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Facts & Logic About the Middle East

June 21, 2022



UN agency flaunts anti-Israel agenda: Time for the U.S. to resign again. Newsletter, June 21, 2022

Dear Friend of FLAME:

The fact that the UN is biased against Israel comes as no surprise. Indeed, UN agencies have mounted more attacks against the world's only Jewish state and the Middle East's only democracy than against all of the world's greatest criminal actors combined.

But now the so-called UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has just mounted what is surely the world body's most concerted effort, *not* about possible instances of Israel's misdeeds, but rather to condemn the Jewish state for its very existence—and in the process *destroy* it.

The UNHRC's extraordinary year-old "Commission of Inquiry" (COI) has just issued its first of a perpetual schedule of screeds against Israel. Unsurprisingly and unashamedly, the document attempts to delegitimize and demonize Israel using double-standards—the classic "3Ds" recipe for antisemitism.

The COI manages to do all this while utterly ignoring the fact that Israel's behavior has been necessitated by its defense against Arab aggressors—both genocidal foreign armies crossing its borders and murderous terrorists on its streets—for every one of its first 74 years.

Encouragingly, some 22 nations have already criticized the new COI's first report for its blatant anti-Israel bias. No wonder voices like that of former US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman are calling on the Biden Administration to rescind its recent decision to rejoin the UNHRC.

The only permanent item on the UNHRC's meeting agendas is Item #7, a scheduled hate-fest directed at Israel. Most Western democracies—to their credit—exit UNHRC headquarters in Geneva when that item is brought up for discussion.

Over the past two decades, nine special UNHRC commissions have been

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YOU DESERVE TO KNOW THE TRUTH...

The Palestinian Catastrophe

Palestinians mourn Israel's birth with Nakba Day, but the real catastrophe then, as now, is their failure to share the land—and seize the chance to form a state.

Throughout U.S. Representative have proposed legislation to name Palestinian Nakba / "Catastrophe" Day a national observance, for the event commemorates the refusal of Palestinians to accept Jewish state and what they call the "Day of the Land" as two states for two peoples. Unfortunately, the refusal continues.

What are the facts?

The annual Nakba Day protests to lament Israel's establishment in 1948. But actually, Nakba Day represents a mythical history of victimhood in which "Palestinian Arab land" was stolen by colonizing Jews. In fact, the catastrophe was the Palestinian own making, specifically their refusal to accept a Jewish state or any of many Jewish offers of land—and a nation—the peace.

Not only does Nakba Day present harmful propaganda against Israel and Jews, but it also contradicts the Palestinian's own identity. It is seen first with Nakba Day, the day of the "Day of the Land"—since Israeli birth—except billions and even has opportunity to create a state today.

Nakba Day's fundamental premise is fiction. It blames Israel for Palestinians losing their chance to acquire land and establish a state, which was first caused by Arab-state rejection of the 1947 United Nations Partition Plan, dividing the territory into two states—one Arab, one Jewish. Unlike the Palestinians, Israeli leaders gradually but firmly embraced the UN offer. Thus, Palestinian suffering of blame for their situation depends should not rest on Israel, but on their failure to fulfill Arab wishes—and on Palestinian own rejection.

Despite the misleading Palestinian narrative, Israeli Day of Independence was not to seize Arab land. After all, no Arab state ever existed in Palestine, and Israeli land purchased and negotiated peacefully in most of the land in its future country. Further, the UN's independence was different—against armies of first Arab invading forces and the 1948 invasion of Israel.

In fact, the Palestinian state could have been established on the original date of the "Nakba" but broken, Egypt, Syria and other Arab states would have been established on the "Day of the Land" (the day of the "Day of the Land") and the UN plan. Palestinians would have been celebrating the 75th anniversary of their State of Palestine.

But their answer was "No!" Palestinians Arabs launched a bloody guerrilla campaign against Jewish communities. Palestinian Arabs were expelled by the Arab invaders that Israeli death would follow soon, and many fled. Hostile Palestinians were also expelled by the Israeli army.

When Arab states lost the war to defeat Israel, they drove out or killed all Jews residing in areas they captured—none of them were expelled from their own lands. Some of them lived in "The West Bank" and "Yamunh" (Latter, Arab states).

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established to investigate or criticize Israel alone. Perhaps the most notorious of these was the 2009 Goldstone Commission, which viciously attacked Israel until Richard Goldstone—the panel’s namesake and chief—formally renounced and retracted the Commission’s error-infested report.

