The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia Evacuates Dozens From Gaza as Israel Launches Ground Offensive

September 18, 2025



IDF Spokesperson's Unit

Russian diplomats helped several dozen Russian and Palestinian nationals flee from Gaza City as Israel launched a major ground offensive this week, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Around 50 people were escorted out of the enclave on Wednesday with assistance from Russia's mission to the Palestinian Authority and its embassy in Jordan, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told the state news agency TASS.

Zakharova said 26 Russian and 24 Palestinian nationals were among the group, which included 25 minors and 11 women.

The group crossed into Egypt at the Kerem Shalom checkpoint before being transferred to Jordan through the Allenby Bridge, also known as the King Hussein Bridge.

One of the people brought to safety told the RIA Novosti news agency that Russian diplomats had booked onward flights to Moscow, with his family planning to continue to St. Petersburg.

Related article: Russian Government Moves to Tighten Budget Rule as Oil Income Shrinks

Israel launched its assault on Gaza City on Tuesday despite growing international condemnation of its war in the Palestinian territory. UN experts this week accused Israel of committing "genocide" in the Gaza Strip, a charge Israel dismissed as "distorted and false."

The UN estimated in August that around 1 million people were living in Gaza City and nearby areas, while Israel claims roughly 350,000 people have fled.

Health officials in Gaza said on Thursday afternoon that at least 79 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli strikes or gunfire across the territory over the past 24 hours.

AFP contributed reporting.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/09/18/russia-evacuates-dozens-from-gaza-as-israel-launches-ground-offensive-a90566