

South Africa – Israel Policy Forum Statement on Amnesty International Report

The South Africa- Israel Policy Forum note the report from Amnesty International accusing Israel of being an “Apartheid” State.

Amnesty International has a long history of assaulting Israel’s legitimacy as the democratic nation state of the Jewish people. Amnesty’s report appropriates and distorts beyond recognition the painful history of apartheid in South Africa during the Apartheid years to push a narrow transparent political agenda against Israel. Amnesty’s cynical move, devoid of objective analysis and rife with unprofessional propaganda statements represents a gross misrepresentation of South Africa’s history and exploits and belittles the suffering of millions of South Africans.

The report is glaringly devoid of historical context and negates the everyday Palestinian violence, incitement and terror experienced by Israelis. It further ignores Palestinian Authority support and incentives paid to Palestinian youth to carry out terror acts which have been decried by the United States EU and Israel including the “PA” pay-to-slay” scheme continues to finance and incentivize the Palestinian public to commit acts of terror.

The accusation of the practice of domestic Apartheid by Israel is as laughable as it is fallacious. Israel’s governing coalition includes an Arab Islamist party. Senior Arab Israeli and Druze diplomats, Supreme Court judges, business leaders, leaders help lead Israel civil society and serve as military officers. By starting ‘at its creation in May 1948’ (page 20), the report reveals its intention of framing Israel as an illegitimate state at its foundational roots, despite its robust democracy which grants full and equality and human rights to all its citizens. The only solution given is for Israel to cease to exist.

Amnesty International by using dangerous, and libelous language such as “Apartheid” and “ethnic cleansing” are now complicit in mainstreaming antisemitism and contributing to a global climate of hate and violence against Jewish communities.

This report is a clear indication that instead of looking at productive ways to negotiate peace between Israel and its neighbours, Amnesty International inflames continued conflict in Israel the West Bank. Gaza and across the region in the name of human rights.

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