



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

Human Rights Council 23rd Session

Item 7 – ID with Special Rapporteur

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

Representative delivering the statement: Adv. Tom Gal

Thank you Mr. President,

The International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists read carefully the report produced by the Special Rapporteur as well as the recommendations he made.

As a preliminary remark, we wish to express our discontent of the Special Rapporteur's recent statements. It is unacceptable that a UN official expresses such views, let alone a Special Rapporteur who is required to report in an accurate and impartial manner. It is our opinion that the Special Rapporteur should not be permitted to comply and complete the mandate given to him due to deep distrust in him, his work and his objectivity. Prejudice jeopardizes his mission and his ability to improve protection of Human Rights in the area. The Special Rapporteur is correct that the main focus should be the message a Special Rapporteur presents rather than himself and his opinions – regrettably the Special Rapporteur himself does not abide by this principle and continues to express extreme views shadowing his ability to work in an unbiased manner.

As for the Report submitted by the Special Rapporteur and his recommendations: we welcome any international efforts to improve the lives of persons in the area. As expressed by the Special Rapporteur, such international efforts should be made with the cooperation of the State of Israel so as to develop the area and ensure the well being of all. Nonetheless, it is unfortunate that the Special Rapporteur failed to address the responsibility borne also by the de-facto Hamas government controlling the Gaza strip. We therefore urge the Special Rapporteur to complete his report and inform the Council with the appropriate steps needed to ensure that Hamas as the de-facto government complies with international obligations and protects the human rights of the Gaza citizens. Furthermore we wish to ask the Special Rapporteur whether he truly believes that establishing another commission of enquiry, as recommended in para 55(g), will enhance cooperation and ensure human rights of Palestinians? Will another new mechanism ensure the cooperation of the State of Israel and resolve the conflict between these two peoples? Wouldn't it be better if the current mandate holders will perform their job properly, impartially and in a transparent manner that will promote cooperation, protection of human rights and increase the trust among the parties?