



The Federation of
Islamic Associations
of New Zealand (Inc.)

اتحاد الجمعيات الإسلامية النيوزيلندية

SINCE 1979



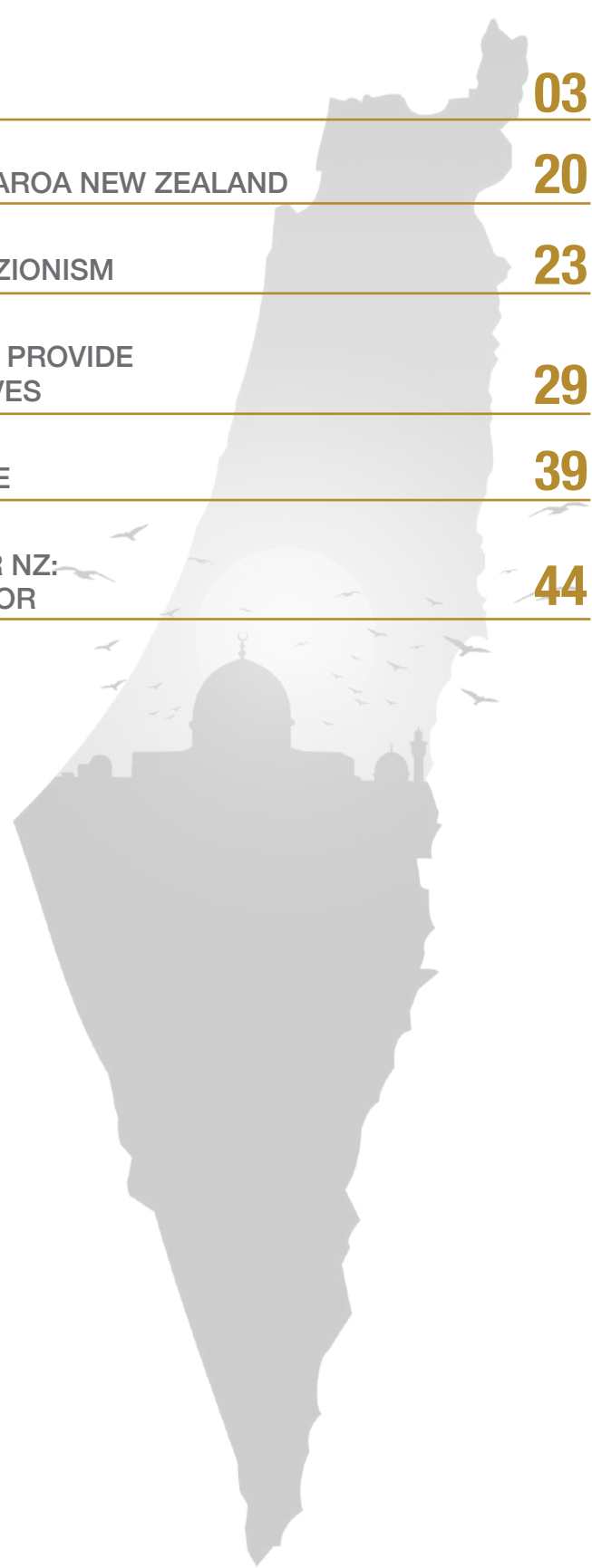
**FIANZ ADVISORY:
UNFOLDING GENOCIDE IN PALESTINE**
A Call for Action

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2024

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VALIDATION OF SOURCES

Our Advisory is evidence-based. Information for this narrative has been from Jewish and Israeli sources as well as the United Nations and official NZ government sources. At times we have referred to US and UK news agencies, such as the New York Times, Time, Guardian and Wall Street Journal. We have not used Arab, Muslim or Asian news sources, including Al Jazeera. This is to avoid potential allegations of bias. All data and historical accounts have been fact checked with sources and dates provided for validation.



BRIEF

Our previous advisory in November 2023, referred to the Unfolding Humanitarian Crisis¹. The situation in Palestine is now much worse.

The UN Secretary General, António Guterres has aptly stated that it is now a '**crisis of humanity**'².

As the world witnesses and as UN warns of the genocide³ unfolding in Gaza, our **call for action** is based on the reality and conviction that whilst Aotearoa New Zealand may not be a global power-base, we can however remain humanity's bell-weather nation for international peace and humanitarian justice. It is time for our government, civil society and the media to do right by those suffering injustice and systematic genocide.

This advisory covers a number of intersecting issues –

- Requesting our respective government agencies to provide necessary clarification on key issues, so that civil society and our elected representatives can make informed decisions on our foreign policy, national security and domestic social cohesion.
- Advocating our strongest support against anti-Semitism and in the process clear the cobweb of misinformation, misdirection and hate baiting.
- Highlighting the importance of the Fourth Estate to provide balanced and informed perspectives.

As with any international crisis of this proportion, we recognise that there are different perspectives on the end-solution. Consistent with our previous advisory, we believe no lasting peace will be achieved through violence and that a two-state solution is the most viable option for the future. Furthermore, for the International Rule of Law to prevail, Aotearoa New Zealand needs to persevere with patience, wisdom and a firm resolve to hold those who are responsible to account.



¹ <https://fianz.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/FIANZ-ADVISORY-ON-THE-UNFOLDING-HUMANITARIAN-TRAGEDY-IN-GAZA.pdf>

² According to the UN Secretary-General .<https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/11/1143267>

³ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/11/gaza-un-experts-call-international-community-prevent-genocide-against>

1.00: THE NINE CONSIDERATIONS

Every 10 minutes a child is being killed and two others maimed in Gaza⁴ due to the calculated bombing of innocent civilians by the Israeli army (IDF).⁵ Over 22,000 innocent civilians have been killed in Gaza so far.⁶ Unfortunately, the daily vivid images of death have numbed our senses to only focus on the statistics. History has shown that sometimes such numbness can quite readily transition into collective apathy. As such, this advisory is a call for action.

To guide our path to informed decision-making, both for civil society and our politicians we have sought specific clarification from our relevant government agencies. This clarification is essential and is in keeping with Aotearoa NZ's new National Security Strategy⁷ which stresses that collective understanding and approaches to decision-making requires being informed.

FIANZ have requested clarification on the following nine considerations.

- 1.01 Collective Punishment

By affirming Article 33(1) of the Fourth Geneva Convention, NZ has a responsibility to seek an end to the collective punishment of Palestinians in Gaza

- 1.02 IDF as a Terrorist Organisation

Designation of the IDF as a terrorist organisation in keeping with Article 5 (definition of Terrorist act) of the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002

- 1.03 Visa Ban on Extremist Israeli Settlers

Condemn and impose visa bans on Israeli extremist settlers.

- 1.04 Consistent Application of Immigration Act

In the past our community has been subjected to provisions of the Immigration Act which we believe should be reconsidered now.

- 1.05 Support the South African position at the International Court of Justice

We have already noted that South Africa has taken a lead on this. It is our view that NZ should support the South African case at the ICJ.

- 1.06 NZers going Abroad for Terrorism

NZSIS to give similar media statements as they gave earlier about NZ'ers going abroad to take part in terrorism.

- 1.07 Cancel Securities Commission MOU with Israel

Cancel the Memorandum of Understanding between the NZ Securities Commission and Israel Securities Authority.

- 1.08 End Purchase of Security Equipment

End all security and military relations with the government of Israel and Israeli companies, including the purchase of security related equipments by the NZ Army and the NZ Police.

- 1.09 End WHS for IDF Terrorists

Stop the Working Holiday Scheme which offers 200 places in NZ for Israelis who are part of or have been part of the Israeli Army (IDF). A similar scheme should also be made available for Palestinians.

⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/11/gaza-un-experts-call-international-community-prevent-genocide-against>

⁵ <https://time.com/6331554/israel-strikes-gaza-civilian-deaths-aid/>

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/jan/02/gaza-death-toll-passes-22000-as-israel-steps-up-war-against-hamas>
<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-12-26/ty-article-magazine/.premium/20-000-dead-and-counting-the-battle-over-verifying-gazas-death-toll/0000018c-a0ae-d92d-addf-eaff010a0000>

⁷ <https://www.dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2023-11/national-security-strategy-aug2023.pdf>


1.01 Condemn Collective Punishment

We kindly request our MFAT officials to consider the following:

The International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg at the end of the Second World War, noted “[t]he Germans pursued a systematic policy of inflicting, in all the occupied territories, collective penalties, pecuniary or otherwise, upon the population for acts of individuals for which it could not be regarded as collectively responsible.”⁸ This is Collective Punishment and an international crime against humanity as noted in the Fourth Geneva Convention (Art 33(1)).⁹

New Zealand assented to the Convention and the Act is administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

Version as at 28 October 2021



Geneva Conventions Act 1958

Public Act 1958 No 19
Date of assent 18 September 1958
Commencement 18 September 1958

Article 33

No protected person may be punished for an offence he or she has not personally committed. Collective penalties and likewise all measures of intimidation or of terrorism are prohibited.

We are requesting our MFAT officials, who administer the above legislation, to determine whether what is happening in Gaza can be regarded as collective punishment or not?

The overwhelming global response is obvious;

Israeli Newspaper		“No to Collective Punishment Against Gaza” Condemning Israeli collective punishment of civilians in Gaza ¹⁰
J. Borrell, European Union Foreign Minister		“A collective punishment against all Palestinians will be unfair and unproductive.” ¹¹
United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres		“Attacks Cannot Justify Collective Punishment of Palestinian People” “Even war has rules.” ¹²
News Desk – The New Yorker		What Israel is doing in Gaza now is collective punishment.

