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The Commission's charter calls for it "to investigate in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel all alleged violations of international humanitarian law."

Thus, before the investigation begins, the CoI assumes that all disputed lands in Judea and Samaria (the former West Bank), as well as parts of its capital, Jerusalem, are "Palestinian territory." Note that the CoI is also invited to investigate Israel's actions within its entire borders, even with respect to Arab Israeli citizens living, for instance, in Haifa or Tel Aviv.

The Commission is also tasked with gathering evidence "to maximize the possibility of its admissibility in legal proceedings," and must "report on its main activities on an annual basis." Uniquely among the UNHRC's 32 past commissions, this one has no fixed expiration date, and is specifically tasked to produce findings that can be used to fuel criminal prosecutions of Israeli leaders at the International Criminal Court and elsewhere.

The Commission's mandate—ratified by the UNHRC and endorsed and funded by the UN General Assembly last month—was established in the aftermath of the 11-day Gaza war last May.

In that conflict, Hamas and other terrorist gangs in Gaza indiscriminately fired over 4,000 rockets at Israeli civilian population centers. Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system prevented massive loss of Israeli life, and the IDF pummeled Gaza with air strikes and artillery to silence the terrorists' missile launchers.

The CoI's charter, most remarkably, doesn't mention Hamas, let alone its attacks on Israeli civilians.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid called the CoI "total insanity," emphasizing its departure from the norms of UN commissions.

"It has a budget of about \$4.1m. a year and it has 18 staff members," Lapid said. "In Syria, half a million people were killed, and there was a war for 12 years, but the budget [for that UNHRC inquiry] is \$2.5m. and there are only 12 staff members."

Adding to Israel's outrage, the CoI will be headed by Navi Pillay, a long-time Israel-basher who has publicly declared Israel "an apartheid state" and is an impassioned activist in the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. She also has a decades-long record of leading other UN lynch-mobs against Israel.

As the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights from 2008 to 2014, she was responsible for many actions against Israel, including the inquisition that resulted in the notorious Goldstone Report.

That report—focused on the 2010 Mavi Marmara flotilla attempting to break Israel's embargo of Hamas' Gaza arms trafficking—acidly condemned Israel's actions in boarding the Turkish ship.

Less than two years later, amid proof of the Goldstone Report's fraudulent

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content, Richard Goldstone, its red-faced lead author, embarrassedly renounced

the legitimacy of its findings condemning Israel.

Despite the report's principal author disowning it, Pillay resolutely stood by the report. She continues to propagate its lies in the press and at international meetings like the annual Durban Review Conferences, the anti-Semitic hatefests she has organized and endorsed.

Just to ensure guilty verdicts in Pillay's new, endless prosecution, her CoI henchmen will, unusually, consist of criminal attorneys. The endeavor's success will doubtless be measured not by "findings for remediation" but rather by criminal filings against their Israeli prey.

In keeping with its absolute rejection of the legitimacy, structure, staffing and budget of the CoI, Israel is expected to direct government and diplomatic personnel to reject all requests for information, and to work actively to bar all Commission members and their staff from physical access to Israel and the territories as well as Israeli libraries and media banks.

Encouragingly, at least Israel doesn't stand alone in its denunciation of this UNHRC travesty of justice.

A bipartisan group of 42 members of Congress called last month on US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to defund the UN Commission, and to work against its nefarious objectives. The UNHRC was presciently defunded by the Trump administration, but this act was reversed by Biden's team.

Following the bipartisan Congressional appeal, a US State Department spokesperson agreed with Israel and the American lawmakers, announcing that "The United States will not cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry, and we encourage other member states to follow our lead."

Please point out to friends, family, colleagues, and your elected representatives that this investigation goes far beyond all past and ongoing persecutions of Israel by the UNHRC and Ms. Pillay. Its unending mission and aggressive budget and staffing underscore the uniquely passionate hatred of the Jewish state by a broad swath of United Nations members.

Emphasize that Israel is under no moral or legal obligation to provide the rope that clearly is intended to hang it in Geneva and at the Hague, where the International Criminal Court is already formulating bogus charges of "crimes against humanity" against past and current Israeli leaders.

I hope you'll also take a minute, while you have this material front and center, to forward this message to friends, visit FLAME's lively Facebook page and review the P.S. immediately below. It describes FLAME's new *hasbarah* campaign—which further exposes "The Israel Genocide Slander" and the anti-Semites who make this false accusation.

Best regards,

Ken Cohen

Editor, Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. Whoopi Goldberg's comments recently about the Holocaust underscored perhaps the greatest "public relations" problem Israel faces: Lies, slander and misinformation. One of the greatest of these falsehoods is the accusation of genocide against the Jewish state. Last May, actor Mark Ruffalo tweeted that Israel commits genocide. A college student in a public forum told Vice President Harris that Israel commits "ethnic genocide." I think you'll agree that the only antidote to these lies is the truth. To clarify the outrageous accusation of genocide by Israel, FLAME has created a new *hasbarah* message called "[The Israel Genocide Slander](#)." I hope you'll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which is slated to run soon in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Orlando Sentinel* and other media nationwide. It spells out why the State of Israel does not and has never committed genocide—and why accusers should be branded anti-Semites. This piece will also be sent to all members of Congress, Vice President Harris and President Biden. If you agree that this kind of public relations effort on Israel's behalf is critical, I urge you to support us. Remember: FLAME's powerful ability to influence public opinion—and U.S. support of Israel—comes from individuals like you, one by one. I hope you'll consider [giving a donation now](#), as you're able—with \$500, \$250, \$100, or even \$18. (Remember, your donation to FLAME is tax deductible.) To donate online, just go to [donate](#) now. Now, more than ever, we need your support to ensure that the American people, the U.S. Congress and President Biden stay committed to fighting anti-Semitic actions by individuals, politicians and commercial companies.

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