

Erdogan urges Global action against Gaza genocide at IDEF



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ISTANBUL – Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday condemned Israel’s actions in Gaza, saying silence in the face of genocide is equal to complicity in crimes against humanity.

Speaking at the opening of the International Defense Industry Fair (IDEF) in Istanbul, Erdogan said Türkiye would continue to spotlight the suffering in Gaza, which he described as “far

surpassing that of the Nazis.”

“Our priority is a ceasefire and immediate humanitarian access,” he stressed. “The children of Gaza, reduced to skin and bones from hunger, are also our children.”

“No one with a conscience can accept this brutality, where innocent civilians perish daily for lack of food and water,” he said. “As mass starvation begins, I call on the international community to stand on the side of humanity.”

Erdogan also highlighted Türkiye’s progress in building a self-sufficient and globally recognized defense industry, overcoming international embargoes and double standards.

“Our domestic production rate in the defense sector now exceeds 80%,” he said. “We have become a nation that shapes global defense trends.”

The six-day IDEF 2025 fair is held under the auspices of the Turkish Presidency, in coordination with the Ministry of National Defense and other key institutions. This 17th edition spans several venues including the Istanbul Fair Center, Atatürk Airport, and Ataköy Marina.

The exhibition features a wide range of defense technologies including armored vehicles, unmanned systems, missile platforms, military electronics, and explosive ordnance tools.

Thousands of local and international participants are expected, with numerous partnership agreements anticipated.

The previous edition of IDEF took place in July 2023, also in Istanbul.