⁸ <https://opiniojuris.org/2023/10/24/a-short-history-of-the-war-crime-of-collective-punishment/>

⁹ <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/assets/treaties/380-GC-IV-EN.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/2023-10-13/ty-article-opinion/.premium/no-to-collective-punishment-against-gaza/0000018b-254d-dd34-afdf-f5cfb9f00000>

¹¹ <https://www.reuters.com/world/spain-opposes-suspending-aid-palestinian-territories-2023-10-10/>

¹² <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15462.doc.htm>

We also kindly request MFAT to clarify the following on 'self-defence' :

i) Has the statement on 'self-defence' by our government provided Israel with a carte blanche justification for the indiscriminate mass-slaughter of civilians through carpet bombing ?

ii) Is MFAT aware that the 2004 International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling which decreed that Israel, as 'an occupying power', have no right under international law to use the rationale of 'self-defence' ? [The above ruling was the illegal building of a separation wall in occupied Jerusalem] As such, what advice did MFAT provide to the government on the 'self-defence' rationale and its applicability in the current context ?

iii) Does MFAT agree that Under Article 42 of the Fourth Hague Convention, an occupation is defined as: "Territory is considered occupied when it is placed under the authority of the hostile army. The occupation extends only to the territory where such authority has been established and can be exercised" ?

iv) Does MFAT agree with the following prominent organisations and international bodies such as

- the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC),
 - the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory,
 - the UN General Assembly (UNGA),
 - the European Union (EU),
 - the African Union (AU),
 - the International Criminal Court (ICC),
 - Amnesty International (AI), and
 - The Human Rights Watch (HRW)—
- that Israel has occupied Palestinian territories, including Gaza, since 1967. ¹³

v) Given the above does MFAT agree that Israel has ignored international law?

We contend that NZ has consistently advocated for the international rule of law. The occupation laws under the Fourth Geneva Convention 1949, the 1907 Hague Regulations makes it illegal for annexation of land, destruction and seizure of property and the forcible transfer of people, all of which Israel has been doing in Gaza and the West Bank.

Simply put, our government cannot override our affirmed and mandated international responsibilities with respect to Article 33(1) of the Fourth Geneva Convention on 'collective punishment'. Israel has ignored and broken international law and this should be the baseline of NZ's response to the current tragedy in Gaza and included in our official government statements.

Moreover, we are seeking clarification based on the existing ICJ ruling, that Israel cannot use self-defence as justification for the on-going genocide and mass killing of innocent civilians.

¹³ <https://new.thecradle.co/articles-id/11612>

1.02 Designation of IDF as a Terrorist Organisation

As the two advising agencies on the Terrorism Suppression Act, as noted in the Regulatory Impact Statement¹⁴ we kindly request clarification from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) as to whether the IDF¹⁵ should be classified as a terrorist organisation in keeping with the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002

Version as at 28 November 2023



Terrorism Suppression Act 2002

Public Act 2002 No 34
Date of assent 17 October 2002

(2) An act falls within this subsection if it is intended to cause, in any 1 or more countries, 1 or more of the outcomes specified in subsection (3), and is carried out for 1 or more purposes that are or include advancing an ideological, political, or religious cause, and with the following intention:

(a) to intimidate a population; or

(3) The outcomes referred to in subsection (2) are—

- (a) the death of, or other serious bodily injury to, 1 or more persons (other than a person carrying out the act):
- (b) a serious risk to the health or safety of a population:
- (c) destruction of, or serious damage to, property of great value or importance, or major economic loss, or major environmental damage, ...
- (d) serious interference with, or serious disruption to, critical infrastructure, if likely to endanger human life:

The available evidence is that every one of the criteria may be substantiated, particularly the killing of over 22,000 innocent Gazans, almost 70% of whom are women and children.

As such we seek clarification from the DPMC and the MOJ as to the following:

i) Do the above mass killing, which the UN has also stated is 'ethnic cleansing' qualify as terrorism under our Terrorism Suppression Act? We would be pleased to receive a rationale for your response.

We are aware of the exception that 'an act does not fall within subsection (2) if it occurs in a situation of armed conflict and is... in accordance with the rules of international law applicable to the conflict'¹⁶

ii) In the context of the above exception, does the DPMC and MOJ agree that Israel is in violation of many international laws with respect to its occupation and the longstanding mass killing of innocent civilians through carpet bombing in Gaza?

¹⁴ R

¹⁵ The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) is a misnomer. By all accounts they are either Israeli Death Force or Israeli Offensive Force

¹⁶ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0034/latest/whole.html#DLM152702>

The NZ government has designated the Hamas Military wing as a terrorist organisation and is now considering the same designation for the Hamas political wing.

We would request the same criteria that has been used for the Hamas designation as a terrorist organisation, be also used for the IDF .

Our request for clarification is in keeping with the new NZ national security strategy which highlights that civil society needs to be made aware and informed.

We seek information from our respected agencies who had earlier advised on the hurried introduction of the Terrorism Suppression Act, to also inform civil society and the government on the applicability of the NZ law with respect to designating the IDF as a terrorist entity.

This is a matter of urgency.



1.03 Ban on Visa for Israeli Terrorist/Extremist Settlers

As a Five Eyes partner, NZ consistently follows the lead of the USA on matters of international foreign policy and national security. We now note that our new coalition government is also advocating a case for NZ to join Tier 2 of AUKUS. In this respect we kindly seek an explanation from MFAT and MBIE on the following:

- i) Have the coalition government been advised that the US and the UK have already stated they will ban visas for extremist Israeli settlers? If so when was the government advised.
- ii) If the government has not yet been advised, then when will they do so.
- iii) Moreover, will this advice also extend to deporting Israeli settlers who are currently in NZ?

For the record:

USA:¹⁷

Haaretz | Israel News

U.S. Imposes Visa Bans on Israeli Settlers Engaged in Violence Against Palestinian Civilians in West Bank

Rationale By U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken

"The United States has consistently opposed actions that undermine stability in the West Bank, including attacks by Israeli settlers against Palestinians... to the Israeli government the need to do more to hold accountable extremist settlers who have committed violent attacks against Palestinians in the West Bank. As President Biden has repeatedly said, those attacks are unacceptable," Blinken said in a statement.

UK¹⁸

The Standard

UK bans travel by 'extremist' Israeli settlers accused of West Bank violence

Rationale by British Foreign Secretary Lord David Cameron¹⁹

"Extremist settlers, by targeting and killing Palestinian civilians, are undermining security and stability for both Israelis and Palestinians, Israel must take stronger action to stop settler violence and hold the perpetrators accountable.

We are banning those responsible for settler violence from entering the UK to make sure our country cannot be a home for people who commit these intimidating acts." Lord Cameron

¹⁷ <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-12-05/ty-article/.premium/u-s-imposes-visa-ban-on-israeli-settlers-engage-d-in-violence-against-w-bank-palestinians/0000018c-3b10-d5f2-a5cc-7f14eb790000>

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/west-bank-travel-sanctions-israel-gaza-b1126938.html>

¹⁸ <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-12-05/ty-article/.premium/u-s-imposes-visa-ban-on-israeli-settlers-engage-d-in-violence-against-w-bank-palestinians/0000018c-3b10-d5f2-a5cc-7f14eb790000>

¹⁹ <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/west-bank-travel-sanctions-israel-gaza-b1126938.html>

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-12-14/ty-article/.premium/banning-violent-settlers-u-s-europe-formulating-criteria-on-who-will-be-refused-entry/0000018c-6914-db38-a9fc-e9b632200000>

2023 'most violent' year for West Bank settler attacks, watchdog says

Yesh Din says 10 Palestinians killed, dozens of homes torched; in two months after Oct. 7 massacre, 242 incidents reported; UN office counts over 1,200 throughout year

Yesh Din is an Israeli human rights organisation based in Israel. They are partly funded by the European Union

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/2023-most-violent-year-for-west-bank-settler-attacks-watchdog-says/>

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge our Prime Minister, Rt Hon Chris Luxon's position that Israeli settler violence is a key obstacle to peace .



"We reaffirm that settlements are illegal under international law. Settlements and settler violence are serious obstacles to a negotiated two-state solution."

Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, 13 December 2023

We contend that the above position should now be translated into a visa ban for extremist Israeli settlers, similar to that which our Five Eyes partners, the US and UK governments have already announced.

We trust a formal statement on a visa ban for extremist Israeli settlers shall be forthcoming shortly.

1.04 Consistent Application of the Immigration Act

We are seeking an explanation from MBIE as to why the same immigration provision that targeted our community in the past have not been introduced now? Are there currently similar legislation with such targeted specificity?

For the record, laws were introduced which aimed at potential terrorists (including later as jihadi brides²⁰) who would join terrorist organisations in Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia and elsewhere. A copy of the applicable legislation which was introduced is below:

D7.65 Deportation of people threatening national security and suspected terrorists

Immigration Act 1987 ss 72, 73

1. If the Minister of Immigration certifies that the continued presence in New Zealand of a person named in the certificate constitutes a threat to national security, the Governor General may order the person's deportation.
2. The Minister of Immigration may order the deportation of any person if the Minister has reason to believe that:
 1. **the person is a member of or adheres to any organisation or group that has engaged in, or has claimed responsibility for, an act of terrorism in New Zealand or outside of New Zealand, and constitutes a threat to public safety;** or
 2. the person has engaged in, or claimed responsibility for, an act of terrorism in New Zealand or outside of New Zealand, and constitutes a threat to public safety; or
 3. the person will, if permitted to remain in New Zealand, engage in, or facilitate the commission of, an act of terrorism.
3. The Minister of Immigration may revoke a deportation order made under section 73 of the Immigration Act 1987 at any time.
4. People subject to deportation under section 72 of the Immigration Act 1987 have no right of appeal.
5. Sections 74 to 88 of the Immigration Act 1987 set out matters in relation to deportations under sections 72 and 73 of the Act.

Effective 01/10/1999

We note that the above has since been rescinded. However, the principle remains that NZ must be consistent in its application of such laws.

As such we kindly request :

- i) An explanation from MBIE, if currently there is similar explicit law exists to deport?
- ii) In the above context, we seek clarification and assurance from the MBIE, NZSIS and MFAT, that there are no persons going from New Zealand or have gone from NZ, to take part in the genocide and mass killing of women and children in Gaza?

