



הארגון הבינלאומי של עורכי-דין ומשפטנים יהודים (ע"ר)
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LAWYERS AND JURISTS (R.A.)

Human Rights Council 26th Session

Item 7 – General Debate

NGO: IAJLJ - The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists

Representative delivering the statement: Adv. Tom Gal

Thank you Mr. President,

Today's general debate is dedicated to the situation of human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories and the Golan Heights. However, it is impossible to focus on such issue these days in light of recent events: the kidnapping of three Israeli teenagers by Palestinian terrorists and the killing of a 13-years-old boy by a guided missile. Kidnapping and hostage taking, and especially under these circumstances, are international crimes. So is the intentional targeting of civilians. Moreover, these are terrorist acts directed toward civilians.

Regardless of the legal consequences of these acts, the International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists is disappointed from the inaction of the international community. While the faith of these three teenagers: Gilad, Naftali and Eyal is unknown and their lives are in danger, while the family of Mohammed Karaka is mourning his untimely death, we expect the international community, this Council and the High Commissioner to condemn this horrendous act and support Israel, not remain silent.

On the one hand, President Mahmoud Abbas has unequivocally denounced the kidnapping and the kidnapers, understanding that these acts can only destroy the chance for a peaceful Middle East. On the other hand, President Abbas still preserves the Palestinian Authorities governmental unity with Hamas – an organization who have commended the kidnapping of these three children, an organization that has fired rockets toward Israel while the Israeli authorities operate to bring these children back safe. The same terrorist organization that has condemned President Abbas for cooperating with and assisting to Israel's efforts and searches.

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists hopes that these three children: Gilad, Naftali and Eyal will be back home safe. We send our deepest condolences to the Karaka family. We ask that the international community, states, especially members of this Council the High Commissioner and other UN officials will condemn unequivocally the kidnapping and killing of these children. We also ask that in these difficult times, Israel will be supported in its efforts to bring the three children back home and protect its northern border. Finally, we hope that the Palestinian Authorities will continue to cooperate with Israel's efforts.



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