

Gilad Shalit is an Israeli soldier who was captured by Palestinian militants in a cross-border raid. He was abducted and has been held as a prisoner in the Gaza Strip by Hamas since then. At the present time he has been imprisoned for more than 1450 days.

Hamas has refused requests from the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit Shalit. Several human rights organizations have stated that the terms and conditions of Shalit's detention are contrary to international humanitarian law. In exchange for his release, Hamas is demanding the release of all female and underage Palestinian prisoners held in Israel, as well as a further 1000 prisoners, a number of which are convicted by Israeli courts on terrorism charges. The U.N. Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, which released a report in September 2009, called for Shalit to be released.

You can send a note of support to Gilad Shalit at: <http://jcrcny.org/gilad/messagetogilad.html>