We note that the current coalition government have a policy that there should be the same applicable laws for everybody. If a law was introduced earlier to deport such potential terrorists, we contend that such a law should be re-introduced now, unless there is already a similar legislation in place.

Failure to do so is simply advocating dual standards.

²⁰ The facts are that there was not one 'jihadi bride' who went from N.Z.

1.05 Genocide and the Breakdown of Rule of International Law

On 1 November 2023, the Prime Minister-elect, the Rt Hon. Chris Luxon stated that he had not “seen any advice” to suggest that Israel is not respecting international law in Gaza.²¹

In this respect, we seek clarification on the following matters from MFAT and DPMC:

- i) Have our Foreign Minister, the Rt Hon Winston Peters and the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Chris Luxon been given advice since then (after 1 November) on the unfolding tragedy in Gaza?
- ii) We particularly seek clarification on whether any advice have been given as to whether Israel has complied with all applicable international laws and conventions, including the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide²²?
- iii) In this respect, have the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister been briefed on the following:

- **U.N. Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide**

“The International Criminal Court (ICC) has jurisdiction over genocide, and the U.N. Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide issued a statement two weeks into the 2014 offensive that they were “disturbed by the flagrant use of hate speech in the social media, particularly against the Palestinian population,” finding that “individuals have disseminated messages that could be dehumanising to the Palestinians and have called for the killing of members of this group,” while “remind[ing] all that incitement to commit atrocity crimes is prohibited under international law.”²³

- **International Criminal Court**

The International Criminal Court has an ongoing investigation since 2021 into possible war crimes and crimes against humanity in the occupied Palestinian territories.

- **UN High Commission for Human Rights**

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, resigned over what he called this a “text-book case of genocide”

- **Amnesty International**

Amnesty International submitted a Report to all governments in 2021, including NZ, on how Israeli forces have committed in Gaza (as well as in West Bank and Israel) acts prohibited by the Rome Statute and Apartheid Convention,

- iv) Have the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister been advised that the International Criminal Court prosecutor, Karim Khan has stated that Israel must respect international law?

²¹ <https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/politics/2023/11/prime-minister-elect-christopher-luxon-hasn-t-seen-any-advice-to-suggest-israel-isn-t-respecting-international-law-in-gaza.html>

²² https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf

²³ <https://ccrjustice.org/sites/default/files/attach/2016/10/Background%20on%20the%20term%20genocide%20in%20Israel%20Palestine%20Context.pdf>



“ Schools, hospitals, churches and mosques, dwelling houses are protected and must not be bombed. I've made it clear what the law is in terms of the principles of distinction, precaution, and proportionality. And leaving aside all of those issues, I've made it also abundantly clear that the law can't be interpreted in a way that it denudes it from meaning, that hollows it out, that fails to achieve what the Geneva Conventions were meant to do, which is to protect the most vulnerable of society, babies and children, the old and the infirm, civilian men and women.”²⁴

We are requesting MFAT & DPMC officials to provide civil society with a copy of the advice given to our Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the international rules-based order as well as the serious issue of genocide, with respect to Israel.

We have noted that South Africa has recently instituted proceedings in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against the State of Israel on 29 December, which seeks provisional measures to “protect against further, severe and irreparable harm to the rights of the Palestinian people under the Genocide Convention” and “to ensure Israel’s compliance with its obligations under the Genocide Convention not to engage in genocide, and to prevent and to punish genocide.”²⁵

In this respect, has MFAT provided any advice to the government on the South Africa’s proceeding at the ICJ ?

Furthermore, given that NZ has already set a precedent at the ICJ on 20 September, 2023 by intervening to support the case against Russia, we consider a similar rationale for an intervention may also be applicable in support of the South African case.

At the ICJ on 20 September, our NZ Chief International Legal Adviser stated :

“New Zealand has chosen to intervene in these proceedings because we consider that the issues in this case go to the very heart of the international rule of law and the protection of this Court’s role in the peaceful settlement of dispute.”

Source : NZ Statement to the ICJ on 20 Sept, 2023 ²⁶

It is our contention that Israel has broken international rule of law and there exists sufficient evidence of Israeli genocide against Palestinians.

NZ should intervene pursuant to Article 63 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice in the case of the Application by South Africa against Israel concerning violations by Israel of its obligation under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the “ Genocide Convention”) in relation to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.²⁷

²⁴ <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/icc-prosecutor-urges-israel-hamas-respect-international-law-2023-12-03/>

²⁵ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20240103-pre-01-00-en.pdf>

²⁶ <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/new-zealands-oral-submissions-on-jurisdiction-in-ukraines-international-court-of-justice-case-against-russia/>

²⁷ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/192/192-20231228-app-01-00-en.pdf>

It is our view that NZ should file a Declaration of Intervention in the above proceedings under Article 63 of the Statute . NZ should avail this right to intervene given that we have a common interest in the accomplishment of the high purposes of the Convention and our humanitarian concerns over the continued mass-killing of innocent Palestinians, particularly women and children, in Gaza and the need for international co-operation in the quest to prevent and punish genocide. Till the decision is made by the ICJ , we respectfully request that our government needs to ensure our humanitarian and independent stance on this conflict.

In addition to the above, we have always maintained that there should be independent international investigation and justice for the innocent civilians killed . This should include what happened on 7th October and the subsequent period when over 22000 civilians have been killed.



1.06 Monitoring IDF Soldiers in NZ & Warnings About NZers going Abroad for Terrorism

We request clarification from the NZSIS on the matter of Israeli citizens with dual nationalities who are traveling to Israel to serve in the IDF. By many accounts, including the UN, the IDF is engaged in the ethnic cleansing and genocide of Palestinians in Gaza.²⁸ Is the NZSIS monitoring this situation?

It is also important to note that according to Israeli law, even dual New Zealand Israeli citizens must serve in the Israeli army.^{29, 30}

Arrangement of Military Status (Israeli Citizens)

Service in the IDF is obligatory for Israeli citizens. This law applies to:

- Citizens, whether they reside in Israel or abroad, **even if they have another nationality.**
- Permanent residents of Israel, even if they are not Israeli citizens.

As such, Israeli dual citizens may have in the past and may now be participating in the ethnic cleansing and genocide of Palestinians.

Terrorism is a key focus of the NZSIS and in this respect what has the NZSIS done to monitor such Israelis who are or have been in NZ, and who may have been directly involved in ethnic cleansing and genocide?

Furthermore, when are we likely to get statements like those warnings issued by the NZSIS in the past about jihadi brides and NZ'ers going to Syria? We have yet to see any statements from the NZSIS warning Israelis (with dual nationalities) going abroad to join the war of ethnic cleansing and genocide of Palestinians.

One of Israel's major national newspaper has clearly stated:³¹

HAARETZ

The Israeli Army Has Dropped the Restraint in Gaza, and the Data Shows Unprecedented Killing


The IDF chief of staff recently boasted of the army's precise munitions and its ability to reduce harm to noncombatants. But the data shows that in the war on Hamas that principle has been abandoned

²⁸ <https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/12/18/it-is-clear-that-israel-is-committing-genocide-in-gaza-un-panel-concludes/>

²⁹ <https://www.idf.il/en/mini-sites/our-soldiers/>

³⁰ <https://embassies.gov.il/montreal/ConsularServices/Pages/Arrangement-for-Military-Status.aspx>

³¹ <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-12-09/ty-article-magazine/.highlight/the-israeli-army-has-dropped-the-restraint-in-gaza-and-data-shows-unprecedented-killing/000018c-4cca-db23-ad9f-6cdae8ad0000>

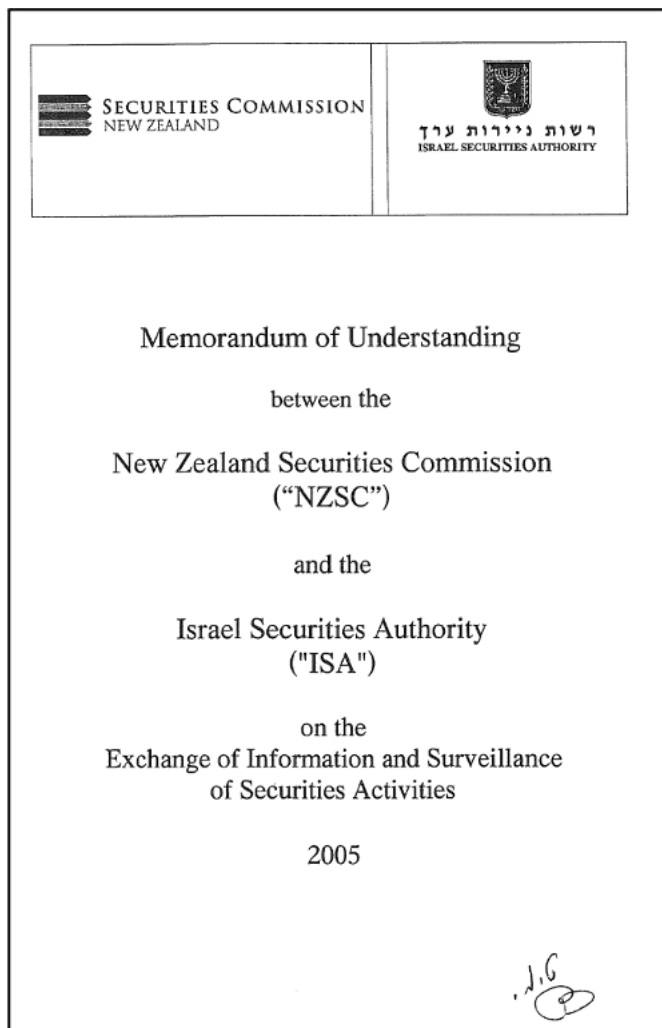
THEN	NOW
FREQUENT NZSIS STATEMENTS	COMPLETE SILENCE FROM NZSIS
Evidence	Evidence
 <p>Otago Daily Times Friday, 9 January 2016 'Jihadi bride' fears over Kiwi women News > National</p> <p>An increasing number of New Zealand women are heading to Iraq and Syria, SIS director Rebecca Kitteridge told the intelligence and security committee today at Parliament.</p> <p>But she did not know whether they were going as "jihadi brides", to fight themselves or to support Isis fighters.</p> <p>"What has changed over the last year is that the issue of New Zealand women travelling to Iraq and Syria wasn't something we have seen previously or been aware of previously," she said.</p>	<p>Despite daily media reports of Israeli army (IDF) killing innocent civilians , especially women and children in Gaza,</p> <p>And confirmation by the NZ Jewish Council that</p> <p><i>"...there to be many Israelis with New Zealand citizenship fighting in the (Israel-Hamas) conflict."</i></p> <p><i>Ben Kepes, NZ Jewish Council, 11 Dec, 2023</i></p> <p>Yet no statements by the NZSIS similar to their earlier statements about 'jihadi brides'</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LEADING TO MEDIA SCAREMONGERING ESPECIALLY ABOUT MUSLIM WOMEN IN NZ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COMPLETE SILENCE</p>
<p>IT APPEARS THAT THERE ARE DUAL STANDARDS</p>	

There is ample evidence that the IDF are directly complicit in the killing of innocent civilians, particularly children, in Gaza as part of their collective punishment and systemic genocide of Palestinians.

