



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

November 10, 2014

Chief Executive, Radio New Zealand International  
PO Box 123 Wellington 6140  
New Zealand

*via email*

Dear Sir or Madam:

It has come to our attention that in August 2014, Radio New Zealand International broadcasted an interviewed entitled "Israel Apartheid" with Kolin Thumbadoo, a founding member of the African National Congress's Australian office.

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, a UN-accredited NGO, was founded in 1969 to combat anti-Semitism, Holocaust denial, and racism, and to promote human rights worldwide. As such we write to protest this broadcast as we see it as anti-Semitic.

Mr. Thumbadoo's bias is self-evident. Throughout his interview routinely emphasized what he considered the similarity between Zionism, apartheid, and Nazism: "It does seem extraordinary that a country which at the time expressed an avowed admiration for Nazism would end up being a recipient country for Jewish refugees fleeing Nazism." He claimed an expression emerged: "Zionism and Apartheid are the spiritual twins of Nazism," adding "you could never get a more apt and appropriate slogan" to demonstrate the similarities between Zionist Israel and Apartheid South Africa. He further claimed that Zionists "facilitated a relationship between a South Africa which admired Nazism and a Zionist Israel and they continue to do that to this day."

We note his further anti-Semitic claims: that there is a "collaborationist part of the Jewish community that we know as Zion but that often masquerades behind Jewish sounding organizational names," and: "as we all know, Zionist Israel is a very difficult entity to control."

We further note his characterization of Mark Regev: "Isn't it interesting that the connection between Apartheid South Africa and Zionist Israel is best underlined in this very day and age, by Netanyahu's chief spin-doctor and spokesperson, one Mark Regev, being precisely an apartheid privileged Zionist from South Africa where since May his dual home in Australia and occupied Palestine." Note that Mark Regev is Australian and not South African and that he lives within the 1967 green line.

We have reviewed your Code of Standards and remind you that on "controversial issues" you are to make "due reference to a reasonable range of significant viewpoints on the issue"; that in so determining you consider "whether the issue or topic is clearly presented from a particular perspective; that you "deal fairly with any person . . . referred to . . .; that you "ensure . . . that current affairs content . . . does not deceive; and that you "should not encourage discrimination against or denigration of any section of the New Zealand community . . . as a consequence of legitimate expression of religion, culture, or political belief."

We look forward to your explanation of how Mr. Thumbadoo's interview can be reconciled with your Code of Standards.

Sincerely,

Adv. Irit Kohn  
President