

Who Promises Money To Gaza, And Who Gives?

From one more sob story about the “poor Palestinians” in Gaza whose “economy” is “close to collapse” mainly, the article insists, because of the permanently awful Israelis, and now the Egyptian government too, for some completely unknown reason refusing the free flow of goods into the area (you know, things like concrete for innocent building purposes, when concrete is diverted to building military bunkers and tunnels and so on), and in Egypt’s case, destroying the thousands of tunnels through which Gazans acquire from, and send to, the Sinai, where such weaponry has been used to kill Egyptians, and even some smuggled into Cairo for anti-regime Ikhwan supporters:

“The report[on the Gaza economy] highlights that countries have not stood by their pledges. Although \$5.4 billion was the figure widely publicized, only \$3.5 billion of it was actually allocated to Gaza. As of late April, donors had given only 27.5 percent of this figure, or \$967 million. However, only 35 percent of the aid pledged – or \$1.2 billion – was actually “fresh”, with the majority coming from reallocated donations and emergency funding delivered as the bombs were still falling, according to IRIN. Of this new aid, just 13.5 percent – or \$165 million – has come through.

States that pledged most have failed to follow through. Qatar has delivered just 10 percent of the \$1 billion it promised. Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Kuwait between them have handed over just over \$50 million of the \$900 million they pledged. The World Bank had no data on the United Arab Emirates’ \$200 million, while 84 percent of the United States’ \$277 million pledge has been delivered. The European Union’s \$348 million has a 40 percent delivery rate.