

## United Nations Human Rights Council's Anti-Israel Bias

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**The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is led by oppressive countries that violate their citizens' human rights. UNHRC excessively and unfairly targets Israel -- the only free democracy in the Middle East -- while ignoring actual human rights abuses.**

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**UNHRC falsely accuses Israel of human rights abuses, holding the only Jewish state to a different standard.**

- The now internationally condemned Goldstone Report, a UN fact finding mission on the 2008 Gaza War, inaccurately reported that Israel was guilty of war crimes during Operation Cast Lead.<sup>1</sup> Even the author of the report, Judge Richard Goldstone, renounced it in 2011.<sup>2</sup>
  - In reality, **the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) consistently works to protect human life:**
    - The IDF drops leaflets written in both Arabic and Hebrew to inform citizens of upcoming bombings,<sup>3</sup> even at the risk of sacrificing the element of surprise when targeting terrorists.
    - The IDF utilizes the roof-knocking strategy, which entails sending a harmless warning missile near or above a targeted area to inform civilians to evacuate.<sup>4</sup>
    - The IDF uses drones to ensure that civilians have evacuated military targets.<sup>5</sup>
- UNHRC Resolution S-21 accuses Israel of committing “violations of international human rights” in Gaza. **There was never a formal investigation carried out to corroborate this claim.**<sup>6</sup>
  - In reality, **Israel is the largest contributor of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip**, providing food, medicine, and humanitarian services.<sup>7</sup>
- Both the Goldstone Report and UNHRC Resolution S-21 **fail to condemn US-designated terrorist group Hamas' violence against Palestinian Arabs and Israelis.**<sup>8,9</sup>
  - Since Hamas violently took control of Gaza in 2007, it has continuously terrorized both Palestinian Arabs and Israelis.<sup>10</sup>
  - **Hamas violated international law by using Palestinian Arab civilians as human shields**, storing their weapons in schools, hospitals, and mosques.<sup>11</sup>
  - **Hamas admitted to murdering 160 Palestinian Arab children through child labor in 2014.**<sup>12</sup>
    - Hamas ordered these children to build **terror tunnels**, which allowed Hamas militants to enter Israel and murder Jewish civilians.<sup>13</sup>
  - Hamas' founding document calls for the extermination of all Jews<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Honest Reporting. *Gaza and Goldstone*.

<sup>2</sup> The Washington Post. Richard Goldstone. *Reconsidering the Goldstone Report on Israel and War Crimes*. April 1, 2011

<sup>3</sup> The Tower. *How the IDF Works to Prevent Civilian Casualties*. June 7, 2015.

<sup>4</sup> The Jerusalem Post. By Reuters. *US Adopts IDF Tactic to Warn Civilians Before Bombing ISIS in Iraq*. April 27, 2016.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Los Angeles Times. Gregory Wallace. *U.N. Human Rights Council's anti-Israel Inquiry*. July 28, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> Jewish Virtual Library. *Israeli Humanitarian Operations: Aid to the Gaza Strip*. March 21, 2013.

<sup>8</sup> Los Angeles Times. Gregory Wallace. *U.N. Human Rights Council's anti-Israel Inquiry*. July 28, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> The Jerusalem Post. Alan Dershowitz. *The Case Against the Goldstone Report*. January 28, 2010.

<sup>10</sup> NPR. Daniel Estrin. *10 Years After Gaza Takeover, Hamas Under Pressure to Surrender Power*. July 17, 2017.

<sup>11</sup> The Jerusalem Post. Alan Dershowitz. *The Case Against the Goldstone Report*. January 28, 2010.

<sup>12</sup> “Hamas Killed 160 Palestinian Children to Build Tunnels,” *Tablet Magazine*, July 25, 2014.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ariel Center for Policy Research. *The Charter of Hamas*.

- Since 2000, Hamas has killed at least 1,400 Israelis, primarily civilian men, women, and children.<sup>15</sup>

### **UNHRC constantly targets Israel in resolutions, unfairly singling out the world's only Jewish state.**

- **Half of UNHRC's human rights condemnations have been anti-Israel.**<sup>16</sup>
  - 68 out of 135 condemnations have targeted the only Jewish state.<sup>17</sup>
- Israel is the only country permanently on UNHRC's agenda (Item 7).<sup>18</sup> This deliberate targeting of the only Jewish state is not only unfair, but purposefully discriminatory.
- The US State Department's definition of anti-Semitism includes comparing Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.<sup>19</sup> The UNHRC "Special Rapporteur for the Palestinian Territories," Michael Lynk, engaged in such hate speech prior to his appointment; the UN still granted him this position.<sup>20</sup>

### **UNHRC is made up of corrupt, oppressive countries that abuse their citizens with no repercussions, which delegitimizes the entire "human rights" organization.**

- Members of the council include, but are not limited to: **Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Cuba, China, Russia, and the United Arab Emirates.**<sup>21</sup>
  - Saudi Arabia is listed by the U.S. State Department as the **worst human-rights offender** in 2016,<sup>22</sup> and has murdered thousands of civilians in Yemen.<sup>23</sup>
    - When added to the UN Secretary-General's "List of Shame" for "killing and maiming children and attacking...hospitals," Saudi Arabia and its allies manipulated the UN into removing it from the list.<sup>24</sup>
      - By allowing member countries to abuse their power, a dangerous precedent is set; human rights violators can get away with their mistreatment of civilians by banning together to manipulate the UN.
  - Qatar is the largest state sponsor of Hamas.<sup>25</sup>
  - Cuba beats and imprisons its citizens for publicly criticizing the government.<sup>26</sup>

***The UNHRC replaced the corrupt UN Human Rights Commission, which was shut down in 2006 due to its oppressive members and political bias; ironically, it was a discredited, untrustworthy organization, just as its successor UNHRC is today.***<sup>27</sup>

<sup>15</sup> *Summary of Terrorist Attacks in Israel*. Compiled by Wm. Robert Johnston. Johnston Archive. January 8th, 2017.

<sup>16</sup> The Times of Israel. *After UNHRC Adopts 5 anti-Israel Resolutions, UK Vows to Oppose All Future Such Moves*. March 24, 2017.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Department of State. *Defining Anti-Semitism*. June 8, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> iPolitics. Michael Harris. *Vindication for Michael Lynk--and for Dion, an Elbow in the Eye*. March 31, 2016.

<sup>21</sup> "United Nations Human Rights Council," *United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner*.

<sup>22</sup> "The facts — and a few myths — about Saudi Arabia and human rights," *The Washington Post*, February 9, 2015.

<sup>23</sup> Newsweek. Lucy Westcott. *Rights Groups Call for Saudi Arabia Suspension from U.N. Human Rights Council*. June 29, 2016.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

<sup>25</sup> "Israel singles out Qatar as key Hamas terror sponsor," *The Times of Israel*, July 23, 2014.

<sup>26</sup> "Cuba," *Human Rights Watch*.

<sup>27</sup> SciELO. Katherine Short. *From Commission to Council: Has the United Nations Succeeded in Creating a Credible Human Rights Body?* December, 2009.