



## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT ACCUSING ISRAEL OF 'APARTHEID' BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

### REPORT OVERVIEW

- The Amnesty International report accusing Israel of 'apartheid', just as the Human Rights Watch report that preceded it in April last year, is just the latest intensified attack in these organizations' longstanding & relentless campaign of lawfare & vilification against the State of Israel.
- Amnesty's report has been released at this time in order to capitalize on the upcoming actions at the United Nations, including March session of the UN Human Rights Council and the Commission of Inquiry, both of which are expected to allege Israel is engaging in apartheid practices, as well as the ongoing investigation before the International Criminal Court.
- Written under the guise of 'international law and human rights', this baseless report, which whitewashes Palestinian terror and blatantly calls for the dismantlement of the Jewish state, is replete with malicious lies, gross distortions of truth and fabrications of law.
- A lie told a thousand times over, does not make it true.
- It is imperative to underscore the unequivocally antisemitic nature of this report, which:
  - Rejects the Jewish people's right to self-determination in their ancestral homeland and Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people.
  - Calls Israel's very creation a racist endeavor (Page 20)
  - Explicitly calls for the dismantling of the Jewish state (Page 23).
  - Uses mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing and antisemitic tropes, such references to 'Judaization' and 'Jewish control.'
- The above breaches are a clear violation of the internationally recognized [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism](#).
- The glaring omission by Amnesty of any reference to 'Palestinian terror' is not by coincidence. Not only do they blatantly whitewash and erase Palestinian violence by groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad, but they actually seek to justify it, including in their call for the dismantling of the Jewish state. Just a mere days after International Holocaust Remembrance Day, and at a time of surging antisemitism around the world, this pervasive and demonizing discourse from Amnesty will only incite further violence against Israel and Jews worldwide.
- Amnesty has only accused one other country, Myanmar, of current apartheid policies – but not China, Iran or Syria, which seek to wipe out minority populations. This is further evidence of Amnesty's double standards against Israel.



# THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FORUM

- Amnesty has also alleged that Israel was founded on the basis of discrimination between Jews and Arabs. This of course flies in the face of Israel's [Declaration of Independence](#), which clearly states that "THE STATE OF ISRAEL will ... ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex."
- Amnesty has also completely misconstrued and fabricated operational aspects of international law, including the Rome Statute and Apartheid Convention, in order to justify their lies and attack against Israel. See more here about [legal discussion](#).
- Notwithstanding Amnesty's lies and accusation, Israel is a strong and vibrant democracy that upholds equal rights for all its citizens. One need only look at the composition of the current government, which is comprised of Jewish and Arab members, secular and religious, and members from various other minority groups. It represents Israeli the real melting pot and mosaic of Israeli society.
- In an important 2011 NY Times Op-Ed titled 'Israel and the Apartheid Slander', [Judge Richard Goldstone](#), who formerly presided over the 2009 Gaza Fact Finding Mission (after which he [retracted](#) his accusations against) and had previously appointed by Nelson Mandela to the South African Constitutional Court, clearly stated:
  - *"In Israel, there is no apartheid. Nothing there comes close to the definition of apartheid under the 1998 Rome Statute ... the charge that Israel is an apartheid state is a false and malicious one that precludes, rather than promotes, peace and harmony."*

## NOTES REGARDING AMNESTY

- Amnesty's UK office, which spearheaded this report, had previously been accused of institutionalized racism, harassment and intimidation of staff, with some employees claiming that senior Amnesty leadership "knowingly upheld racism and actively harmed staff from ethnic minority backgrounds". This ultimately even led to the former Chief Executive Kate Allen to [step down](#) early, amid claims the organization failed to adequately tackle institutional racism.
- See more [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).
- Amnesty's current Secretary-General Agnes Callamard, had previously also [accused](#) Israel of killing Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.
- Amnesty would be better served getting their house in order and rooting out its own internal racism and xenophobia - and now antisemitism - instead of casting unfounded aspersions and accusations against Israel.