

## **Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** Clark-Gagnon, Lorelie -ELA  
**Sent:** May 4, 2022 10:58 AM  
**To:** \*ELA-FPDS  
**Subject:** FW: Amnesty International report in Canadian press

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**From:** Clark-Gagnon, Lorelie -ELA  
**Sent:** May 4, 2022 10:54 AM  
**To:** \*ELA-DEV <D-ELA-DEV@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Roy-Maurice, Victor -RMLAH -DA <Victor.Roy-Maurice@international.gc.ca>; Creighton, Michael -RMLAH -DA <Michael.Creighton@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Amnesty International report in Canadian press

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/israel-palestinian-apartheid-1.6436138>

**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 6:19 AM  
**To:** Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM [She/Her | Elle]  
**Cc:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He/Him | Il]  
**Subject:** Amnesty Report

From today's UNSCO Daily Press Brief:

**Amnesty International describes Israel as an apartheid state in new report:**

Amnesty International, a widely respected human rights group, plans to release a report on Tuesday accusing Israel of committing apartheid and describing its existence as a Jewish state as a deprivation of Palestinians' basic rights. Israeli officials on Sunday denounced the report as "antisemitism." In a 211-page report set for publication on Tuesday and obtained by the *Forward*, Amnesty alleges that Israel is involved in a "widespread attack directed" against Palestinians that amounts to "the crime against humanity of apartheid." Amnesty, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977, has previously condemned Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and accused it of committing war crimes during the 2014 conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. But this report is the first time the group is officially using the term "apartheid" to describe it. The Amnesty report follows a similar report from Human Rights Watch last April; that report came after two leading Israeli human-rights groups began using the term apartheid. Human Rights Watch, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997, issued its own lengthy report detailing its rationale for using the term "apartheid" to describe Israel's treatment of the Palestinians in a report about Israel. The Israeli group Yesh Din had begun using the term in 2020 and B'Tselem, another Israeli group, had adopted it in January 2021. But while the HRW report accused Israel of discriminating against Palestinians in all areas under its control but of practicing apartheid only in the areas beyond its original 1948 borders, the Amnesty report applies the term "apartheid" to the state's internal operations as well. "Since its establishment in 1948, Israel has pursued an explicit policy of establishing and maintaining a Jewish demographic hegemony," the report states, "and maximizing its control over land to benefit Jewish Israelis while minimizing the number of Palestinians and restricting their rights and obstructing their ability to challenge this dispossession." It also argues that "almost all of Israel's civilian administration and military authorities" are involved "in the enforcement of the system of apartheid against Palestinians across Israel" and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as "against Palestinian refugees and their descendants outside the territory." A spokesperson for Israel's foreign ministry called the report "pure antisemitism" that "legitimizes attacks against Jews" and accused Amnesty International of a double standard. "The purpose of this report is to eliminate the State of Israel as a nation-state of the Jewish people and the solution they give is for Israel to cease to exist," said the spokesperson, Lior Haiat. Haiat said the current makeup of the Israeli coalition government, which for the first time includes an Arab Islamist party, reflects the diversity of Israeli society and its respect for Israel's citizens no matter their religion or cultural background. The report comes at a time of rising antisemitism globally, and ahead of an

report expected in June from a United Nations Human Rights Council Commission of Inquiry into Israel's treatment of Palestinians. (Forward, [The Telegraph](#)).

**Patrick O'Neill**

First Secretary | Premier secrétaire

Embassy of Canada to Israel | Ambassade du Canada en Israël

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Government  
of Canada

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du Canada

**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** Sorenson, Michelle -ELA  
**Sent:** February 7, 2022 9:53 AM  
**To:** Anderson, Ian -EGM; Gauthier, Roxanne -EGM; Meddahi, Manel -ESD  
**Cc:** Flanagan Whalen, Ann -ELD; Martin, Elisha Jean -ELD; Garner, Karen -ELA; Murphy Haglund, David -ELA; Bennett, Richard -ELA; Schmaltz, Jason -ELA; Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA; Hoppenheim, Brody -ELA; van der Leest, Kristin -ELA  
**Subject:** For EGM Approval: Responsive lines - Amnesty International report  
**Attachments:** Reactions\_Amnesty International Report\_2022-02-04.docx

Good morning Ian and Roxanne,

We are seeking EGM's approval on responsive lines for the Amnesty International report released last week: *"Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians: Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity"*.

