

January 20, 2020

Submission of the Institute for NGO Research to the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance in preparation of her report on combatting glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fueling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

I. Introduction

NGO Monitor, a project of the Institute for NGO Research,¹ an organization in Special Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC since 2013, presents this submission to the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance in preparation of her report on combatting glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fueling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. We hope that the information provided will aid the Rapporteur in the preparation of her report to the Human Rights Council.

For nearly 20 years, NGO Monitor has studied and analyzed the presence of antisemitism within the human rights and humanitarian non-governmental organizations (NGO) community.² Civil society must play a critical role in combating Nazism, neo-Nazism, and the resulting antisemitism. Yet, we have documented hundreds of incidents of antisemitism, as well as the development, promotion, and dissemination of Nazi tropes by NGOs claiming to promote human rights. These ideas are then mainstreamed into political discourse and within international institutions. This NGO activity is a significant contributing factor to the rise in antisemitism occurring today across the globe.

Just because an organization claims to advance human rights or humanitarian objectives does not mean it is immune to participating in “the oldest hatred.” Too often, these groups use the cover of “human rights” work to exempt themselves from self-criticism or independent scrutiny of antisemitic activities. Moreover, despite these activities promoting racism, many

¹ Members of the Institute’s Advisory Board include Elliott Abrams, Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations; former Canadian Ambassador to Israel, Amb. Vivian Bercovici; Hon. Michael Danby, former MP Australian Labor Party; Harvard Professor Prof. Alan Dershowitz; Canadian Senator, Hon. Linda Frum; Colonel Richard Kemp, former commander of British forces in Iraq and Afghanistan; Douglas Murray, Director of the Centre for Social Cohesion; former Member of Italian Parliament, Hon. Fiamma Nirenstein, UCLA Professor and President of the Daniel Pearl Foundation, Prof. Judea Pearl; US Jurist and former Legal Advisor to the State Department Judge Abraham Sofaer; Dr. Einat Wilf, former member of Knesset and advisor to Shimon Peres; Harvard Professor Prof. Ruth Wisse; R. James Woolsey, former US Director of Central Intelligence; and Israeli Supreme Court Justice, Justice Elyakim Rubinstein.

² Professor Gerald M. Steinberg and Anne Herzberg, “The Role of International Legal and Justice Discourse in Promoting the New Antisemitism,” in *Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism* (Alvin Rosenfeld, ed. Indiana University Press 2019); Prof. Gerald M. Steinberg, “Europeans Fund Anti-Israel Libels,” *Middle East Quarterly*, Winter 2015: <https://www.meforum.org/4912/europeans-fund-anti-israel-libels>; Anne Herzberg, “NGOs and the New Antisemitism,” in *Global Antisemitism: A Crisis of Modernity* (Charles Small, ed., Brill 2013); Prof. Gerald M. Steinberg, “Boycotts, Bias and Politics in the Arab-Israeli Conflict,” *American Association of University Professors Journal of Academic Freedom*, Vol. 4 (2013): https://www.ngo-monitor.org/academicpublications/boycotts_bias_and_politics_in_the_arab_israeli_conflict/

governments and international institutions including the European Union and the UN continue to provide mass amounts of funding to these hateful groups.

It is critical, therefore, that the Special Rapporteur address in her report antisemitism in the form of Nazism emanating from the NGO sector.

Per the Special Rapporteur's Call, NGO Monitor's submission provides "descriptions, examples, scholarship, and other accounts describing contemporary manifestations of antisemitism" taking place with the human rights and humanitarian NGO community. We conclude with recommendations.

