January 30, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of B’nai B’rith International’s more than 100,000 members and supporters, we write to express our concern over your recent statement on International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The omission of any specific reference to the six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust is deeply troubling.

While it is true that not all victims of the Holocaust were Jewish, it is also true that Jews were the only group targeted for genocide. Indeed, the complete annihilation of the Jewish people was the stated goal of Hitler’s Final Solution, which culminated in the Holocaust.

Also missing from the White House statement was the role that anti-Semitic views played in the rise of the Nazi regime. We are living in an era where anti-Semitism is again on the increase around the world. Much of contemporary global anti-Semitism manifests itself in the form of anti-Israel hatred, which has resulted in grave consequences for the embattled Jewish state, as it incurs daily condemnation and grotesque attempts to demonize and delegitimize it.

Mr. President, we hope that your future statements about the Holocaust will acknowledge the Nazi genocide committed against the Jewish people. We further hope that your comments will underscore the importance of combating anti-Semitism and promoting Holocaust education in our time.

Respectfully,

Gary P. Saltzman                                      Daniel S. Mariaschin
President                                              Executive Vice President and CEO

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