This latest COI is unusual in several ways:

- It is not limited to the investigation of a specific conflict or incidents. The events of March, 2021, which saw 4000 missile attacks from Gaza against Israeli civilian centers—and Israel’s counter-attacks on Gaza—were the trigger for the COI, but its charter is actually unbounded.
- It is not limited to a particular time period. The COI’s charter allows it to evaluate all Israel-Arab interactions since Israel’s birth in 1948 . . . and even has the mission to investigate future conflicts.
- It is not limited to a particular geography. The COI’s charter allows for the investigation of Israel-Arab interactions and conflicts that happen anywhere in the world.
- It is not limited in duration. The COI is now a standing institution of the UN, much like the UNHRC’s Agenda Item #7. Unlike all other such UN Commissions, this one has no expiration date.
- It is not limited by resources. Its generous budget this year is around \$5 million, and its charter calls for *at least two reports annually* and indefinite funding renewals.
- It is not limited in its bias. COI Chairperson Navi Pillay of South Africa and each of her two fellow commissioners, Chris Sidoti of Australia and Miloon Cothari of India, all have an extensive and years-long public record of anti-Israel speeches, writings and actions that make them completely unfit to serve as impartial arbiters of the COI.

The recently issued COI report, in fact, has few surprises, given its authorship. This first report examines the “root causes” of the problems and discovers that . . . they are *Israel’s* doing.

Nowhere to be seen are mentions of Arab-launched wars; or waves of Palestinian terror—just “activism” and “resistance to occupation”!

Also missing are references to the Hamas charter calling for the genocide of the Jews, or even Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas’ comment about “filthy” Jews, or the lavish bounties Abbas pays to Palestinians who murder Jews in his Pay-for-Slay program.

Reading the report, one can only conclude that the racist, hate-filled Jews of Israel just woke up one morning and—without any real provocation—decided to persecute and murder Arabs.

Far worse than these individual lies, however, is the report’s condemnation of Israel for being a *Jewish* state—including its right of return for Jews from anywhere in the world. The COI’s mission is *not* to criticize Israel’s policies, but

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rather is a bigoted “star chamber” whose job is to undermine Israel’s reason for being.

The COI’s conclusion was foregone before it began: Israel’s existence is evil and must be eliminated.

The report is so detached from Middle East reality and honest history that 22 nations have submitted a protest letter against it, led by the United States, and including other American, European, Asian, and African countries.

The letter begins, “We believe the nature of the COI is further demonstration of disproportionate attention given to Israel,” adding the concern that, “the COI will contribute to the polarization of [the] situation.”

Hillel Neuer of Geneva-based UN Watch has demanded that the COI’s chair, Pillay, recuse herself or be removed by the UNHRC. Both UN Watch and the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA) submitted to the COI in advance of the latest report hundreds of thousands of pages documenting Arab persecution and forced exile of Jews, as well as belligerence against Israel for decades. This preponderance of evidence was not even acknowledged in the COI document.

JCPA’s Anne Bayefsky states that “the report’s overriding standard of ‘proof’ that the Jewish state is allegedly a moral affront to humankind is this: the UN said so.”

Former US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman believes the Biden Administration’s decision to rejoin and resume funding the UNHRC after the U.S. left it in 2018 was a mistake.

“The U.S. never should have gone back in. It’s a terrible organization and has no credibility,” Friedman stated, responding to the UNHRC report.

“This is an organization that is deeply, deeply antisemitic. The U.S. has no business being part of it and contributing to it,” he added.

Please express to your friends, family, colleagues, and elected representatives that the UNHRC is, essentially, an antisemitic mob that functions to support Palestinian terrorism and destroy Israel. The United States will never “reform” such an utterly corrupt agency, and we disgrace ourselves by participating in and funding such racist enterprises.

Emphasize, too, that America should once again—and for all— resign its UNHRC seat.

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—“The Palestinian Catastrophe”—which exposes the false narrative of “Nakba Day,” commemorating Palestinians’ missed opportunity for independence.

Best regards,

James Sinkinson, President

Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME)

P.S. U.S. Representative and “Squad” member Rashida Tlaib has introduced a bill that would make Palestinian Nakba (“Catastrophe”) Day a national observance. The resolution promotes the false narrative that Israel’s statehood in 1948 prevented Palestinian Arabs from achieving independence. I think you’ll agree that truth is the only antidote to this lie. FLAME’s new *hasbarah* message called “[The Palestinian Catastrophe](#)”—shows it was in fact Arab refusal to accept the U.N. proposal of two states for two peoples that created the problem. I hope you’ll review this convincing, fact-based paid editorial, which is scheduled to run in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *New York Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times* and other media nationwide. It spells out how it was actually Arab states who stole the land designated for Palestinians. 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 antisemitic actions by individuals, politicians and commercial companies.

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