Mr. Anthony Capuano  
Chief Executive Officer  
Marriott International, Inc.  

October 6, 2021

Dear Mr. Capuano,

B’nai B’rith International, with a presence in countries all around the world, is shocked by the outrageous anti-Semitic incident that occurred at the Westin Hotel in Leipzig, Germany this week.

German-Jewish Singer Gil Ofarim says he was told by not one, but two of your employees, to remove his Star of David necklace, the most recognized symbol of Judaism, in order to check-in at your hotel.

We expect a swift and thorough investigation of this matter and that those responsible for this abhorrent treatment be immediately dismissed. We ask for a meaningful direct apology to Mr. Ofarim and a public pledge against anti-Semitism.

Our organization, which had over 100 branches in Germany in 1933, was decimated along with the rest of German and European Jewry. For a Jewish person to experience something like this 76-years after the Holocaust, in Germany of all places, is not only unacceptable, but appalling. Have we learned nothing? Thankfully, with technological advancements today, stories like these can go viral in moments. Gone are the days where the Jewish people had to endure experiences like these quietly.

We ask that you make clear what your intention is to right this egregious wrong and we invite you to learn more about the different manifestations of anti-Semitism through our signature initiative None Shall Be Afraid, our response to the world’s oldest hatred.

We urge you to share this platform with your colleagues worldwide and ask them, too, to take our pledge against anti-Semitism.

Sincerely,

Charles O. Kaufman  
B’nai B’rith International President

Daniel S. Mariashchin  
B’nai B’rith International CEO

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