



ZU·LAT
Equality and Human Rights

Curbing Police Violence, Upholding Freedom of Protest

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SUMMARY

The recent protests throughout the country have once again revealed Israel Police's problematic policy regarding the dispersal of demonstrators. We have seen practices that were in the past used against underprivileged communities, concealed from the Israeli "mainstream" discourse and harshly criticized by civil society organizations, now carried out in the open in the center of Israel's capital Jerusalem.

In light of the importance of freedom of expression, freedom of protest and the right to demonstrate in our constitutional and democratic regime, we propose the following operative steps in this document:

1. Convening an urgent meeting of the Knesset's Interior and Environmental Protection Committee to discuss the unconstitutional and disproportionate use of riot-dispersal means by the police.
2. Anchoring in primary legislation the powers of the police during the dispersal of demonstrations, establishing a procedure for parliamentary oversight and expanding the options for filing damage claims against the police due to violations of the law.
3. Demanding from the police to extend the demonstration area in Jerusalem's Paris Square farther into King George Street.
4. Divesting the minister of internal security of the authority to recommend a police commissioner and transferring it to a professional-governmental committee