the Palestinian people, particularly in Gaza, as well as our efforts in Syria, opportunities for joint projects and future cooperation. At Mavi Marmara, we continue to strengthen international solidarity and build new partnerships to meet needs on the ground.





INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Meeting Humanitarian Organisations in Malaysia









INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Meetings in Malaysia and the Maldives

Reuniting with Our Malaysian Companions

During our visit to Malaysia, we reunited with our Malaysian companions who took part in the Mavi Marmara mission 16 years ago.

It means a great deal to us that, after all these years, we still share the same conscience, spirit of solidarity and commitment to Palestine.

We continue to keep Mavi Marmara's spirit of international solidarity alive with the same determination and conviction, year after year.



Meeting with International Aid Campaign



We met with representatives of International Aid Campaign, based in the Maldives.

Our discussions focused on humanitarian aid, particularly in Gaza and Syria, opportunities for joint projects and future cooperation.

We held a productive meeting on new partnerships that will strengthen international solidarity.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Concluding Our Visit to Indonesia

During our visit to Indonesia, we met with organisations working in humanitarian aid:



Rumah Zakat

Aqsa Working Group (AWG)

International Networking for Humanitarian (INH)

Bulan Sabit Merah Indonesia (BSMI)

Explore Humanity

Little Project Foundation

DT Peduli





INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Partnership Discussions in Indonesia

We reviewed our humanitarian aid work, particularly in Gaza and Syria, and explored opportunities for joint projects and international cooperation.

At Mavi Marmara, we continue to expand our international solidarity network and develop strong partnerships to support people in need.









INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Meeting with the Islamic Federation of Denmark



We met with representatives of Det Islamiske Forbund i Danmark (the Islamic Federation of Denmark) and Dr. Muhammed Fuad Berzavi.

We shared information about our work, presented project proposals and discussed opportunities for future joint initiatives.

Mavi Marmara at AidEx 2026!

Mavi Marmara took part in AidEx 2026, the international humanitarian aid and disaster response exhibition held in Geneva, Switzerland.



Humanitarian Representatives from Over 90 Countries

The exhibition brought together humanitarian representatives from more than 90 countries. We met with civil society organisations from various countries and representatives of international institutions.

International Cooperation

We reviewed our humanitarian aid work, particularly in Gaza and Syria, and explored opportunities for joint projects and international cooperation.



Five Days of Palestine Solidarity in Eminönü Come to a Close

From 28 October to 1 November, the Mavi Marmara Freedom and Solidarity Association held Palestine Solidarity Days in Eminönü Square. Over five days, we organised talks, concerts, children's activities and a documentary screening. Eighteen organisations also hosted stands as we came together in solidarity with Palestine.



Following an opening prayer by Kubilay Aşkın Durdağ, we shared our message of solidarity with Palestine in a press statement. Turgay Turan, founder of Türkiyemin.com, introduced the event's purpose. The programme continued with a talk by Erdem Özveren, founder of Boykot Dedektifi (Boycott Detective), and a concert by Grup Asıllar.



Palestine Solidarity Days in Eminönü

Talks, First-Hand Accounts and a Documentary

We hosted Salih Eğridere, Ahmet İşler, Yavuz Dede, Ömer Faruk Aydoğan, Muharrem Güneş and Beheşti İsmail Songür for discussions ranging from activism for Palestine to our individual and collective responsibilities. General surgeon Ömer Faruk Aydoğan shared first-hand accounts of the challenges he faced in Gaza's hospitals and operating theatres. Educator and author Salih Eğridere recommended books to deepen participants' understanding of Jerusalem.



Musacan Er, Abdürreşid Eminhacı and Şerif Nizipoğlu joined us to discuss developments in East Turkestan and Palestine. A screening of Muaz Çanakcı's documentary The Conscience was followed by a discussion with the director. The programme continued with a concert by Grup Kıyam.



Palestine Solidarity Days in Eminönü

Music and Children's Activities in the Square

Our talks featured Osman Nuri Kabaktepe, Hüseyin Oruç, Recep Songül, Ş. İbrahim Güleryüz, Sümeyra Ordu, İsmail Songür, Ahmet Söylemez, Abdülmecid Bağçivan and Hüseyin Dişli. With songs by Murat Bozkurt and Grup İslamî Direniş, we joined our voices in solidarity with Palestine in Eminönü Square.







Our closing programme featured discussions on Palestine with Abdulkadir Turan, Hamza Er and Selman Esmerer. Following activities for children, we brought our five-day gathering to a close with a ceremony at 3:00 p.m.

Throughout the event, we invited volunteers supporting Palestine to tell us, in their own words, what had brought them to this gathering. A short vlog showing the event through children's eyes also captured different moments from our time in the square.