II. International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of Antisemitism

One of the best ways the international community, including UN agencies, can prevent Nazism and neo-Nazism is to provide tools by which it can be identified. Once such tool is the widely accepted International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism and the working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion.³ They represent the growing consensus definitions of both classical and contemporary forms of antisemitism. As of January 2020, this working definition, launched in 2000 at the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust⁴ has been adopted by the European Union's Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), and more than . The IHRA working definition has been adopted by nearly 30 countries and counting around the world, including Canada, Italy, the UK, Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Lithuania, Romania, Macedonia, Uruguay, and the United States. On June 4, 2019, Secretary General of the Organization for American States Luis Almagro voiced his support for the IHRA definition and its adoption by the OAS.⁵

The IHRA working definitions clearly articulate what is and what is not antisemitism, as well as how to distinguish between legitimate criticism of Israel and antisemitism. **We urge the Special Rapporteur to use the IHRA definitions as the fundamental benchmark in her report.**

We also urge all the Special Rapporteur to recommend that all UN frameworks adopt and implement these working definitions. Unfortunately, far too many UN agencies and officials frequently violate their principles.

The following report utilizes the various categories defined by the IHRA definitions to highlight the various types of Nazism and Neo-Nazism promoted by NGOs:

III. "Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially

³ <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/working-definitions-and-charters>

⁴ IHRA, "Stockholm Declaration," <https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/stockholm-declaration>

⁵ <https://jewishjournal.com/news/nation/299597/organization-of-american-states-leader-announces-support-ihradefinition-of-anti-semitism>

but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.”

Various NGOs

Manal Tamimi, who has worked at the EU-funded Palestinian organization [Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counseling](#) (WCLAC), regularly posts virulently antisemitic and Nazi imagery and rhetoric on social media. For instance, in September 2015, [tweeted](#), “Vampire zionist celebrating their Kebore day by drinking Palestinian bloods, yes our blood is pure & delicious but it will kill u at the end.” In August 2015, Tamimi [tweeted](#), “I do hate Israel ,i (sic) wish a thrid Intefada (sic) coming soon and people rais (sic) up and kill all these zionist settlers everywhere.” Far from condemning her actions, WCLAC promoted her as a so-called “human rights defender” in violation of the definition.⁶

At the time of these hateful and violent comments by its field worker, WCLAC received a core funding grant of [\\$1,295,000](#) (2014-2017) from the [Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat](#), a funding consortium of the governments of Sweden, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Denmark. WCLAC also received [€2.5 million](#) from the [European Union’s](#) East Jerusalem Programme to “Protect the rights and improve resilience of vulnerable communities in East Jerusalem.” The [French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development](#) (MAEDI) provided WCLAC with [€34,200](#) in 2016, [NOK 2.6 million](#) (2016) from [Norway](#), and [€128,825](#) (2015) from [Spain](#) (AECID).

⁶ <https://www.ngo-monitor.org/press-releases/un-lynk-report-tamimi-ngo-monitor/>



[Medical Aid for Palestinians \(MAP\)](#)⁷ is a UK based charity [claiming to work](#) “for the health and dignity of Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees.”⁸

In 2014, [NGO Monitor exposed](#)⁹ that MAP founder and [honorary patron](#) Dr. Swee Ang Chai¹⁰ [disseminated a video made by American white supremacist and KKK Grand Wizard David Duke](#).¹¹ Duke has also been expelled from Italy for “allegedly trying to establish a pan-

⁷ NGO Monitor, “Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP),” December 26, 2017: https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/medical_aid_for_palestinians_map_/

⁸ MAP, “Healthcare System Buckling in Gaza,” <https://www.map.org.uk/>

⁹ NGO Monitor, “Authors of Anti-Israel Letter in The Lancet Promote Antisemitic Video by White Supremacist David Duke,” September 10, 2014: https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/authors_of_anti_israel_letter_in_the_lancet_promote_antisemitic_video_by_white_supremacist_david_duke/

¹⁰ MAP, “Patrons,” <https://www.map.org.uk/about-map/patrons-and-supporters>

¹¹ NGO Monitor, “Authors of Anti-Israel Letter in The Lancet Promote Antisemitic Video by White Supremacist David Duke,” September 10, 2014: https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/authors_of_anti_israel_letter_in_the_lancet_promote_antisemitic_video_by_white_supremacist_david_duke/

European neo-Nazi group.” The video is described on Duke’s YouTube page as “reveal[ing] how the Zionist Matrix of Power controls Media, Politics and Banking and how each Part of this Tribalist matrix supports and protects each other!” In sending out the video, Swee Ang remarked “This is shocking video please watch. This is not about Palestine – it is about all of us!” The email also contained, in bold red lettering, “SEE THIS VIDEO BEFORE IT IS REMOVED FROM CIRCULATION – Please do pass on to others who you think would be interested and would pass on>>>The whole world needs to know.”

