

UN Human Rights Council 46th Session, Item 2 – February 2021 Item 2 – ID with HC Report

Madam President.

This is no-where near a balanced report. The report is entitled accountability and justice for **all** violations of International law. **All** violations.

Yet Hamas is not even mentioned!

Hamas, who uses Palestinian children as human shields, in gross violation of international law. Hamas who controls the Gaza strip since Israel unilaterally disengaged from Gaza 15 years ago. Hamas who indiscriminately fires rockets targeting Israeli towns, indifferent to who is killed. There is no reference in this report to the terrible costs and challenges of terrorism Israelis face on a daily basis. There is no accountability for Hamas, there is no justice for Israelis. Do Israeli human rights not matter?

Madam President,

The State of Israel is a law-abiding democracy with an independent legal system. It is committed to the fundamental values of international law, and is fully capable of examining alleged violations of the law on its own. Israel's Supreme Court is widely regarded internationally as one of the most activist and effective High Courts in the world, having its doors wide open for petitioners from Israel and the West Bank alike. It has not hesitated in the past to hold accountable those it deems responsible.

The institutional bias reflected in this report is an ongoing testimony of this Council's and the OHCHR politicization and partiality against the State of Israel. I regret that once again the OHCHR has missed the opportunity to offset this deep bias against Israel, and does not fulfill its guiding principle of impartiality.

Thank you.