The lines will be shared with LCF and the missions who have asked for responsive lines, and will also be used to update our existing QP note and other briefing material.

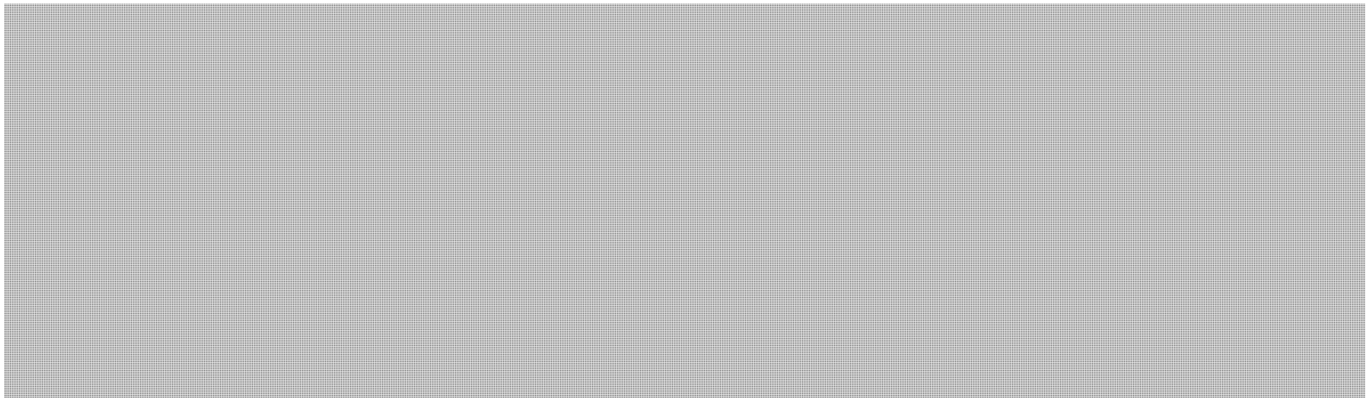
Approved: ELD/Flanagan Whalen  
Consulted: ELA/Garner

For information, attached and below are a summary of the report and a reactions tracker.

Best,  
Michelle

**Responsive Lines**

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**Report Summary**

On February 1, 2022, Amnesty International (AI) published a 278-page report entitled "Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians: Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity." According to Amnesty, the report seeks to document and analyze "Israel's institutionalized and systemic discrimination against Palestinians within the framework of the definition of apartheid and international law," and determines that "discriminatory and exclusionary Israeli laws, policies and practices against Palestinians amount to apartheid as a violation of public international law, a serious human rights violation and a crime against humanity."

The report asserts that Israel has intentionally oppressed and dominated Palestinians "for the benefit of the of its Jewish population" by pursuing explicit policies that establish and maintain Jewish demographic hegemony and control

at the expense of Palestinians who have been “expelled, fragmented, segregated, controlled, dispossessed of land and property and deprived of their economic and social rights.” AI argues that policies of separate and unequal citizen structures, denial of Palestinian’ rights to family reunification, discriminatory land, planning and housing policies, and denial of agricultural and industrial development for the benefit of Palestinians, serve to intentionally “dominate and control the Palestinian population in the [occupied territories].” Further, the report cites “targets for demographic ratios of Jews to Palestinians in Jerusalem,” as evidence that the denial of economic and social rights of Palestinians in East Jerusalem is “an intentional policy to coerce them into leaving the city.”

