

To: Heiko Maas, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Dr. Gerd Müller, Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development

23, July 2020

Dear Minister Maas,
Dear Minister Dr. Müller,

We received your response – sent to us on 10 July by Bernd Dunnzlaff, Head of Division 300 – Middle East I, policy issues of cooperation with the Middle East and MENA – assuring us that “The German government takes allegations of structural links between its partners and terror organisations very seriously and follows them up with the utmost care. No such allegations with regard to our programmes in the Palestinian territories have been substantiated.”

In our letter from 28 June, we alerted you to evidence that German government grantees are linked to a terrorist organization. Additionally, we referred to the ongoing review that the EU is conducting on the same matter.

We write to you now to inform you of an important development in the Netherlands.

On July 20, the Dutch government announced it was freezing funding to the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) over its close links to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), designated as a terrorist organization by the EU and others. Foreign Minister Stef Blok and Development Minister Sigrid Kaag revealed that an internal government audit concluded that Dutch funds were used to pay the salaries of two individuals arrested for murder.

As stated in our original letter, in the German context, different ministries and their respective agencies are funding projects that involve at least four NGOs – the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC), Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR), Al-Haq and Addameer – with [reported](#) ties to the PFLP. Senior officials of two or more of these (UAWC and Addameer) [were arrested](#) as part a 50-person terror cell operating in the West Bank allegedly responsible for a bomb attack that murdered a teenager in August 2019.

- **Samer Arbid**, UAWC [accountant](#) and previously UAWC “[financial officer](#)” (formerly Addameer’s [accountant](#)). Arbid is on trial for [commanding the PFLP terror cell that carried out the bombing](#). According to the indictment against him (on file), Arbid prepared and detonated the explosive device.

- **Abdel Razeq Farraj**, UAWC "[Finance and Administration Director](#)." According to his indictment (on file), Razeq Farraj held a senior PFLP post and authorized the August 2019 bombing. He is currently standing trial.
- **Khalida Jarrar**: Addameer's [vice-chairperson](#) until 2017, Jarrar was arrested in October 2019 on suspicions of "[involvement in terror activity](#)." On December 18, 2019, it was revealed that Jarrar had "**emerged as [the head of the PFLP in the West Bank](#) and responsible for all the organization's activities**" (emphasis added). According her indictment (on file), she headed the PFLP in the West Bank since June 2016.
- **Raji Sourani**, [founder and](#) director of PCHR, was "[prohibited](#) from leaving Palestine (sic) from 1977 to 1990." According to [media reports](#), Raji Sourani served "a three-year sentence [1979-1982] imposed by an Israeli court which convicted him of membership in the illegal Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine..." In February 2014, the PFLP organized a [ceremony](#) in Gaza honoring Sourani for winning the "Alternative Noble Prize."
- **Jaber Wishah**, [PCHR Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors until 2017](#), in 1985 served as "[the head of the military wing of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Gaza](#)." A [September 1999 article](#) in Arabic language media similarly states that he was responsible for the PFLP's military apparatus. [Wishah was convicted](#) by Israel of "holding a leading position in a terrorist organization of which he was a member, intentionally attempting to kill an Israeli Staff Sergeant in Gaza, configuring a bomb and planting a bomb, possession of firearms and conspiring to commit murder."
- **Shawan Jabarin**, Al-Haq General director, has been denied exit visas by Israel and Jordan. In 2007, the Israeli High Court referred to Jabarin as a "Doctor Jekyll and Mister Hyde, acting some of the time as the CEO of a human rights organization, and at other times as an activist in a terror organization" ([NGO Monitor's unofficial translation of the ruling by the Israeli High Court of Justice](#) – June 20, 2007).

We urge you to immediately freeze any funds that may be going to UAWC or other terror-linked NGOs, launch an investigation into previous grants to UAWC, and implement robust vetting mechanisms to ensure that terror-linked NGOs cannot gain access to taxpayer funds.

Sincerely,

Prof Gerald M. Steinberg
President

Olga Deutsch
Vice President

CC: Ambassador Dr. Susanne Wasum-Rainer
Ms. Tanja Gönner
Mr. Thorsten Schäfer-Gümbel
Mr. Bernd Dünzlaff