



SIXTH COMMITTEE

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by

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Crimes against Humanity

Agenda Item 80

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Thank you Chair,

This is the first time I'm taking the floor this week and it is not a coincidence that it is in under the general item of crimes against humanity. we feel we must to inform this honorable forum of the latest terrifying news coming in from Israel.

On Saturday morning, a detailed, planned, unprovoked attack was executed by the genocidal Jihadist Hamas terror organization against innocent Israeli civilians. In the early hours of the morning, savage terrorists indiscriminately fired thousands of rockets on Israeli civilian towns and villages - a clear violation of all basic principles and rules of IHL and International Human Rights Law. But these blatant violations of international law did not stop there. As rockets rained down indiscriminately upon Israeli towns and cities, hundreds of Hamas terrorists infiltrated Israel and began an inhuman pogrom of unparalleled magnitude, all while filming and proudly boasting of their savage actions on social media.

They broadcast live to all their barbaric fans how they brutally murdered babies and desecrated their small bodies; young siblings murdered in front of each other. Entire families murdered while holding each other – parents hugging their small children while they were shot.

As of this morning, Israeli authorities have reported more than 1300 Israelis brutally murdered, with 150 Israelis, including women, children, and the elderly, abducted and forcibly taken into Gaza and are currently held by the ruthless and heinous organization, Hamas. Additionally, over 3,500 Israelis have been injured in these vicious attacks over the weekend, and these numbers are sadly only expected to grow.

No one in this room should remain silent in light of these extreme violations of Human Rights. As everyone in this room engage professionally in the uphold of international law on a daily basis, the implications of such violations of international law are clear.

And unfortunately as the information unfolds we learn that not only Israeli citizens were brutally harmed in this massacre but also those of many other countries – terror is blind – it doesn't see the individual it sees just the brutal acts of violence.

These reprehensible terrorists were committing a double war crime – indiscriminately targeting Israeli civilians, while using the residents of the Gaza Strip as human shields. Now they have added a third war crime – using Israeli hostages that **they** abducted AS human shields, threatening to execute them. Just like ISIS.

Hamas is ISIS. Hamas is worse than ISIS - there is no other way to describe a terror organization that took young infants from 1 month to 4 years old concentrated them in one place and shot them to death, beheaded them and took body parts as trophies back to Gaza. Therefore, every legal and other mechanism which is being used against ISIS should be, At least, implemented in the same way against Hamas.

As you know, Israel is a partner to the maintenance and development of international law, especially in this forum, and does its best to keep this forum a professional, legal forum, without outside distractions.

The State of Israel stresses the great importance that it attaches to the outcome of the International Law Commission on this agenda item, as its comments and observations to the Commission itself and during the sessions of the Sixth Committee exemplify.

This recent horrific terrorist attack is one more - very shocking example - why we add our support for advancing the imperative goal of preventing and punishing the commission of crimes against humanity. Our support is categorical and stems from our consistent commitment to international criminal justice and to putting an end to impunity for the gravest international crimes.

To that end, Israel is committed to achieving broad acceptance of the rules for preventing and punishing crimes against humanity as we have been claiming in all our statements under this item in previous years.

Mr. Chair,

The incomprehensible events that occurred over the last weekend cannot be ignored by the international legal community. It is imperative that international lawyers remain aware of the grievous violations of international law that follow such acts. **We must stand united by condemning these kinds of inhuman acts.**

Nothing will remain the same – we will fight against the terrorists without fear, and we will do this not just for **Israel**, but also for maintaining international peace and security – **and we will prevail.**

we will prevail For the sake of my nine-month-old daughter

we will prevail For the sake of all Israeli children

And **we will prevail** also for the sake of all the Palestinian children who suffer under the cruel regime of Hamas which takes away their present and future.

May all the victims – women, men, and children memory be blessed.

יהי זכרם ברוך

עם ישראל חי