Over more than 160 pages, AI provides a partial review of select Israeli legislation, government and military policies and practices, and quotes, statements and directives from Israeli officials, which together, in their view, “constitute tools for establishing and maintaining a system of oppression and domination over Palestinians.” The report portrays a legal framework of segregation and control, dispossession of land and property, and deprivation of economic and social rights of Palestinians. The report also draws on selected case studies of events from 1948 to the present day, arguing that these cases constitute serious violations of international law.

AI concludes that Israel “intentionally imposes a system of oppression and domination over Palestinians wherever it exercises control over the enjoyment of their rights,” and that the “systematic and institutionalized manner of oppression and denial of equal rights” is cemented in Israeli law and in the policies and practices of civilian and military authorities and governmental agencies who enforce the law – thus “amounting to the crime against humanity of apartheid” as defined under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The report contains 73 recommendations addressed variously at Israeli authorities, Palestinian authorities, the United Nations, Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC, other government and regional actors, businesses, and humanitarian and development organizations. It calls on the international community to “recognize and hold Israel accountable for crimes that Israel commits against the Palestinian people.”

The recommendations for other governments and regional actors include: ending any support or assistance that maintains the “system of apartheid;” suspending direct and indirect supply, sale or transfer of all weapons, munitions and other military security equipment to Israel; banning the sale and trade of settlement products; exercising universal jurisdiction in investigating any person suspected of committing crimes against humanity; ensuring that legal and institutional frameworks enable the effective investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of crimes against humanity; using all political and diplomatic tools to “ensure Israeli authorities implement the report’s recommendations;” and publicly recognizing that international crimes, including the crime of apartheid, are being committed in Israel and the OPT.

*Comment:* This report draws similar headline conclusions to that of recent 2021 reports from B’Tselem and Human Rights Watch. It goes farther than that of HRW in treating the entirety of the territories under Israeli control, as well as Gaza, as elements of a single conceptual framework (downplaying the civil and political rights enjoyed by Palestinian citizens of Israel and certain civil rights enjoyed by Palestinians in East Jerusalem) and asserting that a regime of apartheid exists across both the occupied territories and within Israel itself. While the report seeks to ground its findings within a legal framework, it is written through a human rights advocacy lens and makes a number of political assertions based on selected case studies. Further, it uses highly emotive and generalized language throughout, and does not provide a balanced or objective analysis of the contextual factors driving current and past legislation, policies and practices.

The report will not alter Canada’s engagement with Israel.

## Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA

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**From:** Sorenson, Michelle -ELA  
**Sent:** February 16, 2022 11:28 AM  
**To:** \*MINA-Dept Unit/Unité ministérielle; \*MINE-Dept Unit/Unité ministérielle; \*MINT-Dept Unit/Unité ministérielle  
**Cc:** \*DMT-Policy/Politiques; \*DME Advisors; \*USS-DMA Advisors/Conseillers; McCardell, Sandra -EGM; Anderson, Ian -EGM; Meddahi, Manel -ESD; \*ELD; \*ELA-FPDS; Godin, Catherine -IOD; Marder, Jeffrey -IOR; Hough, Susan -IOR; Bishop, Gabrielle -IOR  
**Subject:** For Information: Summary of Amnesty International Report on Israel

Dear colleagues,

Please find below, for information and as requested by PST Virani, a brief summary and analysis of Amnesty International's recent report on Israel. We are sharing this with all three MINOs in case there is interest in the department's initial analysis of the report.

Approved: ELD/Flanagan Whalen

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,  
 Michelle

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**Report Summary:** On February 1, 2022, Amnesty International (AI) published a 278-page report entitled Israel's Apartheid Against Palestinians: Cruel System of Domination and Crime Against Humanity. According to Amnesty, the report seeks to document and analyze "Israel's institutionalized and systematic discrimination against Palestinians within the framework of the definition of apartheid and international law," and determines that "discriminatory and exclusionary Israeli laws, policies and practices against Palestinians amount to apartheid as a violation of public international law, a serious human rights violation and a crime against humanity."

