

A Swedish billionaire decides to build 400 schools in Gaza and accuses Israel of genocide.

London - Arabi21

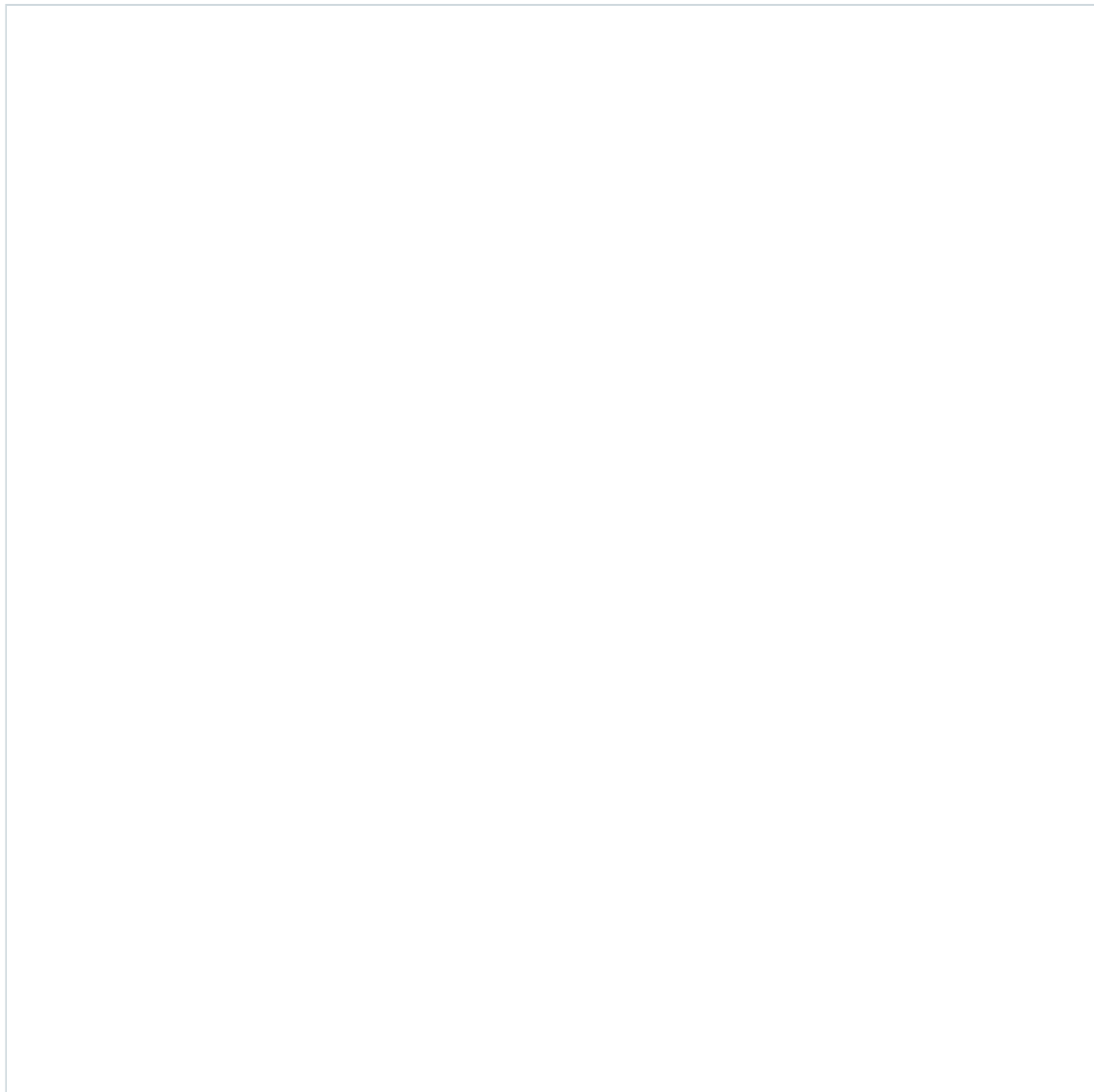
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Billionaire Roger Ackles said Hamas is a movement fighting for freedom - Getty

in an effort to [Gaza](#) billionaire Roger Ackles announced his intention to build 400 schools in [Swedish](#) alleviate the suffering of children in the besieged territory, many of whom have lost their parents. He emphasized his commitment to ensuring education for 100,000 students despite the obstacles imposed by the occupation.

Ackles has long been known for his unwavering support of the Palestinians and his condemnation of the genocidal war waged by the occupying power. He affirmed that his motivation is purely humanitarian, , and stressed his determination to provide this support despite [of Gaza's children](#) driven by the suffering expectations of political criticism, describing his stance as a moral imperative.



revealed a huge financial donation to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for the [Swedish media](#) Gaza Strip, made by the Achilles Foundation to support Palestinian children. The same foundation had built a school in Gaza for about \$10 million.

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reported that UNICEF received a total of 1.2 billion kronor in Swedish support [The newspaper Aftonbladet](#) earmarked for Gaza, including 400 million kronor from the government, 800 million kronor (about \$75 million) from the Akelius Foundation, and 20 million kronor from the Swedish postal lottery.

Sweden is the second largest donor to Gaza in the world.

The newspaper reported that this makes Sweden the second largest donor of financial aid to Gaza after the UAE. The funds will be primarily directed towards resuming education and building multi-service learning centers, as well as providing healthcare for newborns and psychological support for children.

Real estate billionaire Achilleus told the newspaper, "Even an orphaned Palestinian child is just an ordinary child, sleepless, crying, longing, and with stomach aches." He added, "I start to cry when I see how the children of Gaza live. I've visited refugee camps before. The situation is far worse than what you see on television or read in the newspapers."

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Fastighetsmiljardären Roger Akelius donerar 800 miljoner kronor till stöd för Gaza. Det är den största enskilda donationen som någonsin mottagits av Unicef Sverige.

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 Akelius donerar rekordstora 800 miljoner till Gaza
 Den största enskilda donationen som Unicef Sverige någonsin mottagit.

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For his part, UNICEF's Country Director in Palestine, Jonathan Veitch, welcomed the "exceptional" support provided by the Swedish government and the Achelous Foundation through UNICEF Sweden, emphasizing the importance of this step for resuming education in Gaza and "restoring childhood and hope for the future" to children.

Minister for Trade and Development Cooperation, Benjamin Dossa, stressed that the situation remains extremely serious, and the danger now, at a time when media attention is focused on another conflict, is that many countries will forget the children of Gaza. One of the reasons we announced this support early in the year is that we want it to encourage more donors, especially Europeans, to provide similar support packages.

No cooperation between the two sides... Achilles criticizes the government

Akelius clarified that there is no collaboration between his organization and the government's aid plan. Although he has a history of criticizing the government, he welcomed the support provided to Gaza this time, saying, "I see it as a strong stance for Sweden to provide this money. The government has recently been known for building prisons for children and deporting those over 18."

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[The largest donation in UNICEF's history: A Swedish billionaire donates \\$85 million to Gaza schools.](#) ●

He noted that he expects further criticism following his latest move. "I will certainly be criticized again because we are donating 800 million to these children," he said. "They call me a socialist and accuse me of antisemitism. But one must be resilient, see what is happening, who is attacking whom, and who is being accused of genocide."

Sweden's 2026 aid plan also includes funding for other UN programs, including \$10 million for the World Food Programme to support school meals and \$5 million for the United Nations Development Programme to provide temporary emergency shelter for approximately 1,000 Palestinian families.