
UN Human Rights Council
49th Session, 21 March 2022

Item 4 – General Debate

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

Mr. President

Israel remains extremely concerned about the numerous human rights abuses carried out by the Iranian Revolutionary Guards across the Middle East and through-out the world.

The IRGC are Hezbollah in Lebanon; they are Islamic Jihad in Gaza; they are the Houthis in Yemen. They have murdered thousands of innocent people in Syria. They are responsible for the destruction of Lebanon. They are guilty of brutally oppressing Iranian civilians at home. They kill Jews because they are Jews, they kill Christians because they are Christians, they kill Muslims because they refuse to surrender to their murderous ideology.

Just last week, the IRGC fired ballistic missiles at its neighbors. At this council, we hear time and time again the Iranian government's call for respect of sovereignty and non-interference in other countries' affairs.

Where is their respect for sovereignty in Iraq, Lebanon, and Yemen? Where is their respect of non-interference when their proxies roam free in the Middle East?

Mr. President

The Iranian Revolutionary Guard are an integral part of the brutal machine of oppression in Iran. They continue to target minorities, including the Baha'is and Kurds, and continue to kill or arbitrary detain innocent protestors.

The world cannot allow the IRCG to roam freely in the Middle East, leaving a trail of human rights abuses in their wake. They cannot be allowed to continue to suppress the Iranian population with impunity. They must be held accountable for their crimes both in Iran but also in Lebanon, Yemen, Syria and elsewhere.

I thank you.