2. The report asserts that Israel has intentionally oppressed and dominated Palestinians "for the benefit of its Jewish population" by pursuing explicit policies that establish and maintain Jewish demographic hegemony and control, at the expense of Palestinians who have been "expelled, fragmented, segregated, controlled, dispossessed of land and property and deprived of their economic and social rights." AI argues that policies of separate and unequal citizenship structures, denial of Palestinian rights to family reunification, discriminatory land, planning and housing policies, and denial of agricultural and industrial development for the benefit of Palestinians, serve to intentionally "dominate and control the Palestinian population in the OPT." Further, the report cites "targets for demographic ratios of Jews to Palestinians in Jerusalem," as evidence that "the denial of economic and social rights of Palestinians in East Jerusalem is an intentional policy to coerce them into leaving the city."

3. Over more than 160 pages, AI provides a partial review of select Israeli legislation, government and military policies and practices, and quotes, statements and directives from Israeli officials, which together, in their view, constitute tools for "establishing and maintaining a system of domination and oppression over Palestinians." The report portrays a legal framework of segregation and control, dispossession of land and property, and deprivation of economic and social rights of Palestinians. The report also draws on selected case studies of events from 1948 to the present day, arguing that these cases constitute serious violations of international law.

4. AI concludes that Israel intentionally imposes "a system of oppression and domination over Palestinians wherever it exercises control over the enjoyment of their rights," and that the systematic and institutionalized manner of oppression and denial of equal rights is cemented in Israeli law and in the policies and practices of civilian and military

## s.15(1) - International

authorities and governmental agencies who enforce the law – thus “amounting to the crime against humanity of apartheid” as defined under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

5. The report contains 73 recommendations addressed variously at Israeli authorities, Palestinian authorities, the United Nations, Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC, other government and regional actors, businesses, and humanitarian and development organizations. It calls on the international community to recognize and hold Israel accountable for crimes that Israel commits against the Palestinian people.

6. The recommendations for other governments and regional actors include: ending any support or assistance that maintains the “system of apartheid;” suspending direct and indirect supply, sale or transfer of all weapons, munitions and other military security equipment to Israel; banning the sale and trade of settlement products; exercising universal jurisdiction in investigating any person under your jurisdiction who may reasonably be suspected of committing crimes against humanity or other crimes under international law; ensuring that legal and institutional frameworks enable the effective investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of the crime against humanity of apartheid; using all political and diplomatic tools to “ensure Israeli authorities implement the recommendations outlined in the report and ensure that human rights are central to all bilateral and multilateral agreements with the Israeli authorities”; using all political and diplomatic tools to “ensure Israeli authorities implement the report’s recommendations;” and publicly recognizing that international crimes, including the crime of apartheid, are being committed in Israel and the OPT.

7. **Comment:** This report draws similar headline conclusions to that of recent 2021 reports from B’Tselem and Human Rights Watch. It goes farther than that of HRW in treating the entirety of the territories under Israeli control, as well as Gaza, as elements of a single conceptual framework (downplaying the civil and political rights afforded to Palestinian citizens of Israel and certain civil rights afforded to Palestinians in East Jerusalem) and asserting that a regime of apartheid exists across both the occupied territories and within Israel itself. While the report seeks to ground its findings within a legal framework, it is written through a human rights advocacy lens and makes a number of political assertions based on selected case studies. Further, it uses highly emotive and generalized language throughout, and does not provide a balanced or objective analysis of the contextual factors driving current and past legislation, policies and practices.

8. [REDACTED]

**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 8:08 AM  
**To:** van der Leest, Kristin -ELA  
**Cc:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He,Him | Il]; Murphy Haglund, David -ELA  
**Subject:** For Ops - Amnesty report

Hi Kristin,

I'd suggest adding a note in Ops for the below item. HOM and I just met with Amnesty officials and I'll be sending up a report of that meeting within the next hour or so.

