
UN Human Rights Council
46th Session, March 2021

Item 3

**ID on the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for
Children and Armed Conflict**

Madam President,

Israel wishes to thank the Special Representative of the Secretary General for her report and the focus on the troubling phenomena of the recruitment and involvement of children in hostilities during armed conflicts.

Children must be protected. Children should be able to enjoy their childhood, to maintain their innocence and to be able to hope for a better and brighter future. Children should not be taught hatred and violence from early ages and should not be forced or educated to fight and kill.

Madam President,

The terrorist organization Hamas exerts tremendous efforts, time and resources to teach Palestinian children to hate Israel and Israelis.

As was also mentioned in the report of the Secretary General Hamas organizes so called "summer camps" for adults and children in its own military camps, providing military training by militants, including weapons training to children as young as 14. They are taught to glorify former terrorists who murdered innocent people, including women and children.

Hamas, like other terrorist organizations, uses the digital media as a mean to recruit young children to commit acts of terror against Israel and others around the world.

There is no hope for peace and prosperity while the next generation is taught that terrorist should be role models, that summer camps are in fact military practices and that the only way to resolve a conflict is by war and bloodshed.

Prompt measure to investigate, prosecute and sanction the perpetrators in cases of the recruitment of children, must be taken.

Thank you, Madam President.