In February 2017, [when asked about the antisemitic video](#) at the University College of London Union, Swee Ang responded that she doesn’t “think it’s entirely anti-Jewish.”¹²

Swee Ang remains an [Honorary Patron](#) for MAP despite her vile comments, and the group continues to receive large donations including [\\$1.9 million](#) from UN OCHA in 2018 and [£725,000](#) from the [United Kingdom](#) (DFID) for “Emergency Response: Gaza Conflict” in 2015.

IV. “Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.”

ARIJ and Ma’an News

According to [Nazi chief ideologist Alfred Rosenberg](#), “The fact that Jews have so many commandments and that Jewish law delves into the most minute details of Jewish life, proves their lack of moral understanding. Therefore, the Jews only adhere to and emphasize control of technical instructions.” His 1920s book, *Unmoral in Talmud (Lack of Morality in the Talmud)* “quotes a selection of sayings from the Talmud and the *Shulchan Aruch* (the Code of Jewish Law) which ostensibly attest to the Jewish people’s moral inferiority.”

A number of NGOs have adopted this classic antisemitic and Nazi attack on the Talmud in their rhetoric used against Israel and Jews. For example, an Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ) report paid for by the EU and bearing the EU logo claims that “over 250 settlers, stormed an archaeological site in Al-Jib village...and performed Talmudic rituals.”¹³ The report later accuses Jews of performing “Talmudic rituals in celebration of Jewish holidays” and performing “Talmudic rituals in the town” – as if practicing Judaism is a crime. The organization makes similar claims in its May 2017,¹⁴ February 2017,¹⁵ and November 2014 reports.¹⁶ In the February 2017 report, the NGO goes so far as to claim that the “Talmudic rituals” were in “blatant provocation to local residents.” Similarly, in September

¹² UCL Friends of Palestine Society, “Heated Q&A!,” 2017:

<https://www.facebook.com/UCLUFOP/videos/2217720711785957/>

¹³ Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ), “Israeli Violations’ Activities in the oPt,” April 26, 2019: <http://poica.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/26-April-2019.pdf>

¹⁴ Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ), “Israeli Violations’ Activities in the oPt,” May 9, 2017: <http://poica.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/9may2017.pdf#page=3>

¹⁵ Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem, “Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine,” February 2017: <https://www.arij.org/files/arijadmin/poica/feb2017.pdf#page=27>

¹⁶ November 2014: https://www.arij.org/files/arijadmin/November_2014.pdf#page=8

2018, the Palestinian non-profit media organization Ma'an News wrote that "Hundreds of Israeli settlers stormed Joseph's Tomb and performed religious Jewish rituals and Talmudic prayers under heavy protection by Israeli soldiers."

Neo-Nazi Caricatures: BADIL

The Palestinian NGO BADIL promotes a so-called Palestinian "right of return" and [leads](#)¹⁷ international [BDS campaigns](#).¹⁸ As part of its advocacy, BADIL sponsors poster and caricature contests, where [antisemitic and violent imagery](#) is prevalent.¹⁹ In 2010, the [2nd-prize-winning](#)²⁰ cartoon in BADIL's caricature competition [was a blatant representation of classic antisemitic tropes and Nazi imagery](#),²¹ including a Jewish man, garbed in traditional Hasidic attire, with a hooked nose and side locks. He stands on top of a box adorned with Jewish stars crushing to death a child, holding keys labeled "US" and "UK" and a pitchfork stylized as a menorah dripping with blood, while skulls litter the ground.



Another antisemitic image that was posted on the BADIL website, a monstrous octopus, is identified with a Star of David on its head and tentacles dripping with blood. The image of the "octopus" recalls the most virulent antisemitic imagery from the Nazi-era publication *Der Sturmer*.

