



Mr. President,

The former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said: "The Human Rights Council's disproportionate focus on Israel undermines its credibility and distracts from its mission of promoting universal human rights."

Under agenda item 7, this Council has adopted more condemnatory resolutions, organized special sessions, and appointed rapporteurs to investigate Israel than any other country in the world.

Item 7 refers to the "Occupied Palestinian Territories," but the Council neglects to address the responsibility of Palestinian leaders in this matter. This Council overlooks the fact that the Palestinian Authority allocates a substantial portion of its annual budget to compensating terrorists. Similarly, it deliberately turns a blind eye to Hamas' exploitation of children in hostilities, contributing to a dangerous cycle of indoctrination, hatred, and incitement of violence within the Palestinian society.

Instead, agenda item 7 only serves as another platform to delegitimize the State of Israel. We do not need to look far back in human history to see the devastating effects of systematic demonization of a nation. Yet, almost 80 years after the Holocaust, Israel still bears the burden of being unfairly demonized through its own dedicated agenda item.

The Jerusalem Institute of Justice calls upon this Council to eliminate the discriminatory agenda item 7 and actually work for the protection of human rights.

Thank you.