
UN Human Rights Council
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SG report on Iran

Delivered by Ambassador Aviva Raz Shechter,
Permanent Representative of Israel to the UN in Geneva

Thank you, Mr. President,

We take note of the Secretary General's report on human rights violations in Iran. It is important that the Human Rights Council address the dire human rights situation in the country, including the continued use of the death penalty against minors, arbitrary arrests of dual-nationals, and the oppression of members of ethnic and religious minorities, as detailed in the report.

However, when it comes to the difficult economic situation in Iran, the report fails to point to the main culprit- the government of Iran, which has consistently made poor choices at the expense of ordinary Iranians. Instead of investing in nuclear weapons, ballistic missiles, regional instability and terror, the Iranian regime should start looking after its own citizens.

So when ordinary Iranians ask themselves "where is the money?", the answer is that it is hidden deep inside the terror tunnels dug by Hizbullah and Hamas; That it is wasted on Iranians rockets smuggled into Gaza; And that it is channeled into the financing of mercenaries in Syria. Indeed, the Iranian terror-money trail crisscrosses the whole region, while the most basic political and economic rights of Iranian citizens are trampled on.

Mr. President,

Yesterday the spokesperson of the Ayatollahs shamelessly attacked Israel in a discussion dedicated to the fight against racism. Democratic Israel will not be lectured by a despotic, intolerant and anti-Semitic regime like the one currently in Tehran.

I thank you Mr. President.