Thanks,  
Patrick

**Amnesty International describes Israel as an apartheid state in new report:**

Amnesty International, a widely respected human rights group, plans to release a report on Tuesday accusing Israel of committing apartheid and describing its existence as a Jewish state as a deprivation of Palestinians' basic rights. Israeli officials on Sunday denounced the report as "antisemitism." In a 211-page report set for publication on Tuesday and obtained by the *Forward*, Amnesty alleges that Israel is involved in a "widespread attack directed" against Palestinians that amounts to "the crime against humanity of apartheid." Amnesty, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977, has previously condemned Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and accused it of committing war crimes during the 2014 conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. But this report is the first time the group is officially using the term "apartheid" to describe it. The Amnesty report follows a similar report from Human Rights Watch last April; that report came after two leading Israeli human-rights groups began using the term apartheid. Human Rights Watch, which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997, issued its own lengthy report detailing its rationale for using the term "apartheid" to describe Israel's treatment of the Palestinians in a report about Israel. The Israeli group Yesh Din had begun using the term in 2020 and B'Tselem, another Israeli group, had adopted it in January 2021. But while the HRW report accused Israel of discriminating against Palestinians in all areas under its control but of practicing apartheid only in the areas beyond its original 1948 borders, the Amnesty report applies the term "apartheid" to the state's internal operations as well. "Since its establishment in 1948, Israel has pursued an explicit policy of establishing and maintaining a Jewish demographic hegemony," the report states, "and maximizing its control over land to benefit Jewish Israelis while minimizing the number of Palestinians and restricting their rights and obstructing their ability to challenge this dispossession." It also argues that "almost all of Israel's civilian administration and military authorities" are involved "in the enforcement of the system of apartheid against Palestinians across Israel" and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as "against Palestinian refugees and their descendants outside the territory." A spokesperson for Israel's foreign ministry called the report "pure antisemitism" that "legitimizes attacks against Jews" and accused Amnesty International of a double



standard. "The purpose of this report is to eliminate the State of Israel as a nation-state of the Jewish people and the solution they give is for Israel to cease to exist," said the spokesperson, Lior Haiat. Haiat said the current makeup of the Israeli coalition government, which for the first time includes an Arab Islamist party, reflects the diversity of Israeli society and its respect for Israel's citizens no matter their religion or cultural background. The report comes at a time of rising antisemitism globally, and ahead of a report expected in June from a United Nations Human Rights Council Commission of Inquiry into Israel's treatment of Palestinians. (Forward, [The Telegraph](#)).

**Patrick O'Neill**

First Secretary | Premier secrétaire

Embassy of Canada to Israel | Ambassade du Canada en Israël

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Government  
of CanadaGouvernement  
du Canada

**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He,Him | Il]  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 9:15 AM  
**To:** Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM [She/Her | Elle]  
**Subject:** FW: Israel's hysterical response to Amnesty's 'apartheid' report

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**From:** Stern, Ada -TAVIV -PA <Ada.Stern@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 11:32 AM  
**To:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR <Christopher.Hull@international.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR <Patrick.ONeill@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Israel's hysterical response to Amnesty's 'apartheid' report

**Israel's hysterical response to Amnesty's 'apartheid' report**

*This is the third such report in a year to label Israel an apartheid state, but Jerusalem has only succeeded in generating greater interest in Amnesty's accusations*

Anshel Pfeffer | Feb. 1, 2022 | 10:57 AM | 84

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium.HIGHLIGHT-hysterical-response-to-amnesty-s-apartheid-report-is-a-typical-hasbara-fail-1.10581770>

We may have to wait decades for the archives to open until we learn by what cunning stratagem Israel's intelligence services obtained an early copy of Amnesty International's new report that calls Israel an apartheid state. But needless to say, they obtained the crucial document.

Forewarned of the existential threat, an armada of government press officers and spokespeople of American Jewish organizations was marshaled to fight the "battle of the narrative" and launch a preemptive strike, accusing the veteran human rights organization of antisemitism.

The campaign was authorized by Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and spearheaded by Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, both of whom should have known better.