NZSIS have always been very forthright on the matter of countering terrorism both here and abroad. We would be grateful for a clarification on this matter from the NZSIS and also clarification as to which legal precepts are being followed in terms of NZ'ers going overseas to join wars/terrorism and genocide. We are particularly interested if there is a dual policy in this respect with one for Palestinians/Arabs and another for Israelis ?

1.07 Cancel the MOU with the Israeli Securities Authority

We note that NZ has an exchange of Information and Surveillance Securities with Israel since 2005.³² This should be cancelled as part of our response to the Israeli government's genocide of innocent Palestinian civilians.



We would like to thank the Foreign Minister, the Rt Hon Winston Peters for confirming our earlier request for clarification that the Agreement between the Government of Israel and the NZ Government on Cooperation in Technological Innovation, Research and Development is not in force anymore.

We trust that the MOU shall be cancelled

³² <https://www.fma.govt.nz/assets/MOU/051006-bilateral-mou-israel-securities-authority-signed-6-oct-05-docs-99434-.pdf>

1.08 STOP THE PURCHASE OF ALL ISRAELI SECURITY EQUIPMENT AND MILITARY TIES

NZ tax-payer funds should not be used to support Israeli military supplier companies.

New Zealand Defense Force



- Purchased from Israeli company Rafael, the Armor Shield P system in 2019, which is an add on armour for combat vehicles . Rafael was founded as Israel's national R&D Defense Laboratory and supplies the IDF.
- Israeli company Roboteam, another Israeli company, is a provider of tactical ground robotic systems. NZDF awarded them a contract for remote controlled robotic systems. The contract value has been kept confidential.
- EL/M- 2022 aircraft radars have also been bought from Israel.

New Zealand Police



- With respect to cyber security, the NZ Police uses Israeli Cellebrite's UFED Cloud Analyzer tool.
- Briefcam's Video analytics are also bought from Israel.

We request the NZ Defense Force and the NZ Police to reconsider the purchase of equipments from Israel. This is directly assisting the IDF to continue the genocide and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians.

Past and forthcoming US-Led War Games With Israeli Military Presence

In 2022, New Zealand joined Israel, along with about 24 other countries, in the USA organised Rim of The Pacific (RIMPAC-2022) maritime exercise led by the US Third Fleet (Hawaii and Southern California)



**RIMPAC WAR GAMES – NZ
JOINED ISRAELI FORCES
IN THIS US LED WAR
GAMES – 2022**

We understand that this exercise will again be held this year (2024) . We request that NZ does not join Israel in this exercise. This would be tantamount to giving tacit approval to the current genocide being committed by Israeli forces.

We would also like to know if NZ participated in the Juniper Falcom23 (CENTCOM/Israel)³³ war games or any of the 109 other US-led war games held in 2023.

We request the NZ Defense Force to reconsider any overseas training which has a direct or indirect nexus with the Israeli military.

³³ <https://governmentsecrets.substack.com/p/every-wargame-to-be-held-in-2023>

1.09 Stop the Working Holiday Scheme for IDF Terrorists

Stop the Working Holiday Scheme (WHS) which offers 200 places in NZ for Israelis. It should be noted that Israel has compulsory military conscription for every student finishing high school. They are trained by the IDF and must serve two or three years. By allowing Israelis between the ages of 18 and 30 to come here, NZ is effectively allowing trained IDF soldiers to come to NZ.

There is ample evidence that the IDF is directly involved in the genocide of Palestinians and NZ must not allow them to come to NZ to work here.

Furthermore, it is absolute double standards that NZ does not allow Palestinians such working holidays.

We request NZ Immigration to cancel the WHS scheme for Israelis in NZ, since every Israeli above the age of 18 is required to train and serve in the IDF . As such , these ‘ working visitors’ are also trained and have participated in ethnic cleansing and the genocide of Palestinians.

2.00: ANTI-SEMITISM HAS NO PLACE IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and any type of discrimination and hatred has no place in Aotearoa New Zealand.

After 7th October, at the initiative of the Wellington Abrahamic council, both FIANZ and the NZ Jewish Council, as well as many other Jewish and Christian organisations, have issued a joint statement on 20 October, 2023. We thank Dave Moskovitz, Jewish Co-Chair, Wellington Abrahamic Council for his pivotal role in this initiative.

20 October 2023

REJECTING ALL FORMS OF HATE AND BIGOTRY

This is a moment of deep pain in the world. Since the events of 7 October in Israel and Gaza, we have seen exploitation of the crisis to spread hate, disinformation and extremism overseas and here in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Let us be unequivocally clear:

We the undersigned reject all forms of hate and bigotry, including racism, Islamophobia, anti-Arab hate, and antisemitism. We are reminded that all of our communities' safety and futures are inextricably linked – and we recommit ourselves to fighting racism, bigotry, and hate in all its forms.

The Torah commands us to “love your neighbour as yourself”.

The New Testament enjoins us to “love one another”.

The Quran teaches us that The Almighty has created different “peoples and tribes that we may know one another”.

We stand together with all of our neighbours under threat and urge our elected and community leaders, police, schools, universities, public institutions, employers and workplaces to make clear that there will be zero tolerance for any act of hate.

L'shalom, Salaam, Kia tau te Rangimārie – towards peace and justice in our world.

The Wellington Abrahamic Council of Jews, Christians, and Muslims

After 7th October, FIANZ has had consultations with the NZ Jewish Council and others. At issue is to stress our full commitment against terrorism or the killing of innocent civilians. We also acknowledge the traumatic impact on the diaspora communities in Aotearoa NZ including the closure of Jewish schools and synagogues due to threats. Such cases of hate-inspired threats have no place in Aotearoa NZ.

We are categorically opposed to anti-semitism and any unlawful actions which jeopardise our peaceful way of life here in NZ.

We as a community know more than most just how fragile this peace can be and how hard we need to work to preserve it and ensure that it flourishes. In this respect , within 12 hours of the swastika graffiti incident of a prominent statue a former Auckland Mayor , the Federation immediately released a media statement condemning the action.

The statement read:

FIANZ MEDIA STATEMENT

VANDALISM OF RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNITY PLACES

At a time of the unfolding human tragedy of genocidal scale in Gaza, we urge that all concerns should be expressed through legitimate and peaceful means, which include protests and advocacy, said Ibrar Sheikh, President of the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand (FIANZ). There is no place in Aotearoa for desecrating community and religious places, as was recently reported of the Jewish community centre and synagogue, Epsom, Auckland. FIANZ condemns this act of vandalism. All places of religious gathering such as Synagogue, Churches, Mosques, Temples and Gurudwaras where communities gather to seek solace and comfort must be respected, said Ibrar Sheikh.



FIANZ CATEGORICALLY OPPOSES ANY FORM OF ANTISEMITISM INCLUDING SUCH UNLAWFUL VANDALISM OF A STATUE OF A PROMINENT FORMER NZ MAYOR

2.1 Muslims and Jews in Aotearoa NZ

There has been more than 25 years of cooperation and coordination between FIANZ and Jewish organisations, including the NZ Jewish Council.

- We both share many common platforms, such as the Abrahamic Council, Interfaith and other.
- We also share common values with respect to working towards peace and social cohesion in Aotearoa.
- Both have offered to help each other at times of adversity .

Throughout the previous 25 years, despite the many episodes of crisis in Israel and Palestine, we have maintained goodwill and understanding . Our communities suffer many common societal problems such as anti-Semitism and Islamophobia and we have worked together to address these.

After 15 March, the Jewish community, like all other communities extended their aroha. This has been cherished and has enriched our mutual respect and understanding. After 7th October, there have been several meetings, including under the auspices of the NZ Police, to ensure a peaceful pathway forward.

For FIANZ, we have unequivocally condemned all forms anti-Semitism and shall stridently advocate against any form of hate and discrimination in Aotearoa NZ. We have made several press statements and advisories in this respect.

For the record, FIANZ policy is firmly embedded in striving for social cohesion (see our national programme³⁴). At times of extreme polarised views such as the current humanitarian crisis in Palestine, we prioritise peaceful debate on issues and lawful protest to raise awareness.

We also recognise that the social landscape (including social media) is such that there are vested individuals who will manipulate and connive to create divisions or provoke through hate speech for their own purpose.

**To them we only have one response:
“Asalaamu alaikum” (May be peace be with you).**

³⁴ <https://fianz.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/FIANZ-7-Year-Social-Cohesion-Workplan-2.pdf>

3.00 CONFLATING ANTI-SEMITISM AND ANTI-ZIONISM

There are some in New Zealand who conflate anti-Zionism with anti-semitism. This is even noted in a recent publication supported by the NZ Jewish Council which states, “... issues of antisemitism and anti-Zionism are often blurred and conflated...”³⁵. They are two completely different concepts. One has a political baseline which the other is firmly based on faith-identity.

