

SUBMISSIONS TO THE UN INQUIRY INTO ISRAEL: FEBRUARY 2022

Please note: This submission in itself **should not be understood as an endorsement** of the "Commission of Inquiry," including its mandate, but rather a **challenge to the incorrect facts** which form the basis of its premise.

Further to the UN call for submissions as per "The Commission invites individuals, groups and organizations to submit information and documentation relevant to its mandate", I hereby respond to the 5 topics tabled by the UN Committee.

1. *"Underlying root causes of recurrent tensions, instability and protraction of conflict in and between the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,* and Israel; as well as systematic discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity."*

The history of this conflict spans centuries and myriad dimensions. Judaism is the world's oldest monotheistic religion, dating back nearly 4,000 years, while Islam originated in Arabia in the 7th century AD. Around 1000 BCE, King David ruled the Jewish people, and his son Solomon built the first holy Temple in Jerusalem, which became the central place of worship for Jews. Archaeological finds have proved that the Jewish people have lived in the Land of Israel for 3,000 years; but the Palestinian people dispute this and claim that Israel belongs to them. Over the years Palestinian antisemitism, hatred of Jews and the determination to demonise and delegitimise the State of Israel have become the driving forces behind the tensions and protracted conflict between Israel and the Palestinians in what they call Occupied Palestinian Territory (which are in fact Judea and Samaria). Jewish presence in this territory has existed for thousands of years and was recognized as legitimate in the Mandate for Palestine adopted by the League of Nations in 1922, which provided for the establishment of a Jewish state in the Jewish people's ancient homeland. Surrogates and defenders of Palestinian terrorists, revisionists, rejectionists and violent antisemites operating in politics, schools, media and non-governmental organizations around the world ensure that the conflict never dies. While denying that they are antisemitic, the Palestinian hatred of the Jewish State of Israel and their violence perpetrated against it spills into hatred of the Jewish people; and of course the more the Jews defend themselves against the constant unremitting and deadly rocket attacks instigated without any provocation from Israel, the greater the hatred of the Jews. Legitimate criticism of Israel, as THE ONLY DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, has become conflated with virulent antisemitism, despite denials from the Palestinians and millions of other perpetrators. Israel has never instituted discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity: Israel has done all in its power to protect ALL its citizens, irrespective of their differences.

2. *"Facts and circumstances regarding alleged violations of international humanitarian law and alleged violations and abuses of international human rights law leading up to and since 13 April 2021."*

That is exactly what they are: alleged violations based on lies and fabrications committed by her enemies determined to destroy her. While there is always a copious amount of international media coverage on any issue relating to the Palestinians, there is a dearth and paucity around the violations committed against the Israelis by Palestinian terrorists, the victims of Palestinian terror, and the incitement encouraged by Palestinian terrorists. Unlawful Palestinian acts; fabricated photographs, demonstrations and “bodies”; persistent verbal abuse of Jews; educating kindergarten children to grow up hating Jews and determined to kill them; denying their right to have the one Jewish state in the world (Jews account for 0.19% of the 7.89 billion worldwide population and the land of Israel is ranked 150th in total size in the world, occupying a landmass of only 0.01%); sending rockets into civilian areas of Israel and targeting citizens which are war crimes; committing invariably aggressive and proactive attacks and then accusing the Israelis, who are defending themselves, of committing unprovoked assaults.

