

His Excellency Jürg Lauber
President, Human Rights Council
United Nations
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva
Switzerland

3 April 2025

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to strongly object to the reappointment of UN Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese. As set forth in the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-Holders of the Human Rights Council (Resolution 5/2), Ms. Albanese must act impartially and with integrity.¹ However, since assuming office in May 2022, she has persistently violated the Code of Conduct, tarnishing the reputation of the United Nations as a whole. Consequently, Ms. Albanese's term must not be renewed.

While serving as Special Rapporteur, Ms. Albanese has repeatedly called for Israel's expulsion from the United Nations², and systematically used her platform to spread inflammatory rhetoric, antisemitism and statements legitimizing Hamas terrorism. Immediately after the Hamas massacre on 7 October 2023, Ms. Albanese attempted to justify the terrorist attacks as a "reaction to Israel's oppression,"³ stating that the unconscionable violence "must be put in context."⁴ She likened the Israeli government to the "Third Reich,"⁵ and compared Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Adolf Hitler.⁶ For these and other statements, Ms. Albanese has been condemned for antisemitism by France, Germany, Canada and the United States over the past year alone.⁷

Ms. Albanese's systematic violation of the basic norms of the United Nations must not go unchecked. We therefore urge you to fulfil your obligation, to convey to the Council all information brought to your attention concerning Ms. Albanese's persistent non-compliance with

¹ Human Rights Council Resolution 5/2.

² Francesca Albanese (@FranceskAlbs), <https://x.com/FranceskAlbs/status/1813863134236709193?lang=en>, 18 July 2024.

³ Francesca Albanese (@FranceskAlbs), <https://x.com/FranceskAlbs/status/1710652725870874874>, 7 October 2023.

⁴ Francesca Albanese (@FranceskAlbs), <https://x.com/FranceskAlbs/status/1756351236909965591>, 10 February 2024.

⁵ Francesca Albanese (@FranceskAlbs), <https://x.com/FranceskAlbs/status/1845800904550666454>, 14 October 2024.

⁶ Francesca Albanese (@FranceskAlbs), <https://x.com/FranceskAlbs/status/1816234719412932965>, 25 July 2024.

⁷ UN Watch, "Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," <https://unwatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Wolf-in-Sheeps-Clothing-Report-on-Francesca-Albanese.pdf>, 23 October 2024.

the Code of Conduct. This obligation applies “especially prior to the renewal of mandate holders in office,” which is now.⁸

By rejecting the renewal of Ms. Albanese’s term, the Council would reaffirm its commitment to impartiality and the fight against all forms of discrimination including antisemitism. Ms. Albanese’s reappointment to the world’s highest human rights body would be a grave and dangerous mistake. We urge you to take swift and principled action.

Sincerely,

Alice Teodorescu Måwe,
Member of the European Parliament (Sweden)

Andrey Kovatchev,
Member of the European Parliament (Bulgaria)

Céline Imart,
Member of the European Parliament (France)

Christian Ehler,
Member of the European Parliament (Germany)

Christophe Gomart,
Member of the European Parliament (France)

François-Xavier Bellamy,
Member of the European Parliament (France)

Henrik Dahl,
Member of the European Parliament (Denmark)

Hildegard Bentele,
Member of the European Parliament (Germany)

Miriam Lexmann,
Member of the European Parliament (Slovakia)

Tomáš Zdechovský,
Member of the European Parliament (Czechia)

⁸ Human Rights Council Presidential Statement PRST/8/2, Report of the Human Rights Council on its 8th session.