3.1 NZ Distinguished Academic and Expert

Q: Is anti-Zionism the same as anti-Semitism?

A: No. One involves a Jewish homeland while the other is racism directed at all Jews, whatever their location. However, far right and antisemitic groups have sought to avoid being challenged or prosecuted by claiming they are anti-Zionist and therefore not covered by laws and policies which seek to address racism. We need to be clear of the distinction and the way in which it has been used to avoid being labelled antisemitic.³⁶

***Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley** was the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Massey University. He was also a Principal Investigator on the MBIE-funded programme, Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand (2014-2020). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and of the Auckland War Memorial Museum, and a Research Fellow of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. He was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at the University of California Berkeley. He was a Board member of the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology and is the current Chair of the TEC PBRF Panel for Social Sciences and Other Cultural/Social Studies.*

³⁵ https://bethshalom.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/GEN19_FINAL.pdf

³⁶ <https://rdc.org.nz/qa-hate-speech-restrictions-a-threat-to-our-democracy/>

3.2 NZ Jewish Organisations with Humanitarian Concerns

Anti-Zionism and anti-semitism are separate concepts as attested by the growing number of Jewish voices, both in NZ and internationally, speaking out against the actions of the Israeli military against the civilian population of Gaza.

- Alternative Jewish Voices (NZ)

“We at Sh’ma Koleinu/Alternative Jewish Voices challenge the allegation that criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic per se. We are committed New Zealand Jews who support the core Jewish values of social justice, fairness, and human rights.

When a state does not live up to these principles, we will stand up and criticise it. Criticism of Israeli policy and actions of a secular government for violating human rights is justified, and cannot be construed as anti-Semitism.”

- Dayenu, Jewish Voices Against Occupation NZ

“We will not be silent in the face of the genocide happening in Gaza. We will not let our grief be used as a weapon of vengeance by the Israeli state.

Let us make one thing clear; there has always been and always will be Jewish voices of resistance to Israeli military occupation of Palestinian land and lives. There have always been Jewish voices against the unending assault on Gaza. That’s because we proudly stand by our Jewish values.”

- Jewish Voices for Peace

“We’re enormously proud to stand with over 30 Jewish organisations worldwide to say no to this harmful definition of anti-semitism and yes to human rights.”

3.3 CONFLATING ANTISEMITISM WITH ANTI-ZIONISM: A CASESTUDY

“FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA”: YOU DECIDE WHETHER THIS IS ANTI-SEMITIC OR NOT

When Palestinians and their supporters say
“*From river to the sea*”



They are accused of being
Anti-Semitic

Gideon Sa'ar

רעס ןועדג



Ministerial roles

2009–2013 Minister of Education
2013–2014 Minister of the Interior
2021 Deputy Prime Minister
2021–2022 Minister of Justice
2023– Minister

“Between the Jordan River and the sea there
won't be another independent state,”

No Palestine and only Israel will exist

Source: The Times of Israel

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/from-the-river-to-the-sea-the-slogan-that-led-to-rashida-tlaibs-censure-explained/>



Israeli Zionist patriot

Uri Ariel

לאירא ירוא



Ministerial roles

2013–2015 Minister of Construction
2015–2019 Minister of Agriculture
Represented in the Knesset
2001–2013 National Union
2013–2019 The Jewish Home

“Between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean
Sea there will be only one state, which is Israel.”

Source: The Times of Israel

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/from-the-river-to-the-sea-the-slogan-that-led-to-rashida-tlaibs-censure-explained/>



Israeli Zionist patriot

During a speech before the United Nations General Assembly on September 22, 2023, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holds up a map that shows Israel stretching “from the river to the sea”, with no space for Palestine.



SOURCE: (<https://www.thenation.com/article/world/its-time-to-confront-israels-version-of-from-the-river-to-the-sea/>)



?

THE FOUNDING CHARTER OF NETANYAHU'S LIKUD PARTY – 1977 states

“between the Sea and the Jordan there will only be Israeli sovereignty”

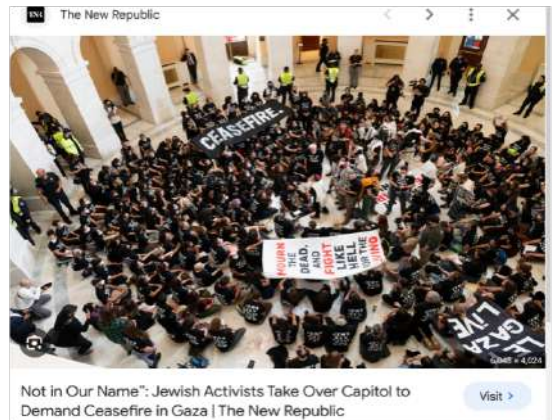
Source: LIKUD PARTY PLATFORM



?

It is simply hypocritical that when Palestinians say “ from the river to the sea” it is anti-semitism, but when Israeli politicians say exactly the something they are considered patriots.

3.4 International Jewish Voices Against Zionism (A pictorial overview)



It should also be pointed out that ultra-Orthodox Jewish Rabbis consider the Israeli Army immoral



3.5 JEWISH ORGANISATIONS WHO ARE ANTI-ZIONISTS

There are many prominent of Jewish organisations world-wide who are anti-Zionists, below are some of these organisations based in Israel , the USA and the UK

<http://www.ijan.org/>: **The International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network (IJAN)** is pledged to "Oppose Zionism and the State of Israel". They regard Zionism as a racist movement, and Israel as an apartheid state. They have a commitment ending apartheid in Israel, the return of Palestinian refugees, and end the Israeli colonisation of Palestine.

<http://www.acjna.org/acjna/default.aspx> : **The American Council for Judaism (ACJ)** consider Jews are not a national but a religious group. They advocate for the original principles of Reform Judaism, as articulated in the 1885 Pittsburgh Platform. They also have a historical opposition to Zionism.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-689531> : The **Charedi Council of Jerusalem** is a large Haredi Jewish communal organization based in Jerusalem. They are anti-Zionism.

<https://ijv.org.uk/> : **Independent Jewish Voices (IJV)** was set up in 2007 by 150 prominent British Jews including Nobel laureate Harold Pinter, historian Eric Hobsbawm, lawyer Sir Geoffrey Bindman, Lady Ellen Dahrendorf, film director Mike Leigh, and actors Stephen Fry and Zoë Wanamaker.

<https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/> **Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP)** is an anti-Zionist organization in the United States that supports the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign against Israel.

4.00 THE NEED FOR THE FOURTH ESTATE TO PROVIDE BALANCED AND INFORMED PERSPECTIVES.

FIANZ is requesting the NZ media to be fair, balanced and objective when reporting on the current war in Gaza. The Fourth Estate has a tremendous responsibility, at this time of rampant social-media misinformation and disinformation, to provide news which is balanced from all perspectives. The NZ media is known to be professional and particularly careful in its reporting after March 15. Unfortunately, some of the standards have been unraveling since the start of the recent tragedy unfolding in Gaza.

Overseas editorial vested interests are creeping into the national media without their bias, accuracy or objectivity being challenged. The consequences are that at times there is just a one-side perspective.

FIANZ has undertaken a recent analysis of the NZ media with respect to the Gaza war and we have noted some issues.

We have intentionally not identified the specific NZ media for three reasons.

Firstly, our purpose is not to blame or criticise specific media, but to raise awareness of concerns. It is hoped that such awareness shall lead to greater understanding of the responsibilities of the NZ media and confirm the high esteem in which we hold of journalistic standards in Aotearoa NZ.

Secondly, we do not believe that NZ media's editorial focus has any deliberate or pre-motivated bias towards either the Palestinian or Israeli perspective. Our view is that this may be the result of individual journalists trying to do their best and not have sufficient time or resources to get information with different or alternative perspectives. It is hoped that the examples below will be lessons learned for the future.

Thirdly, many NZ journalists, copywriters, editors and producers of both print and audio-video media, may not be fully aware of the historical context of the current tragedy in Palestine and as such and in the rush to meet deadlines often rely on overseas 'legitimate media sources' without knowing that many of the foreign media have often vested interests and editorial directives. It is hoped that in future there will be more scrutiny in this respect.

4.1 MYOPIA : A ONE-SIDED RELIANCE ON IDF (ISRAELI) SPOKESPERSONS

A balanced news of necessity, requires different perspectives. One NZ media has been glaringly remiss in this context. Within a defined time frame, this NZ media outlet gave the perspective of an IDF spokesperson 27 times, whilst the Palestinian spokesperson was only quoted 6 times, during the same period. A 400+% exposure on the IDF perspective, inevitably results in an one-sided pro-Israeli myopic viewpoint.

Evidence: (We have blurred the sources but shall share in confidence if requested)




PALESTINIAN SPOKESPERSON Referred to 6 times	IDF SPOKESPERSON Referred to 27 times
	
	<p>Over 400% more exposure to IDF perspective rather to the Palestinian perspective</p>

4.2 SANITISED NEWS : BODERING ON PROPAGANDA

It is well known in the propaganda paradigm that ‘descriptors and imagery’ are used to shape to a person’s viewpoint and help reinforce a particular perspective.³⁷

The following is one of 39 separate cases of what we have termed ‘sanitising’ the deadly use of force by the Israeli army in Gaza. This is a deficit approach to news. The NZ media needs to be more circumspect in simply copying news from overseas media with vested interests. They may be inadvertently become a propaganda medium.

Following is one of over 39 examples we have noted in the last 82 days.