¹⁷ BADIL, "UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) Takes Action in Support of Palestinian Rights - BADIL Report from the 25th Session of the CESCR, Geneva, April-May 2001: <http://www.badil.org/en/al-majdal/itemlist/category/240-al-majdal54>

¹⁸ NGO Monitor, "Boycotts, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) Resource Page," April 23, 2014: https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/ngo_leadership_in_boycott_and_divestment_campaigns/

¹⁹ NGO Monitor, "BADIL," June 5, 2018: <https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/badil/#cartoon>

²⁰ BADIL, "4th Annual Annual Al-Awda Award (2010) - Award Recipients and Jury Members," <https://web.archive.org/web/20150102072849/http://badil.org/annual-al-awda-award/item/1416-award2010-winners>

²¹ NGO Monitor, "BADIL," June 5, 2018: <https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/badil/#cartoon>



BADIL does not include any financial data, donor information, or sources of funding on its website, reflecting a complete lack of transparency and accountability. Yet, in the past, donors have included [Ireland](#) and [Spain](#). BADIL also received substantial funding (\$546,700 2014-17) from [Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Secretariat](#) (a joint funding mechanism of Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Denmark that closed in 2017).

UN Agencies

On August 2, 2018, a number of UN and European government officials attended an event that included a neo-Nazi artwork display in the Area C encampment of Khan al-Ahmar. Attendees included UNICEF-oPt's Special Representative Genevieve Boutin; UNESCO's Ramallah Office Senior Program Officer Sonia Ezam; Head of Mission at South Africa's Representative Office in the State of Palestine Ashraf Suliman; the Representative of Norway to Palestine Hilde Haraldstad; and representatives from the German government's development agency, the UK, and Italy's Vento di Terra.

The event was hosted by the PA's "Colonization and Wall Resistance Commission." None of the UN or government officials walked out or expressed their protest about such overt antisemitism.



German Society for International Cooperation

In March 2018, NGO Monitor identified a number of statements employing Nazi imagery and rhetoric made by officials of the [German Society for International Cooperation](#) (GIZ) – a German government-owned agency that implements Germany’s humanitarian and development aid around the world. For example, a [GIZ project manager](#) advocated for charging Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu with Holocaust denial in German court. Another [GIZ project manager](#) used social media to compare Israel to the Nazis and to threaten Israel’s destruction.



Mohammed Al Mutawakel’s Facebook post from May 31, 2010



Mohammed Al Mutawakel’s Facebook post from November 22, 2012

[OmVärlden](#)

In response to NGO Monitor’s research on government funding for civil society organizations, [OmVärlden](#), an online magazine owned by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA, the branch of the government responsible for international development aid), published more than twenty articles making numerous defamatory claims about NGO Monitor. The articles, wholly inappropriate for a government agency, consist almost entirely of innuendo, factual inaccuracies, and, most alarming, Nazi motifs (spider web, Jewish conspiracy theories). The absurdity of the “evidence” for this conspiracy theory reflects the desperation of the actors involved.

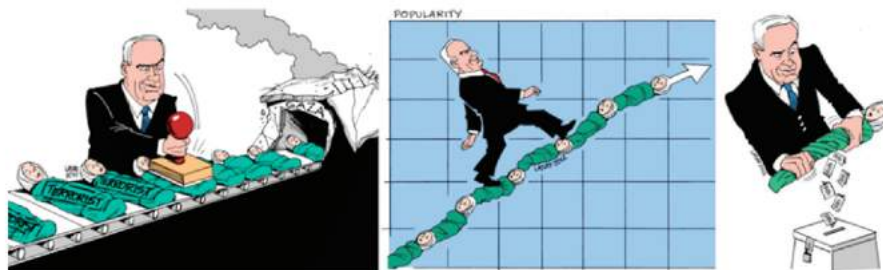


V. “Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.”

PMRS

The Palestinian NGO [Palestinian Medical Relief Society](#) (PMRS) runs “[Palestine Monitor](#),” an “independent news website,” which has featured virulently [antisemitic cartoons](#) that trivialize the Holocaust; depict of a pile of emaciated dead bodies in striped uniforms under the caption “Gaza”; featuring Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stamping Palestinian babies with the word “terrorist,” as they are transported on a conveyer belt into a smoking oven; purported images of Israeli soldiers in Nazi-esque uniforms shooting people into a pit; and of an elderly Palestinian woman with a blood-dripping “1948” tattooed on her arm, invoking the numbers that were tattooed on the arms of Jewish prisoners in concentration camps.





