



## Security Council

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### **Identical letters dated 3 August 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I am writing to you with great urgency and alarm regarding the latest maritime attack undertaken by the Iranian regime, yet another in a series of alarming attacks in flagrant violation of international law that serve to destabilize the region and threaten international peace and security.

On 29 July 2021, *Mercer Street*, a civilian petroleum product tanker managed by an Israeli-managed company, was struck by Iranian attack drones, leading to the death of two innocent civilians, one a citizen of the United Kingdom, the other a Romanian citizen. Israel deplores this heinous attack by Iran, and sends its heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and to the respective Governments of the United Kingdom and of Romania.

This latest attack is yet another instance of maritime terrorism undertaken by Iran on the high seas, similar to other recent attacks that I have already brought to the attention of the Security Council, asking that concrete action be taken. Iran's repeated brazen and murderous actions – which constitute grave violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law more generally – serve not only to threaten the safety of international shipping and navigation and disrupt international trade, but to further destabilize a highly volatile region. The Security Council should not sit idly by in the face of such violations by Iran or by the terrorist organizations throughout the region that serve as its proxies.

In this context, it is imperative to underline the pivotal role the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has played in sowing violence and destruction in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world. The IRGC is the main sponsor of terrorist groups and militias throughout the region. Over time, the IRGC has developed dangerous and precise weaponry, such as attack drones and long-range missiles, which it uses against civilians and civilian objects in countries across the region, whether directly or by means of the terrorist groups the IRGC sponsors and supports.

In a letter dated 2 March 2021 (S/2021/213), I expressed Israel's concern over a previous Iranian attack on the Israeli-owned cargo vessel *Helios Ray*. Since then, the Iranian regime has only intensified its actions, striking the Israeli-owned tanker *Hyperion Ray* on 14 April 2021, and conducting another attack on 3 July 2021 against the *CSAV Tyndall*, which was previously owned by an Israeli citizen.

I call upon the Security Council to address this string of attacks with great urgency and unequivocally condemn and sanction Iran for these malign activities. The



Security Council must take all necessary measures to hold the Iranian regime fully accountable for its repeated and unrestrained gross violations of international law.

I also call upon the international community to speak out against Iran's heinous acts and recognize these attacks as a matter of grave concern for international peace and security. Iran's unceasing hostile activities endanger our region and beyond, and we expect the Security Council to take concrete and decisive action to curb this growing threat.

The State of Israel will continue to take all necessary measures to protect its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Gilad **Erdan**  
Ambassador of Israel to the United States and the United Nations

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