Same Event But Two Different Descriptors & Visuals	
Overseas Media Headline & Photo	NZ Media Headlines & Photos
<p>Deadly Israeli shelling around Al-Shifa Hospita in Gaza City</p>	<p>Largest Gaza hospital 'not functioning' amid Israeli assault</p> <p>Al-Shifa: What we know about Israel's raid on Gaza's main hospital</p>
<p>Two premature babies die, 37 under threat at Gaza’s al-Shifa Hospital</p> <p><i>Neonatal intensive care unit stops working at under-siege facility with power outages and no fuel.</i></p> 	  <p>Bottom Photo was supplied by the IDF. Our media have consistently use IDF war propaganda photos , without any verification.</p>

³⁷ https://uscupstate.libguides.com/news_aware/Propaganda



EVIDENCE – BASED ANALYSIS

<p>The reality of over 28 patients dying including 2 premature babies due to the Israeli deadly shelling</p>	<p>One NZ media sanitised the descriptor as an ‘assault’ with an old photo which has a visual imagery of ‘calmness’ at the entrance of the hospital.</p> <p>Another media sanitised the descriptor as a ‘raid’ and then showed the Israeli army supplied photo of the IDF soldiers with no Palestinians visible.</p>
<p>“ Deadly Shelling”</p>	<p>Contrast with the choice of milder sanitised word and imagery of “assault“ and “raid”</p>



4.3 CHRISTIAN CONTEXT MISSING: CRITICAL TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF CURRENT EVENTS

Most of the NZ media have highlighted the current genocide in Israel in Jewish versus Muslim terms. The Christian context is mostly missing .

We have found that very few NZ media use the perspectives of local Middle Eastern journalists to provide contextual and cultural balance. Almost all rely on the Western journalists to give their monoculture viewpoint on issues.

Example 1: The issue of local Christians in Jerusalem being the victims of hate by Israelis is almost a taboo topic in the NZ media. However, one major media outlet provided context and content to highlight this. It was by a local journalist who has a Israeli-Jewish mother and a Palestinian Christian father,

Five people arrested in Israel after outrage over Jews spitting on Christians

The article went on give context , by quoting local Palestinian Authority official ,” “The practice of spitting on non-Jews reflects the spread of extremism in Israeli society, especially among extremist settlers, and it is an expression of an attitude that begins with spitting and then turns into beating and killing,” Such type of nuanced media provide meaningful understanding of the context of the current unfolding tragedy.

Example 2: On the day that two Christian women were killed by an Israeli sniper, the news was headlined worldwide, except in NZ . To our knowledge not one media outlet had this news of IDF snipers shooting an innocent Christian mother and daughter who were in a church compound. This highlights the tacit taboo on reporting Christian victims of the Israeli mass killing of Palestinians.

Cardinal condemns 'cold-blooded' killing of two women in Gaza church

Vincent Nichols says shooting of mother and daughter did nothing to further Israel's right to defend itself

● Israel-Gaza war - live updates



Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the archbishop of Westminster in London, UK, said he was 'puzzled' by the killings. Photograph: Franco Origlia/Getty

The shooting of a mother and daughter allegedly by an Israeli military sniper in a church compound in Gaza City was a "cold-blooded killing", the most senior Catholic cleric in England has said.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the archbishop of Westminster, said the shooting did "nothing to further Israel's right to defend itself".

Christian mother and child killed by IDF sniper- Headline news worldwide.

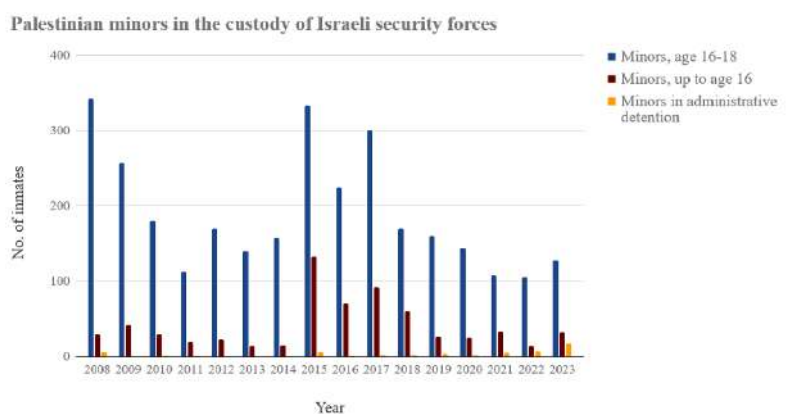
NZ media ignored. A taboo topic.

4.4 NZ MEDIA WITHHOLDS CRITICAL INFORMATION FROM CIVIL SOCIETY AND POLICY MAKERS

It is not just a matter of bias and copying overseas news which plagues our NZ media, but there seems to be a complete absence of news analysis and critical (fact-checked) reporting which act as key information for foreign policy makers and civil society.

Example1 : Hostage Taking

Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions prohibits the taking of hostages. It is also prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention and is considered a grave breach thereof.³⁸ Whilst we have read, heard and seen much about the Hamas hostages, NZ media has been completely silent on Israeli-held hostages of Palestinians including Palestinian minors below age 16, held on what has been termed as ‘security’ grounds. This has been taking place for more than 20 years, without any access to courts or trials. They are, by every definition, hostages.



Source : https://www.btselem.org/statistics/minors_in_custody



The Israeli Information Center
for Human Rights in the
Occupied Territories

The above is from BTSELEM
an Israeli-Jewish human rights
based in Israel.³⁹

Putting aside the issue that Israeli authorities term them ‘prisoners’ rather than ‘hostages’ and the NZ media has blindly followed such blatant hypocritical labels. There was never any mention of “hostage exchange by both sides” in the media narrative⁴⁰.

³⁸ <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/en/customary-ihl/v1/rule96>

³⁹ https://www.btselem.org/statistics/minors_in_custody

⁴⁰ They termed it Palestinian prisoners and Israeli hostage exchange.

Example 2: One-Dimension

The UN Secretary- General's made a statement after October 7, 2023 that the "attacks by Hamas did not happen in a vacuum"⁴¹. The statement was later criticized by Israel and this was reported in NZ media .

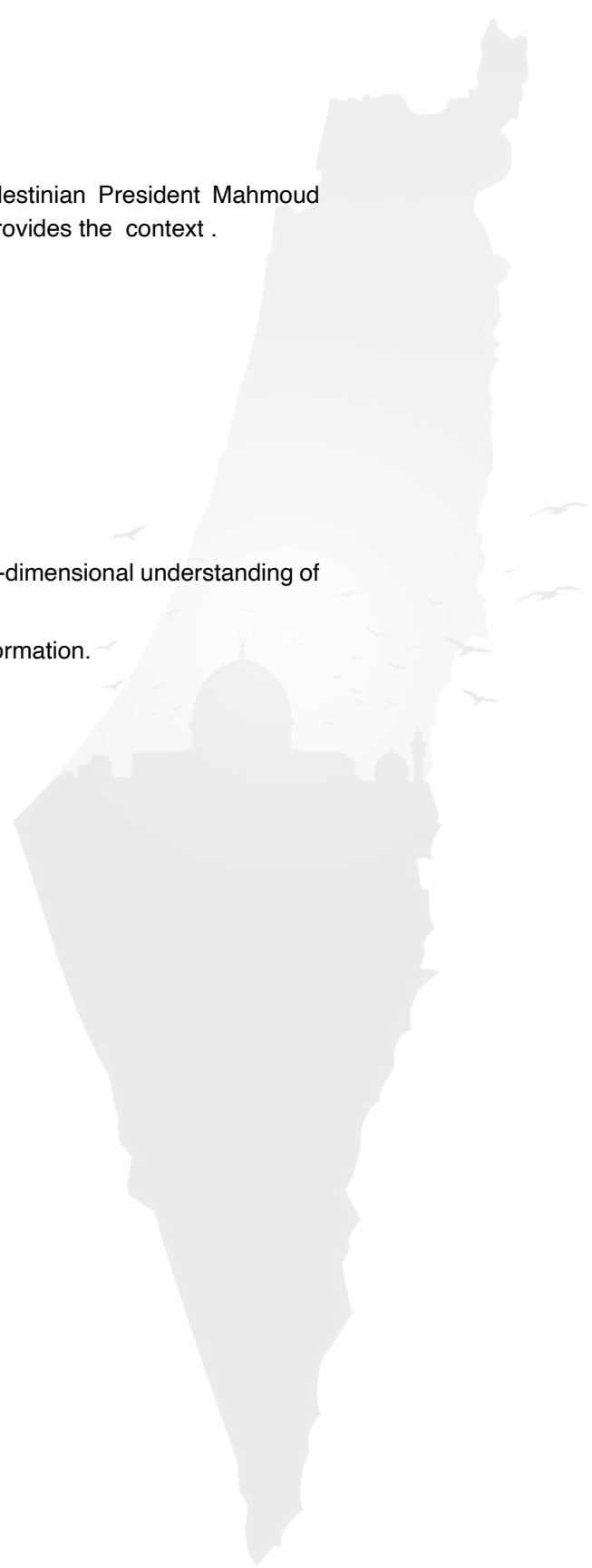
Israel-Hamas war: Israel accuses UN chief of justifying terrorism for saying Hamas attack 'didn't happen in a vacuum'

Yet not one NZ media made any reference to the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's statement a few days earlier at the UN , which provides the context .

....are struggling for freedom and independence, and to remind the Assembly of the tragedy caused by the Nakba 75 years ago, the effects of which continue to be exacerbated by the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

The one-side information stream, inevitably provides a one-dimensional understanding of the current tragedy.

The NZ media has a responsibility to provide balanced information.



⁴¹ <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/speeches/2023-10-24/secretary-generals-remarks-the-security-council-the-middle-east%C2%A0>

Example 3: UNTOLD INFORMATION ABOUT HAMAS – THE EVIDENCE FROM ISRAELI NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

The Hamas military wing has been designated as a terrorist organisation in NZ whilst the United States, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan and the UK have all designated Hamas (the total organisation) as a terrorist organisation. There is much diplomatic pressure on NZ to follow suit, after the killing of innocent civilians on 7 October.

The following are from two respected Israeli national newspapers about Hamas. You decide for yourself if any media in NZ have provided such background information on Hamas. We have provided the sources.