3. *"Identification of those responsible."*

There are innumerable organisations and individuals who are responsible for creating the tension and violence exhibited and encouraged by the Palestinians. These include members of Palestinian terrorist organisations Hamas, Al-Qaeda, the PLO, Fatah, Hezbollah, Iran's Quds Brigade, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Iranian Revolutionary Guards; supporters of the BDS campaigns waged around the world; the Arab Street; those who promote antisemitic hate in traditional and social media, in online versions of mainstream and in fringe media outlets, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter; payors and recipients of Palestinian funds under “pay-to-slay” rules; inciters of terrorism and violence; child educators in Palestinian schools who, under the umbrella of UNRWA, teach hate and distort historical facts to eliminate any connection the Jewish people have with Israel; parents who send their children into harm's way; members of NGOs engaged in systemic antisemitism, or incitement to violence or terror, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and Oxfam; organizers and members of groups using Israel as a cover for antisemitism; Palestinian officials or representatives (elected or chosen) engaged in sponsoring, funding, inciting and otherwise supporting antisemitism, religious and racial intolerance, violence and terror, and the rejection of a Jewish state; false rumours that Israel was responsible for 11 September 2001, for the attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon; pro-Palestinian groups; increasingly blatant anti-Semitic Arab and Muslim media; continual protestations of Holocaust denial.

The state sponsors of terrorism - Iran, Sudan and Syria - all classify Israel as the major source of disruption, contention and controversy in the world because of being an “illegal” state.

4. *"Recommendations on accountability measures, with a view to avoiding and ending impunity and ensuring legal accountability, including individual criminal and command responsibility."*

The Palestinians and their governing entities have not been accountable to anyone since the start of this intractable conflict; and at the same time they have ensured that the media, always on the side of sensationalism, has continuously turned those involved in self-defence – the Israelis – into criminals. The rules of international humanitarian law are clear and concise, but they have never been applied properly to this conflict, always on the side of the Palestinians and refusing to acknowledge that

Israel is under attack all the time being reactive rather than proactive in its responses. Unlike the Palestinian legal system, the Israeli legal system insists on and promotes accountability, even and especially when IDF members “cross the line” by retaliating against Palestinian terrorists. It is well known that the UN discriminatory apparatus does not and will not demand accountability from the terrorists at any stage, preferring to take a wholly one-sided stance and joining in the chorus of accusations stemming from the majority of UN members whose hostility to Israel is legendary. Antisemitism is given free reign by the UN, despite its protestations to the contrary (“Methinks thou dost protest too much”), because it has taken, and still continues to take, NO measures to end the spread of antisemitism, nor to criticise and/or condemn those states which practise it and which nourish and sustain antisemitic violence.

5. *"Recommendations on measures to be taken by third States to ensure respect for international humanitarian law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.*"*

Let's start with BDS, the Palestinian-led Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement which promotes boycotts, divestments, and economic sanctions against Israel. Its “National Committee” includes the Council of National and Islamic Forces in Palestine which includes several groups designated by much of the world as terrorist organizations: including Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Its purpose is to put an end to Israel as the world's only Jewish state. It condemns Israel as an “apartheid” state, when in fact Arabs comprise some 20% of the Israeli population. Many self-identify as Palestinians, and enjoy full citizenship and equal rights. Israeli Arabs serve in every field as any other citizen, as doctors, lawyers, movie stars, news anchors, Supreme Court justices, and of course members of government (the “Knesset”). There are 57 Muslim states, 24 Christian states, 6 Buddhist states but only one Jewish state. There are also 124 countries currently involved in territorial disputes, many of which have resulted in much greater and more excruciating human suffering than the one involving Israel and Palestinians. Yet BDS singles out Israel, and only Israel, for a campaign to end to its existence as the world's only Jewish state. This is a gross double standard. In addition to being morally repugnant, singling out Israel for different standards than all other countries. States that legitimise and finance Palestinian terrorist organisations and their NGO enablers and accomplices should be forced to terminate these actions in accordance with keeping the world safe. Unfortunately the UN, at the bidding of the majority of its members who are Israel's enemies and who fund and support the UN, all too often shows total disrespect for international humanitarian law. It's incomprehensible that the actions of these particular countries are able to set the mandate for how and where the UN enacts its policies and principles.

(PLEASE NOTE: “Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem” is the inaccurate terminology used by the United Nations and its “Inquiry” for Israel's undivided capital city of Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and Hamas-run Gaza.)