

SIXTH COMMITTEE

Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Statement by

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Item 1: General debate

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Mr. Chair,

Israel is honored to address this esteemed Charter Committee once again. This forum is a vital space for interpreting and discussing the fundamental elements of the UN Charter and advancing crucial initiatives within the United Nations. Israel has been supportive of this forum over the years, as we strive to promote international peace and security, peaceful settlement of disputes, and international law together as a community.

However, I must address a concerning trend in this room, where some members seem determined to divert this respectable committee into political discussions. I wish to set the record straight.

On October 7th, a Jewish religious holiday, thousands of Hamas genocidal terrorists and other militants breached Israeli sovereign territory through sea, land, and air, invading over 20 Israeli communities, bases, and even a music festival. What followed, amidst thousands of rockets indiscriminately fired into Israel, was a horrifying massacre.

Civilians were mutilated, raped, and abducted by the terrorists, who openly displayed elation. Children were tortured in front of parents, and parents in front of children.

Innocent civilians, including infants, were burned alive, and scores of women, men, and children were mutilated, women systematically raped, and the victims' bodies were desecrated in the most abhorrent ways. In total, 1,200 people were butchered, over 5,500 maimed, and some 240 hostages, including infants and Holocaust survivors, were abducted, with some executed and many tortured, sexually abused, and starved in captivity.

The brutality of October 7th is well-documented through survivor testimonies, undeniable proof of carnage and sadism, and forensic evidence collected at the scene. The assailants proudly filmed and broadcast their barbarism, and to this day – promise to repeat their heinous acts again and again for the purpose of obliterating the State of Israel and the Jewish People.

Mr. Chair,

The events of the past four months do not concern only Israel; they concern the fight for justice and the protection of human rights. It is a collective struggle against terrorism that threatens the very foundations of our democratic and liberal societies. It touches the core values of the UN charter that all of us should be obligated to protect, maintain and preserve.

Where were all those who wish to defend the UN Charter on October 7th, where they have been since then? We should all remember - Today it is a threat to Israel, on the northern border and on the southern border, tomorrow it can be across your borders – a massacre of innocent civilians who simply chose to live in a peaceful village just across the border. And then the next day they could find themselves abducted in the hands of an inhuman terrorist groups for more than 130 days!

In the context of this committee, the significance of the words "international peace and security" cannot be overstated. These words are not merely a rhetorical slogan; they represent the foundational principles that uphold the entire global system. They are the pillars upon which the United Nations was established, embodying the collective commitment of nations to work together in preventing conflict and promoting stability worldwide.

However, it is disheartening to observe that, for some, these noble ideals have been twisted and manipulated. Rather than serving as a beacon for cooperation and unity, the concept of "international peace and security" has been exploited to justify hateful rhetoric and embrace outdated forms of bigotry. This misuse undermines the very essence of the United Nations, transforming a platform built for collaboration into a battleground for divisive ideologies.

Furthermore, if we, as a community, counite to allow the derailment of our respected UN forums and the exploitation of this important pillar of "international peace and security" – we are in fact giving immunity to terrorist organization by allowing them to hide behind lofty resolutions with no accountability whatsoever for themselves.

In addition, the core principle of the "peaceful resolution of disputes" has been distorted and weaponized in ways that were never intended. Instead of being a mechanism to foster dialogue and understanding, international courts, have unfortunately been used and abused as tools to advance narrow political agendas on conflicts that should have been solved by diplomatic negotiations. This departure from the intended purpose of peaceful dispute resolution could erode the credibility of international institutions and compromises their ability to genuinely contribute to global harmony.

We as an international community should ensure that these institutions uphold their original promise to serve as guardians, to maintain the pillars upon which our international system is built.

It is essential for us, as members of this committee, to actively resist these manipulations and reaffirm our commitment to the original principles, in their original and genuine meaning, that guide our collective pursuit of international peace and security. Only by doing so, can we ensure that the United Nations remains a beacon of hope and cooperation for all nations, free from the influence of divisive ideologies and political agendas that undermine the very essence of our shared mission.

It is time for us to unite in our commitment to justice, human rights, and the principles that support the very existence of the United Nations. Maintaining peace and security means *inter alia* to condemn unequivocally terrorist attacks, to fight against those who try to undermined the UN and its mandate and to ensure that these terrorist groups should not be supported, they must stay outside of this room and discussion - they don't have any place in this respectful forum.

Our prayers and thoughts remain with the Bibas family: baby Kfir who was kidnapped

at the age of nine months old, Ariel his brother who was kidnapped at the age of 4, and

their mother and father. The whole family and more than 130 additional Israelis are still

captive in the cruel hands of Hamas.

We call for their immediate release, we will not give up on them. We condemn Hamas,

as every human being should – and we urge you to do the same.

Do not allow terror to prevail, don't fall to the hands of terror, to the hands of those who

seek violence to advance their goals, don't let them learn that terror is the answer.

Bring all the hostages back home – **Now!**

I thank you, Mr. Chair.

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