Such information is never presented in the NZ media.



THE TIMES OF ISRAEL ISRAEL AT WAR

For years, Netanyahu propped up Hamas. Now it's blown up in our faces

The premier's policy of treating the terror group as a partner, at the expense of Abbas and Palestinian statehood, has resulted in wounds that will take Israel years to heal from

By TAL SCHNEIDER
9 October 2023, 2:50 pm | 72

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/for-years-netanyahu-propped-up-hamas-now-its-blown-up-in-our-faces/>



HAARETZ
Haaretz | Israel News

Opinion | A Brief History of the Netanyahu-Hamas Alliance

For 14 years, Netanyahu's policy was to keep Hamas in power; the pogrom of October 7, 2023, helps the Israeli prime minister preserve his own rule

Source: <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-10-20/ty-article-opinion/.premium/a-brief-history-of-the-netanyahu-hamas-alliance/0000018b-47d9-d242-abef-57ff1be90000>



THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

Hamas Israel's own creation

During the early 1970s the greatest enemy to Israel was known as the Palestinian Liberation Organization who was known for waging terror attacks on Israeli civilians and targets all over the world.

The PLO was known for being a Socialist organization whose sole purpose was the elimination of the state of Israel along with the establishment of a socialist state of Palestine where the constitution would be run by secular Marxism rather than Islam.

Due to the short sidedness of the Rabin administration and later Begin there was an idea to bring about a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood into Gaza and the Palestinian territories to counter balance the strength and popularity of the PLO.

<https://timesofisrael.com/hamas-israels-own-creation/>

Example 4 THE MATTER OF ISRAELI TUNNELS

Much has been said about tunnels made by Hamas but none have provided any information about Israelis building tunnels.

- Israel has built tunnels under the Al Aqsa mosque, where the Israeli Cabinet celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Jerusalem Day
- Israel built basements and tunnels under Al-Shifa hospital as confirmed by the former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak in interview with CNN

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL ISRAEL AT WAR

Israel started building tunnels under Masjid Al Aqsa from 2017

Erekat: Israeli cabinet meeting in Western Wall tunnels a 'provocation'

Top Palestinian negotiator condemns Netanyahu, saying he is trying to stir up tensions in the region and 'sabotage' peace efforts

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL ISRAEL AT WAR

Netanyahu walking through the tunnel built by the Israelis

Source: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/erekat-israeli-cabinet-meeting-in-western-wall-tunnels-a-provocation/>



Holding Meeting Israeli Cabinet in the tunnel.



Government ministers seen at a cabinet meeting held at the Old City of Jerusalem's Western Wall tunnels in honor of the 50th anniversary of Jerusalem Day on May 28, 2017. (Kobi Gideon/GPO)

Fact Check: Did Israel Build Bunker Under Shifa Hospital?

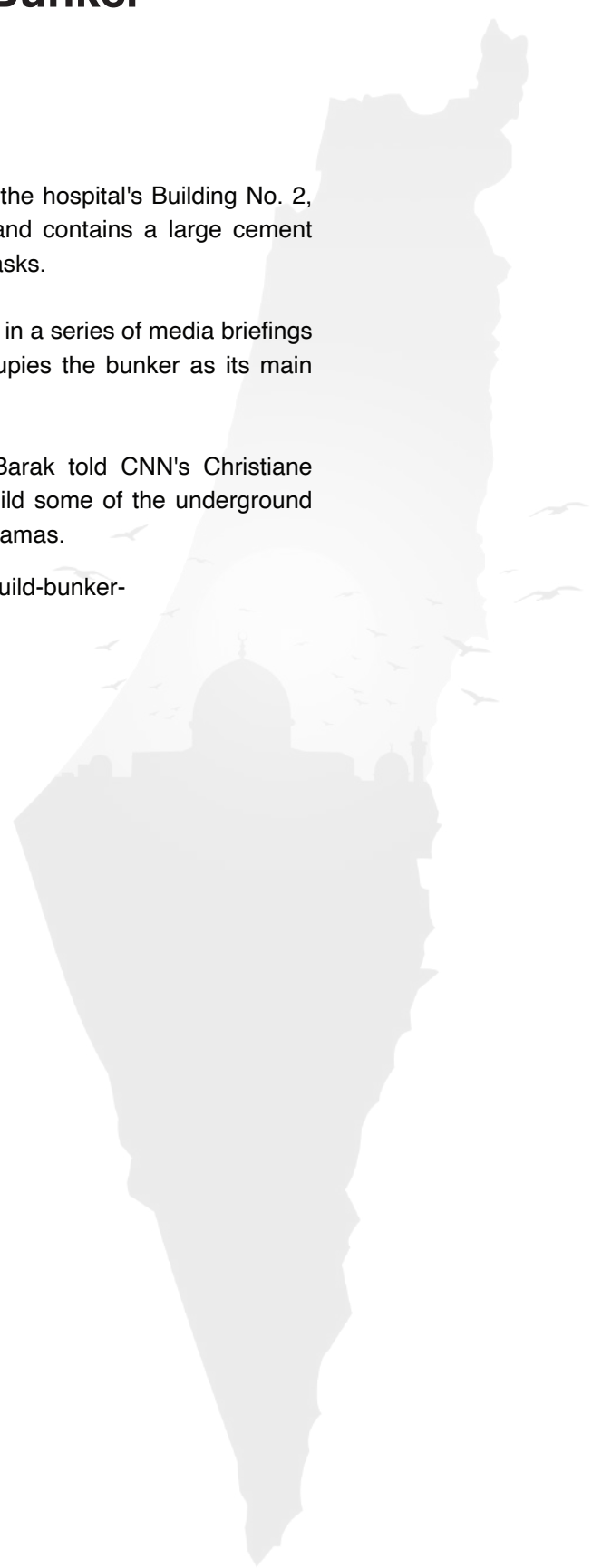
Nov 15, 2023 at 3:09 PM EST

“...Haaretz and other outlets have specifically mentioned the hospital's Building No. 2, which it says was built as an add-on in the mid-1980s and contains a large cement basement initially intended for laundry and administrative tasks.

Last week, IDF spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said in a series of media briefings that the nation's intelligence has proven that Hamas occupies the bunker as its main command area.

On November 20, former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak told CNN's Christiane Amanpour that decades ago Israeli contractors helped build some of the underground infrastructure beneath the hospital that was later used by Hamas.

Source: <https://www.newsweek.com/fact-check-did-israel-build-bunker-under-shifa-hospital-1844107>



5.00 NETANYAHU'S WORLD WAR II RATIONALE

Recently Netanyahu referred to the World War II to justify the Gaza war.⁴² In the past he also blamed Palestinians for the holocaust.⁴³ As a major national Israeli newspapers responded thus:

Haaretz | Israel News

Opinion | Netanyahu Exploits the Holocaust to Brutalize the Palestinians

Netanyahu didn't invent the idea of leveraging the Holocaust for political gain. Yet he is taking even that low to new depths, stripping Palestinians of basic human rights in the name of the survivors of the Holocaust

JewishCurrents

Magazine [Subscribe](#)

Netanyahu's Cynical Betrayal of Holocaust History

Israel has made a Faustian bargain with the Central European far right.

On the other hand, some former Israeli generals have also made reference to the Second World War but they drew the sad parallel of the current situation of the Palestinians in Gaza with what the Jews faced in Germany.

Before we are accused of anti-Semitism, all we have done is highlight what prominent Jewish Israelis are saying themselves in Israeli newspapers, which are never reported in New Zealand.



Ex-IDF general likens military control of West Bank to Nazi Germany

Amiram Levin accuses the IDF of being a 'partner in war crimes' when it stands by as settler extremists attack Palestinians, says situation in West Bank is 'absolute apartheid' ⁴⁴

⁴² <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/11/01/israel-historical-comparison-world-war-two-ii/>

⁴³ <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/22/world/middleeast/netanyahu-saying-palestinian-multi-inspired-holocaust-draws-broad-criticism.html>

⁴⁴ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ex-idf-general-likens-military-control-of-west-bank-to-nazi-germany/>

Jewish author who compared Israel to Nazi Germany receives German literary prize

Germany, Saturday, December 16, 2023. (Focke Strangmann/dpa via AP)

The Russian-American writer Masha Gessen received a German literary prize Saturday in a ceremony that was delayed and scaled down in reaction to an article she penned comparing Gaza to Nazi German ghettos. The ghettos in German-occupied countries during World War II were open-air prisons where Jews were killed, starved and died from diseases. Those who didn't perish there were rounded up and transported to death camps where they were murdered, a process called "liquidation."⁴⁵

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL ISRAEL AT WAR - DAY 81

Deputy IDF chief: Israeli societal trends akin to pre-Holocaust Europe

In a speech for Holocaust Remembrance Day on Wednesday, IDF Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Yair Golan said that he identifies processes in Israel today that are similar to those that took place in Europe prior to the Holocaust.⁴⁶

PICTORIAL JOURNEY

THEN



47

Mass Graves

NOW



Mass Graves

⁴⁵ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/jewish-author-who-compared-israel-to-nazi-germany-receives-german-literary-prize/>

⁴⁶ <https://www.timesofisrael.com/deputy-idf-chief-israeli-societal-trends-akin-to-pre-holocaust-europe/>

⁴⁷ https://www.google.com/search?q=MASS+BURIAL+JEWS+IN+NAZI+GERMANY&client=firefox-b-d&sca_esv=593660335&tbm=isch&source=lnms&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwil_ea686uDAXUUTmwGHSSDKAQ_AUoAXoECAEQAw&biw=2048&bih=1027&dpr=1.25#imgrc=PeIBe8A4z44yLM

THEN

NOW



48

STARVATION IN GHETTO



49

STARVATION IN GHETTO



50

CHILDREN QUEUE FOR FOOD



CHILDREN QUEUE FOR FOOD



51

WAR VICTIM – AN INNOCENT CHILD



52

WAR VICTIM – AN INNOCENT CHILD



53

ENTIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEMOLISHED



54

ENTIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEMOLISHED

⁴⁸ <https://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/exhibits/education-disrupted/ghettos/>