Again, the UN and donor governments seem unconcerned about these neo-Nazi and antisemitic expressions of hate and continue to reward PMRS with millions of dollars in funding.

For example, in 2018-2020, PMRS is receiving €764,664 from [France](#) for “[strengthening the resilience of Palestinian youth in East -Jerusalem and its mobilization around citizen and solidarity initiatives.](#)” The [Swedish government](#) has committed a total of [\\$5.3 million](#) to PMRS for 2016-2020. For a project ending April 2019, PMRS received [€2.5 million](#) from the [European Union’s](#) East Jerusalem Programme to “Protect the rights and improve resilience of vulnerable communities in East Jerusalem.” In 2018, PMRS received \$337,692 from the UN OCHA occupied Palestinian territory Humanitarian Fund for “[providing first aid and postoperative care to injured participating in March of return.](#)” In 2014-2017, PMRS received [€743,206](#) from the EU through a funding mechanism called “Non State Actors and Local Authorities in Development,” for a project titled “Fostering multi-stakeholders mobilisation for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in their community in marginalized areas of oPt.”

EAPPI

EAPPI, the World Council of Churches’ (WCC) flagship project on Israel and the Arab-Israel conflict, has brought 1,800 volunteers to the West Bank to “witness life under occupation.” Despite marketing itself as a human rights and protection program, EAPPI places significant emphasis on political advocacy before, during, and after the trip. When volunteers return to their home countries and churches, they engage in anti-Israel advocacy, such as BDS campaigns and comparing Israel to apartheid South Africa and Nazi Germany.

For instance, during a [September 2017 presentation on EAPPI](#) given by an EAPPI activist,²² an audience member asked, “Excuse me; I have to make a comment at this point. **I don’t know how many people here have seen the model of the gas chambers ... and some of these things really remind me [unintelligible] and I often wondered if any Jewish people**

²² Presvideo, “The Rev. Gordon Timbers - EAPPI,” oCTOBER 11, 2017: <https://web.archive.org/web/20180103160446/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QS9S9aNKmZ8>

who go in to see that model ever think of what is set up here” (emphasis added).²³ In his answer, the activist did not dispute the false claim, answering instead, “...Thank you for that, because there are similarities. All these identity papers and restriction of movement and checkpoints and all of these things, yes, that does make people think.”

In [2016](#) in South Africa, EAPPI activists [participated](#) in Apartheid Week events in Pretoria²⁴ and in [2017](#) at Nelson Mandela University.²⁵ A South African, who participated in the program twice, [advocated](#) for crippling the Israeli banking system,²⁶ stating, “If we can develop the momentum of sanctions against Israeli banks then all the power of the Israeli military becomes irrelevant...that’s really the basis to support the BDS program...without access to SWIFT...the whole economy would quickly collapse...**the time has come to say that the victims of the Holocaust have now become the perpetrators**” (emphasis added).

The WCC, rather than address the antisemitism in its programming, has reacted by trying to demonize the IHRA definition.

Similarly, UNICEF-oPT continues to partner with EAPPI and provide the organization with extensive funding. Government donors to EAPPI include Norway, Sweden, and Canada.

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: 2001 Durban Conference

In September 2001, the UN held the World Conference against Racism in Durban, South Africa, consisting of three parallel gatherings: an official diplomatic forum, a youth summit, and a massive NGO Forum. An estimated 7,000 delegates from more than 1,500 NGOs participated in the three-day NGO Forum, made possible by grants from the Ford Foundation and various governments.

This conference marked a new level of involvement by NGOs to use a UN forum to actively engage in and promote acts of antisemitism. The atmosphere and rhetoric at the NGO Forum featured an extreme level of antisemitic vitriol disguised under the cover of “criticizing” Israel. Israel was accused of perpetrating a “Holocaust,” Israeli soldiers were portrayed as Nazis, and antisemitic cartoons and images were distributed. For instance, a flyer distributed at the NGO Forum musing that if Hitler had “won” there would be “no Israel.” According to attendees, NGO extremists blocked Jewish representatives from attending meetings and NGOs actively tried to prevent condemnations of antisemitism in the NGO Forum declaration. The level of antisemitic hatred was so intense that the United States and Israel walked out of the conference while Canada and the European Union tried to mitigate the damage.

