
UN Human Rights Council
49th Session, 31 March 2022

Adoption Resolution - Item 2: A/HRC/49/L.26

Ambassador Meirav Eilon Shahar
Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations in Geneva

Mr. President,

I would like to send my prayers and condolences to the family and friends of the victims murdered in the recent wave of terrorist attacks in my country. The victims of these attacks, 9 Israelis and 2 Ukrainians, were from all walks of life, including Druze, Arabs and Jews. These attacks were attacks on our diverse and multicultural society. Terrorism will never win. Extremism will never succeed.

My heart goes out to the families who have lost their loved ones. May their memory be a blessing to all.

Mr. President,

From the reality on the ground, where 11 innocent civilians were murdered in Israel this week, to the fantasy that this council has created.

A fantasy in which this resolution presented before us today, allegedly objectively assesses the human rights situation on the ground and objectively call for justice and accountability for all.

Mr. President.

In reality, any objective resolution would mention the Israeli and Palestinians victims of Hamas, or accountability for the critics of the Palestinian Authority, who have been killed and beaten on the streets this year.

In reality, any objective resolution seeking to address human rights would mention the shrinking civil society space in the West Bank, as the Palestinian Authority continues to stifle debate.

In reality, any objective resolution would mention the 1.1 million humanitarian crossings facilitated by Israel in 2021, or the 1600 permits issued by Israeli authorities to LGBTQI+ individuals who were under threat and fleeing the Palestinian Territories last year.

Mr. President,

The simple reason why none of this is mentioned, is that this resolution is written by the Palestinians and therefore they are able to absolve themselves of any responsibility or blame.

This resolution is also tabled by Pakistan, a country that does not even recognize Israel's right to exist. Is it therefore not surprising that this resolution is used as a tool to attack my country.

Mr. President,

It is obvious that this resolution does not reflect the reality on the ground. Nor does it represent the new Middle East that together with new friends we are creating.

This resolution is a relic of the past.

It only serves to attack my country, to play a cynical political game and reinforce this Council's echo chamber of fantasy and hatred against Israel.

Mr. President,

Sadly, the problem with this echo chamber is no reality comes in, but certainly the hatred seeps out.

Dear Members of this Council,

I call on you to accept reality,

Vote NO to this fantasy,

Vote NO to this resolution.

I thank you.