⁴⁹ <https://www.cnbc.com/2023/12/21/un-says-more-than-1-in-4-people-in-gaza-are-starving-because-of-war.html>

⁵⁰ <https://collections.ushmm.org/iiif-b/assets/763384>

⁵¹ <https://fic.tufts.edu/newsroom/merry-fitzpatrick-and-irv-rosenberg-rediscover-book-on-starvation-in-warsaw-ghetto/>

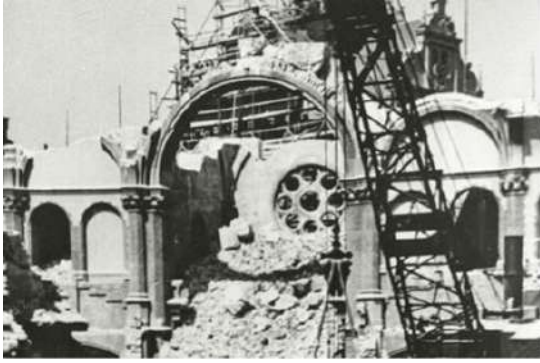
⁵² https://www.google.com/search?q=GAZA+CHILDREN+IN+HOSPITAL&client=firefox-b-d&sca_esv=593675286&tbm=isch&source=lnms&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj3pnYj6yDAXGdfUHHdUSBogQ_AUoAXoECAEQaw&biw=2048&bih=1027&dpr=1.25#imgrc=t5oricjp8yam3M

⁵³ <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theholocaustexplained.org%2Fthe-camps%2Fthe-warsaw-ghetto-a-case-study%2F&psig=AOvVaw0UvrlcldRCXjylodcnMPEf&ust=1703646982467000&source=images&cd=yfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBQJhXqFwoTCPI2w-ORriMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD>

⁵⁴ <https://thescoop.co/2023/11/02/brunei-condemns-israeli-bombing-of-gazas-jabalia-refugee-camp/>

THEN

NOW



55

SYNAGOGUE BOMBED



56

CHURCH BOMBED



57

MOSQUE BOMBED



58

ENTIRE POPULATION DISPLACED



59

ENTIRE POPULATION DISPLACED



60

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS BOMBED



61

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS BOMBED

55 <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bbc.co.uk%2Fnews%2Fworld-europe-66107481&psig=AOvVaw3lkBzbfNh855KAYiHP2hj3&ust=1703647362693000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBIQjRqFwoTCMjznuVriMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD>




56 https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fm.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DXaxtWVAVWxo8&psig=AOvVaw2-_7E2040AM5HLUOWDjOO&ust=170364752486000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBIQjRqFwoTCOju1_-TRIMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAH

57 https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.aa.com.tr%2Fen%2Fmiddle-east%2Fisraeli-bombing-destroyed-26-mosques-across-gaza-ministry%2F3028848&psig=AOvVaw0bSj-apm_0YQjbxM2E8R3&ust=1703647938241000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBQjhxqFwoTCp96vriMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD

58 https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fapnews.com%2Farticle%2Fisrael-hamas-war-live-updates-11-08-2023-ddf02616ad9bdf6d311e89c0315874d&psig=AOvVaw3R48GUP_p3nKetGUnM3r1&ust=1703648042683000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBMjhxqFwoTCjz3dmVriMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD

59 <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.jhi.pl%2Fen%2Farticles%2Ffa-forgotten-struggle-the-jewish-military-union-in-the-warsaw-ghetto-uprising%2C596&psig=AOvVaw0KZFTZsNth4ibJBF1xUOa&ust=1703665457594000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBQjhxqFwoTCLDtsdnWriMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE>

60 https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fmedia.rntools.nz%2Fmz%2Fimage%2Fupload%2Fs--ADXHmfoe--%2Far_16%3A10%2Cc_fill%2Cf_auto%2Cg_auto%2Cq_auto%2Cw_1050%2Fv1696699486%2F4L1H3MF_000_33XP6PU_jpg&tbnid=B1quqAaPRNV-M&vet=12ahUKewie0dOC16yDAXx9b2wGHXBmBUSQMygaegQIARbt..i&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rnz.co.nz%2Fnews%2Fworld%2F499667%2Fphoto-essay-israel-declares-war-after-attack-by-hamas&docid=qq6cDxYzJLlCm&w=1050&h=656&q=gaza%20building%20blaze&client=firefox-b-d&ved=2ahUKewie0dOC16yDAXx9b2wGHXBmBUSQMygaegQIARbt

THEN	NOW
 <p data-bbox="724 539 743 555">62</p> <p data-bbox="264 622 639 658">DESTITUTE ORPHANS</p>	 <p data-bbox="1351 571 1370 586">63</p> <p data-bbox="895 622 1270 658">DESTITUTE ORPHANS</p>
<p data-bbox="201 770 687 875">For the sake of historical respect, we shall not write what was said by the Nazi's</p>	<p data-bbox="802 763 1187 824">THE TIMES OF ISRAEL</p> <p data-bbox="783 846 1326 931">New deputy defense minister called Palestinians 'animals'</p>  <p data-bbox="783 1182 1002 1196"><small>Deputy Defense Minister Gideon Saad. (Photo: Gidon Frenkel)</small></p>
<p data-bbox="336 1256 544 1292">Dehumanising</p>	<p data-bbox="879 1256 1262 1292">Dehumanising Palestinians</p>
<p data-bbox="288 1350 1225 1386">It seems some have yet to learn from the harsh lessons of history.</p>	

⁶² <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fworld%2F2019%2Fjun%2F22%2Fwarsaw-ghetto-museum-holocaust-historians-divided&psig=AOvVaw0v2PLYQfWrn4Btb9oVffY4&ust=1703648569066000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBQQjhxqFwoTCJj489mXrIMDFQAAAAAdAAAAABAD>

⁶³ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/the-photo-blog/children-of-war-heartbreaking-photographs-from-gaza/>

6.00 ISRAELI GOVERNMENT'S RESPECT FOR NZ : A LESSON FOR THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR

The current Israeli Ambassador Rant Yaakoby whilst questioning the numbers of civilians killed in Gaza, has also issued a statement asking NZ to “recalculate its path”.

It may be useful to remind him of the “respect” that the Israeli government has accorded to NZ and New Zealanders in the recent past.

Here are some examples of the Israeli version of ‘Respect’ :

Israeli Mossad Agents Falsified Identity of NZ Tetraplegic to Get NZ Passport



Israelis jailed for six months on
passport fraud charge

Israeli government’s Mossad agents used the identity of a wheel-chair bound cerebral palsy New Zealander to get a NZ passport. Uriel Zoshe Kelman, 30, and Eli Cara, 50 were charged. They were convicted on passport fraud charges. As a result the government at the time ended diplomatic relations.⁶⁴

Official Case Reference:
R v Cara [2005] NZLR 823
Decision Date:
30 July 2004
Court: Auckland High Court

Third Person in the Above Fraud Case Was an Ex-Diplomat of Israel



Third Man in passport case is
ex-diplomat

The third Mossad agent which police summary of facts stated was an Israeli travelling on a United States passport. He even used the identity of a victim to visit a doctor's surgery in Lynfield. He escaped from NZ before he could be arrested.⁶⁵

The Israeli government never cooperated with NZ to send him back to face criminal charges.

⁶⁴ <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/israelis-jailed-for-six-months-on-passport-fraud-charge/KEQRWZ3PBVGUF3FW46KBM5CWN1/>

⁶⁵ <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/third-man-in-passport-case-is-ex-diplomat/LXJHJTELG2ZUX6BD6E7FYXYO5Q/>

Israeli Agents Taking Advantage of the Christchurch Earthquake

CBS NEWS

NZ quake may have revealed Israeli spy ring

The Sydney Morning Herald

Key red-faced after Israeli spy scandal

Southland Times, published accusations earlier this month that a group of Israeli backpackers caught up in Christchurch's February earthquake were in fact spies linked to the Israeli secret service, Mossad. The newspaper claimed a New Zealand secret service officer revealed fears that the police national computer system had been hacked into after the quake, gaining access to highly sensitive files.⁶⁶

UK NEWS WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

The Telegraph

Mossad spy ring 'unearthed because of Christchurch earthquake'

The Israeli secret service Mossad has been accused of conducting an intelligence-gathering operation in New Zealand which was unearthed because of February's Christchurch earthquake.

By Paul Chapman in Wellington
20 July 2011 • 10:23am

⁶⁶ <https://www.smh.com.au/world/key-redfaced-after-israeli-spy-scandal-20110725-1hw8t.html>

Israel Bans NZ Ambassador For NZ's Position at the UN

Israel bars New Zealand ambassador from the country in further Security Council fallout



NZ Herald

27 Dec, 2016 05:32 PM 2 mins to read

Save

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NZ Ambassador banned in retaliation against NZ with respect to a UN Security Council resolution. NZ co-sponsored a resolution which said the Israeli settlements violate international law and undermine a two-state solution.⁶⁷

Israel's 'Declaration of War' Against NZ⁶⁸

Netanyahu 'told New Zealand backing UN vote would be declaration of war'

"If you continue to promote this resolution, from our point of view it will be a declaration of war. It will rupture the relations and there will be consequences. We'll recall our ambassador [from New Zealand] to Jerusalem."

We would respectfully suggest that the Israeli Ambassador look into Israel's disrespect to NZ and practice what he preaches before he warns NZ to 'recalculate its path'.

It is perhaps time for him to recalibrate his own return travel.

⁶⁷ <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/israel-bars-new-zealand-ambassador-from-the-country-in-further-security-council-fallout/OVBV3RKX6LMSKTPXD2SLL3W7PQ/>

⁶⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/dec/28/netanyahu-told-new-zealand-backing-un-vote-would-be-declaration-of-war>



SINCE 1979