²³ The Presbyterian Church in Canada, “Mission Speakers / Deputation,” <https://presbyterian.ca/im/missionspeakers/>

²⁴ BDS South Africa, “Christian perspective on #IsraelApartheidWeek by Itani Rasalanavho,” *Youtube*, April 14, 2016: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cH3qJNAc6iU>

²⁵ BSSA - Nelson Mandela University, “Israeli Apartheid Week Lecture,” *Facebook*, March 7, 2017: <https://www.facebook.com/events/172609883240503/>

²⁶ Intal Globalize Solidarity, “Terry Crawford Browne on SWIFT sanctions against Israel,” August 8, 2014: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MruWTfH8nLg&list=UU9DpWftimvI0K2lcf5QOGkQ>



A poster used at the 2001 Durban conference (on file with NGO Monitor)

Human Rights Watch

In August 2014, at the height of the Gaza conflict, HRW Executive Director Kenneth Roth [retweeted](#) a highly propagandistic advertisement published in *The New York Times* and *The Guardian* equating “Nazi genocide” with “the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza.” (Professor Deborah Lipstadt refers to this as [soft-core denigration of the Holocaust](#).)

This was a [response](#) to an [advertisement](#) written by IHRA honorary chair, Holocaust survivor and Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel. The NGO response accuses Israel of “colonialism, racism, and genocide” and unnamed “right-wing Israelis” are compared to Nazis. HRW officials who shared this offensive ad, [posted](#) it with the tagline “‘Never again’ must mean NEVER AGAIN FOR ANYONE!”

Retweeted by Kenneth Roth



Andrew Stroehlein @astroehlein · Aug 23

“‘Never again’ must mean NEVER AGAIN FOR ANYONE!” - Holocaust survivors slam #Israel on #Gaza bit.ly/1wltkna

Jewish survivors and descendants of survivors and victims of Nazi genocide unequivocally condemn the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza

As Jewish survivors and descendants of survivors and victims of the Nazi genocide we unequivocally condemn the massacre of Palestinians in Gaza and the ongoing occupation and colonization of historic Palestine. We further condemn the United States for providing Israel with the funding to carry out the attack, and Western states more generally for using their diplomatic muscle to protect Israel from condemnation. Genocide begins with the silence of the world.

We are alarmed by the extreme, racist dehumanization of Palestinians in Israeli society, which has reached a fever-pitch. In Israel, politicians and pundits in *The Times of Israel* and *The Jerusalem Post* have called openly for genocide of Palestinians and right-wing Israelis are adopting Neo-Nazi insignia.

Furthermore, we are disgusted and outraged by Elie Wiesel's abuse of our history in these pages to justify the unjustifiable: Israel's wholesale effort to destroy Gaza and the murder of more than 2,000 Palestinians, including many hundreds of children. Nothing can justify bombing UN shelters, homes, hospitals and universities. Nothing can justify depriving people of electricity and water.

We must raise our collective voices and use our collective power to bring about an end to all forms of racism, including the ongoing genocide of Palestinian people. We call for an immediate end to the siege against and blockade of Gaza. We call for the full economic, cultural and academic boycott of Israel. “Never again” must mean NEVER AGAIN FOR ANYONE!



3.1K

1.5K



[View more photos and videos](#)

VI. “Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).”

Palestine Live

On March 6, 2018, British journalist David Collier exposed a virulently antisemitic Facebook group, “Palestine Live,” whose members have included politicians (such as UK Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn and his son/advisor), journalists, and activists from prominent human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs, see “[Antisemitism Inside Palestine Live \(a Facebook Group\)](#)”). In a subsequent March 2019 report, “[Americans Inside Palestine Live](#),” Collier identified several additional examples of NGO officials in the group. These NGOs include [Amnesty International](#), [Medical Aid for Palestinians](#), [EuroMed Rights](#), and [Jewish Voice for Peace](#).

