



הארגון הבינלאומי של עורכי-דין ומשפטנים יהודים

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS

UN Reaction to Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad's Call to Genocide

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists held its bi-annual conference in Berlin (November 15-18, 2011) on "Holocaust Denial and Freedom of Speech in the Internet Era".

The Conference dealt with the encounter between the Shoah, the internet and freedom of expression.

The Conference addressed the legal and some educational issues arising from the propagation of hate messages and the distortion of Shoah history through the internet, with a view to identifying and promoting legal remedies and other solutions that might assist in combating these new and complex problems.

Iranian leaders are guilty of calling for the annihilation of Israel.

THE FACTS

Iranian leaders have repeatedly used language that clearly calls for the genocide of Israel;

Ayatollah Khamenei, Supreme Leader of Iran, has stated that: "There is only one solution to the Middle East problem, namely the annihilation and destruction of the Jewish state." In 2000, he described Israel, as a "cancerous tumor of a state," to be "removed from the region." Iranian President Ahmadinejad has repeatedly called for "wiping Israel off the map" and used the phrase "death to Israel." The Iranian leaders have lent their full support to Hizballah, whose leader declared "it is an open war until the elimination of Israel and until the death of the last Jew on earth."

In a speech on June 2, 2008, President Ahmadinejad, referring to Israel, declared that "this germ of corruption will be wiped off". In a speech on February 20, 2008, Ahmadinejad described Israel as "a black and filthy microbe called the Zionist regime."

Mohammad Ali Ramin, An Iranian presidential advisor, in the midst of a speech about the Jews being responsible for the Black Plague, typhus, and AIDS, said: "The resolution of the Holocaust issue will end in the destruction of Israel."

President Ahmadinejad has repeatedly denied the Holocaust and even at the UN General Assembly itself, on September 23, 2008, Ahmadinejad did not attempt to hide his blatant anti-

רחוב דניאל פריש 10, תל-אביב 64731, Tel-Aviv

פקס: 972-3-6953855 טלפון: 972-3-6910673

דואר אלקטרוני: iajlj@goldmail.net.il

www.intjewishlawyers.org



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Semitism, declaring that Zionists are criminals and murderers, are "acquisitive" and "deceitful," and dominate global finance despite their "minuscule" number.

Iran is attempting to develop nuclear weapons and its long range rockets capable of carrying nuclear weapons have been paraded through the streets of Teheran draped with the message "death to Israel."

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists is a UN accredited NGO founded by the late Judges René Cassin of France, Haim Cohen of Israel and Arthur Goldberg of the United States, believes that the UN must not ignore such calls for genocide. The events of the Holocaust and the genocides in Rwanda, Serbia and Darfur are a dire reminder of what happens when the world stands aside.

LEGAL

The Preamble to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Genocide Convention) states:

"Genocide is a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations and condemned by the civilized world,
Recognizing that at all periods of history genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity, and
Being convinced that, in order to liberate mankind from such an odious scourge, international co-operation is required,

Article 2 of the Genocide Convention defines genocide as any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, as such,
“(A) Killing members of the group; (B) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (C) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.

Article 3 of the Genocide Convention also defines as a crime

(c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;

In accordance with Article 4 (1) of the UN Charter, UN membership is only open to "peace-loving states."

Furthermore Article 6 of the UN Charter stipulates that

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A Member of the United Nations which has persistently violated the Principles contained in the present Charter may be expelled from the Organization by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of this blatant Iranian call for genocide, the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists:

CALLS upon States to take immediate action for the expulsion of Iran from the United Nations;

And

RECOMMENDS that the UN Security Council refer to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court the case of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and Ayatollah Khamenei, Supreme Leader of Iran on the ground of directly and publicly inciting others to commit genocide, contrary to Article 25(3)(e) of the *Rome Statute*.

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