

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres
The United Nations
New York, NY 10017
United States

22 September 2026

Re: Francesca Albanese's Abuse of Mandate By Calling To Stop Arming Ukraine

Dear Secretary-General Guterres,

On September 19, 2026, speaking as UN Special Rapporteur during an onstage interview at the Festival di Open in Parma, Italy, Ms. Albanese used the authority of her UN title to campaign against military assistance to Ukraine, a matter that is entirely outside her mandate.

Ms. Albanese acknowledged Russia invaded Ukraine yet immediately added that this could be explained by a number of “reasons.”

In what sounds like a conspiracy theory, she then suggested that there was “a political calculation at play”—one that “originates within NATO, and NATO led by the United States”—which favors “a weak Europe” and is responsible for keeping that front open. She accused governments of exploiting Ukraine to promote the “horrible narrative” that Europe is already engaged in a hybrid war.

Her conclusion was that weapons deliveries to Ukraine must stop. Yet she offered no alternative by which Ukraine could defend itself or end Russia’s invasion, candidly admitting: “I don’t have the solution because I’m not an expert.”

Excellency, Ms. Albanese’s actions constitute a clear violation of the Human Rights Council’s Code of Conduct. Article 3(d) requires mandate-holders to “focus exclusively on the implementation of their mandate.” Article 7 requires “strict observance” of that mandate and prohibits recommendations exceeding it. Article 12 requires mandate-holders to ensure that their personal political opinions do not prejudice their mission and to exercise “restraint, moderation and discretion.”

Ms. Albanese’s mandate on Palestinian matters gives her no authority to pronounce upon NATO, European security, or military assistance to Ukraine.

Her intervention is also morally shameful. Having acknowledged Russia’s aggression, she insinuated that there were “reasons” for it and then sought to deprive its victim of the means to defend itself. This echoes her habitual treatment of Hamas terrorism. Whether the aggressor is Russia or Hamas, Ms. Albanese shifts responsibility away from the perpetrator, rationalizes its violence, and condemns the victim for defending itself.

Her suggestion that NATO deliberately prolongs the war to weaken Europe is conspiratorial speculation unworthy of a UN expert. By her own admission, she has neither expertise nor a plan for what would follow the disarmament of Ukraine. Yet she invokes her UN position to lend authority to reckless political advocacy.

Moreover, the hypocrisy is striking. On January 12, when challenged to speak out against the Iranian regime's slaughter of protesters, Ms. Albanese defended her silence by [insisting](#) that Iran fell outside her mandate. Yet she did speak on Iran [numerous times](#) to condemn the U.S. and Israel. Likewise, when condemning NATO and military assistance to Ukraine, she suddenly acknowledges no limits on her mandate. She invokes the boundaries of her mandate only to avoid condemning a brutal dictatorship, then disregards those same boundaries to condemn the democracies helping Ukraine resist another. This is not principled respect for her mandate. It is the selective misuse of a UN office to advance her personal political agenda.

Mr. Secretary-General, you yourself recently acknowledged that many rapporteurs are "[totally out of control](#)." Ms. Albanese exemplifies precisely the problem you identified. Both the Human Rights Council and Ms. Albanese's peers on the Coordination Committee have repeatedly refused to hold her accountable.

Silence from UN leadership has emboldened her and gravely damaged the reputation and credibility of the organization. Ms. Albanese is the first UN rapporteur in history to have been [condemned](#) for Holocaust inversion, promoting racism, and other gross abuses, by France, Germany, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, the UK, and many other countries.

Accordingly, we urge you to publicly condemn Ms. Albanese's statements, affirm that they fall outside her mandate, and recognize that she is once again in material breach of the Code of Conduct.

What is at stake is larger than one rogue mandate-holder. It is whether the United Nations still possesses the moral authority to defend its Charter, or whether its name may be used with impunity to excuse aggressors and abandon their victims. The credibility of the United Nations now depends on whether you are prepared to speak out and enforce its rules.

Sincerely,



Hillel C. Neuer
Executive Director