

On behalf of B'nai B'rith International, the most widely known Jewish humanitarian, human rights, and advocacy organization, we write to bring to your attention an issue of grave concern.

B'nai B'rith International is deeply disappointed by the choice to recall your ambassador in Tel Aviv for consultations. Such actions do not contribute to promote calm and stability in the region, but rather serve to encourage the internationally recognized terror group, Hamas.

Not only do you unfairly criticize Israel, which has gone to unprecedented lengths to minimize Palestinian civilian casualties, but in your narrative of hostilities you fail to condemn Hamas' indiscriminate and constant rocket attacks against Israel's civilian population and the terrorist group's use of human shields. Hamas continues to threaten Israel and carry out attacks against its civilians, even as Israel has agreed to terms of ceasefire twice negated by Hamas rocket fire. Israel's response to the ongoing terrorism from Gaza is proportionate and in compliance with international law. The recall of your ambassador from Israel is, again, a signal of encouragement to those who are waging this war on terror against Israel.

What the people of Israel and Gaza need now is the support of the global community in defending innocent civilians against unprovoked aggression by Hamas. Disarming terror groups like Hamas is critical for lasting peace and stability. Recalling your ambassador from Israel is at odds with your stated commitment to oppose terrorism in all its forms. We ask that you address this concerning issue in order to once again restore our faith in your position among the community of democracies.

Allan J. Jacobs
International President

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