



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 28 February 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Following my previous letter of 14 February 2023, I once again write to you regarding the current wave of Palestinian terror which Israel has been facing.

On Sunday, 26 February 2023, two Israeli brothers, Hillel Menachem Yaniv (22) and Yigal Yaacov Yaniv (20), were ambushed and murdered in a shooting attack in the town of Hawara while driving in their car. Just yesterday, 27 February 2023, a United States-Israeli student, Elan Ganeles (26), was murdered in a shooting attack while driving in the Dead Sea area. The same terrorists then fired on two additional cars with Israeli civilians inside, attempting to murder them. The horrific murder of Elan Ganeles happened seven years after the tragic murder of another young American student, Taylor Force, who was stabbed to death by a Palestinian terrorist in Tel Aviv. During recent years, unfortunately, Palestinian terror has not only cost the lives of many Israelis but has also led to the murder and injury of many foreign nationals, including a Ukrainian national just last month. Since the beginning of 2023, over 700 terror attacks were perpetrated against Israeli civilians, leading to the brutal deaths of 14 innocent victims and the injury of dozens.

Following the events in Hawara on Sunday night, Israel's President Herzog quickly and unequivocally condemned the violence. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and Defense Minister Gallant both emphasized that one must "not take the law into one's own hands". While Israeli leaders and government officials were quick to condemn any unlawful actions carried out by individuals, the Palestinian Authority continues to encourage terror with its "Pay for Slay" policy, which provides payments to terrorists and their families. This is a clear distinction that underscores the fundamental difference between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders and people.

The international community must unconditionally condemn the latest Palestinian terror attacks and hold the Palestinian leadership accountable. Years of Palestinian Authority incitement and international community inaction have fuelled the Palestinian culture of hate and led to this volatile point. The simple fact that the Security Council acquiesced to yet another meeting request by the Palestinians shows its wilful inaction in the face of Israeli casualties. How many more Israelis must be murdered by Palestinian terrorists before the Security Council holds the Palestinians responsible for the culture of hate and incitement they promote?

Israel seeks to de-escalate the volatile situation on the ground and is working with our partners towards this goal. For this effort to succeed, the Palestinian Authority must first take serious steps to combat terrorism.



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

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