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## Albanese Addresses Aussie Sentiment on Gaza Conflict

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Prime Minister Anthony Albanese acknowledges Australians' strong feelings about the Middle East conflict, calling for peace after a pro-Palestine protest in Sydney.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has recognized the deep concerns of Australians regarding the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, particularly following a significant pro-Palestine demonstration in Sydney on August 3, 2025, as reported by Aus Channel on YouTube. Speaking on Sky News Australia's Sunday Agenda, Albanese noted that Australians are united in their desire for an end to the violence, stating that the public wants "people to stop killing each other." The protest, which saw thousands march across Sydney's Harbour Bridge, demanded a ceasefire in Gaza, where the conflict has

resulted in over 60,000 deaths, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, and followed Hamas's October 7, 2023, attack that killed 1,200 Israelis, per The Guardian.

Albanese's comments reflect Australia's limited but principled role in the conflict. He reiterated the government's support for a two-state solution, condemning both Hamas's initial attack and Israel's actions that have led to significant civilian casualties, as stated in a July 2025 ABC News interview. The Australian government, under Albanese, has consistently called for a ceasefire, hostage release, and increased humanitarian aid, joining Canada and New Zealand in a December 2023 joint statement, per the Ministers' Media Centre. However, critics, including Liberal Senator Simon Birmingham, argue that the Albanese government's stance lacks decisiveness, particularly after its delayed response to U.S. military actions in the region, as noted by the Sydney Morning Herald.

The Sydney protest, while peaceful, highlighted domestic tensions, with New South Wales Police reporting no arrests but monitoring for public safety, according to Sky News Australia. Albanese's acknowledgment of public sentiment comes amid scrutiny of his government's foreign policy, with some arguing it fails to balance support for Israel's security with humanitarian concerns. The Australian Financial Review reported that Albanese's push for Palestinian statehood recognition, conditional on reforms like Hamas's removal from Gaza, has sparked debate about its timing and impact.

As Australia navigates its role, Albanese's call for peace aligns with public frustration over the Gaza conflict's toll. The government's focus remains on de-escalating domestic unrest while advocating for a resolution, though its cautious approach continues to draw criticism from both sides of the political spectrum.