Thirty-six hours before the report – detailing, over 200-plus pages, how Israel is and always was an apartheid state – was to be released at a press conference on Tuesday morning, Israel got "ahead of the story." By doing so, it ensured that the report got a lot more exposure than it would otherwise receive.

This wasn't supposed to be the modus operandi of the new government, which entered office seven and a half months ago promising to "shrink the conflict" rather than big it up. It even made the wise move of closing down the superfluous Strategic Affairs Ministry, with its ridiculous campaigns against the phantom threats of the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement and "delegitimization."

But old habits are hard to kick and just a few months into its term, the Bennett-Lapid government is falling back on the old tropes of hasbara (propaganda) instead of learning from experience.

Is Israel an apartheid state? Are the staffers and executives of Amnesty International UK Jew haters? Who cares? Either way, these accusations have long lost any potency they might have once had to shock. These reports get a few headlines and then gather dust, and Israel's foreign trade and diplomatic relations continue to

flourish.

The previous reports by human rights organizations classifying Israel as an apartheid state, published last year by B'Tselem and Human Rights Watch, were met with a much lower-profile response from Israel. After a few days of media attention, interest in them disappeared. While this could have been the official Israeli response again this time around, it was decided to act differently – partly due to the much higher international profile of Amnesty than B'Tselem or HRW.

But if that is the case, why assume that a campaign trying to brand the report as “antisemitic” would work against an organization with Amnesty’s long decades of credibility?

Whatever the legitimate claims Israel has against the report, this all-out attack on Amnesty, rather than arguing about the report on its merits, is basically a declaration of war on the entire human rights community. It will convince no one but the already convinced. And as usual in such cases, it is more about pandering to domestic political constituencies.

It also shows a total lack of proportion. The Amnesty report is unlikely to have much of an impact after the apartheid reports that appeared last year. It was published by Amnesty’s U.K. office with the express aim of trying to get the British government to reassess its close ties with Israel. But that’s not about to happen. Boris Johnson’s Conservative government is the most right-wing and pro-Israel one that Britain has ever had, and is extremely unlikely to pay any attention. Neither is Labour, the main opposition party, likely to want to play the report up as it is still trying to overcome the taint of antisemitism – a legacy of its previous leader, Jeremy Corbyn.

On every level, it would have made much more sense for the Israeli government to let this report wither on the vine, as it almost certainly ultimately will do.

Not everyone in the government backs the approach being taken. At least one official with extensive experience of working on these matters with international media and Jewish organizations said this week that “taking Amnesty on in such a way only makes a bigger deal out of the report than it would otherwise be. Especially given the timing of this with much bigger international matters happening right now, like a possible war between Russia and Ukraine. This is a transitory nuisance that would disappear within a couple of days if everyone just ignored it.”

## Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA

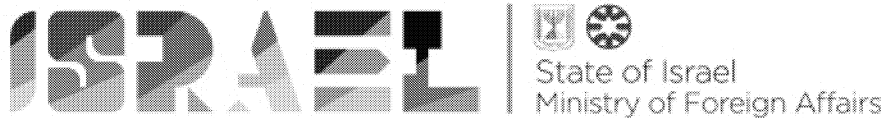
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**From:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He,Him | Il]  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 9:35 AM  
**To:** \*ELA-FPDS  
**Cc:** Pennell, Jamie -RMLAH -GR; Niklaus, Andrea -RMLAH -GR; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR; Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM [She/Her | Elle]; Wettlaufer, Robin -RMLAH - HOM/CDM  
**Subject:** FW: MFA Press release: Amnesty UK expected to publish a false, biased, and antisemitic report tomorrow

Initial MFA response to Amnesty's forthcoming report.