Posts to this group regularly involve heinous antisemitic tropes, imagery, and language – such as conspiratorial posts blaming the Rothschild family for WWI and WWII and Jews for 9/11 and other terror attacks; images featuring Jewish people portrayed as octopuses, monsters, and pigs; and the use of neo-Nazi rhetoric such as the term “Zios.” There is also blatant Holocaust denial rampant in the group; articles regarding “The Real Holocaust of World War Two – The Genocide of +15 Million Germans,” “Holocaust: The Greatest Lie Ever Told,” and “The Jews and the Concentration Camps: No Evidence of Genocide” that are shared and “liked.”

NowThis, Students for Justice in Palestine, and Jewish Voice for Peace

On January 16, the “progressive social media-focused, youth-oriented news organization” NowThis published a 5-minute clip, featuring university students active in Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace, one student made the remark that “Anne Frank didn’t die [in] a concentration camp. She died from typhus.” [This canard](#) originated with neo-Nazis. Not only is this claim false—Frank died in Bergen-Belsen—the context of the statement, in service of an overtly political agenda, renders it a disgusting exploitation of the Holocaust.



Nazi Memorabilia: HRW

In 2009, Human Rights Watch's "senior military expert" and coauthor of numerous reports condemning Israel, Marc Garlasco, was exposed as an avid collector of Nazi memorabilia and author of a 400-page tome on Nazi-era German army medals.²⁷

In the wake of the revelations, HRW tried to deflect from the evidence and ignored the core moral issues.²⁸ In particular, that Garlasco was deeply immersed in the world of Nazi memorabilia and had made more than 9000 posts on Nazi memorabilia websites. His [screen moniker](#) was Flak88, the name of a German anti-aircraft gun (alarming on its own). Moreover, the [number 88](#) is a code for "[Heil Hitler](#)" and is used by neo-Nazis to identify themselves. After months of controversy, HRW parted ways with Garlasco, but never issued any information as to a promised investigation surrounding his employment, nor was any review taken of the many publications on Israel he authored.

Conclusion and Recommendations

This submission has highlighted far too many cases of antisemitism – seen in these modern day examples of Nazism and Neo-Nazism – within the human rights and NGO community. It by no means presents an exhaustive accounting.

We urge the Special Rapporteur to tackle the problem of NGO antisemitism through the promotion of Nazism and neo-Nazi imagery and rhetoric in her report and to adopt the following recommendations:

- That all States adopt the IHRA working definitions of antisemitism and Holocaust denial and distortion. In particular, this should be a requirement for countries seeking positions on international bodies related to the promotion of universal human rights.
- That the UN and all affiliated organizations adopt the IHRA working definitions.

²⁷ <https://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/15/world/middleeast/15nazi.html>

²⁸ https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/expert_or_ideologues_hrws_defense_of_marc_garlasco_s_nazi_fetish/

- States and international institutions must not only adopt IHRA and similar guidelines but also work to enforce them.
- The UN should appoint a coordinator on combatting antisemitism. As in the EU, this individual would coordinate with the IHRA and UN member states to encourage the adoption of the IHRA working definitions and ways to implement it. This coordinator could oversee educational programs and trainings within the UN system.
- Enact a complaints mechanism at the UN where victims of antisemitism can report incidents and obtain appropriate remedies.
- The Special Rapporteur should encourage member states and UN organizations to include the IHRA working definitions in NGO funding and partnership agreements. This would help ensure that NGOs that promote antisemitism would not receive future government and institutional funds.
- The UN and member states should immediately revoke all funding to groups that promote antisemitism, as defined by the IHRA working definitions.
- NGOs that promote antisemitism should not be eligible for ECOSOC status. Additionally, NGOs caught promoting antisemitism should have their ECOSOC status reviewed and revoked.
- NGOs should not be eligible for UN and/or government support if they incite to hatred and/or violence and that promote racism and xenophobia, including incited to hatred and/or violence against the State of Israel, its citizens, and/or Jews.
- Encourage the review of NGOs and their activities for antisemitism by impartial third party groups.