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**From:** skira@mfa.gov.il <skira@mfa.gov.il>  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 3:47 PM  
**To:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR <Christopher.Hull@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** MFA Press release: Amnesty UK expected to publish a false, biased, and antisemitic report tomorrow

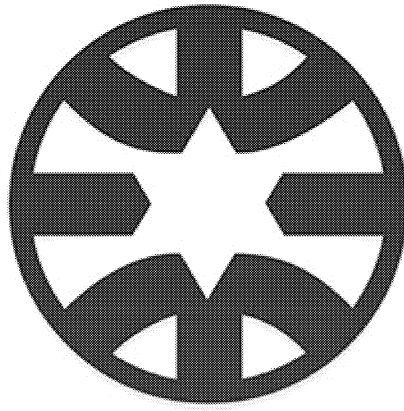


### MFA NEWSLETTER

31 JANUARY 2022

## MFA Press release: Amnesty UK expected to publish a false, biased, and antisemitic report tomorrow

**FM Lapid:** Amnesty is not a human rights organization, but just another radical organization that echoes propaganda with no serious examination. Instead of seeking facts, Amnesty quotes lies spread by terrorist organizations.



**Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Spokesperson announcement**

(Communicated by the MFA Spokesperson)

The State of Israel absolutely rejects all the false allegations that appear in the report that Amnesty is expected to publish tomorrow.

The report consolidates and recycles lies, inconsistencies, and unfounded assertions that originate from well-known anti-Israeli hate organizations, all with the aim of reselling damaged goods in new packaging. Repeating the same lies of hate organizations over and over does not make the lies reality, but rather makes Amnesty illegitimate.

In publishing this false report, Amnesty UK uses double standards and demonization in order to delegitimize Israel. These are the exact components from which modern antisemitism is made.

The report denies the State of Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people. Its extremist language and distortion of historical context were designed to demonize Israel and pour fuel onto the fire of antisemitism. A few days after International Holocaust Remembrance Day, we once again learn that antisemitism is not just a part of history, but unfortunately, is also part of today's reality. Just last weekend, Jews were attacked in London simply because they were Jewish. Amnesty's report effectively serves as a green light for the perpetrators and others to harm not only Israel, but Jews around the world.

The State of Israel is a strong and vibrant democracy that grants all its citizens equal rights, regardless of religious or race. The State of Israel was established as the national home of the Jewish people with broad international support, in light of the lessons of the Holocaust. Amnesty criticizes the very existence of the State of Israel as the nation state of the Jewish people, and effectively denies its right to exist at all.

It is not surprising that this report is being published by the British branch of Amnesty International, and under the auspices of the organization's Secretary General. This branch is notorious for being corrupted by racism and xenophobia, and the organization's Secretary General has previously accused Israel – with no basis or evidence – of murdering Arafat. It is not surprising that it took Amnesty eight years to back down from this serious and baseless accusation.

We call on Amnesty to withdraw from the report which is set to be published. This is a report which would be preferable not to publish at all, given that it does not respect those who truly value and are trying to project human rights.

The State of Israel will continue to promote the values of democracy and inclusiveness, in whose light it was established and continues to exist.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Yair Lapid: "Amnesty was once an esteemed organization that we all respected. Today, it is the exact opposite. It is not a human rights organization, but just another radical organization that echoes propaganda with no serious examination. Instead of seeking facts, Amnesty quotes lies spread by terrorist organizations. Five minutes of serious factchecking were enough to know that the facts that appeared in the report published this week were a delusion divorced from reality. Israel is not perfect, but it is a democracy committed to international law and open to scrutiny, with a free press and strong Supreme Court.

"Amnesty does not call Syria an 'apartheid state' – a country whose government murdered half a million of its own citizens – nor Iran or any other corrupt and murderous regime in Africa or Latin America. I hate to use the argument that if Israel were not a Jewish state, nobody in Amnesty would dare argue against it, but in this case, there is no other possibility."

\*\*\*\*\*

**Share the MFA newsletter:**



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**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 5:37 AM  
**To:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He,Him | II]  
**Cc:** ~S-202205-Stern, Ada -TAVIV -PA  
**Subject:** RE: Reactions to Amnesty report

<https://twitter.com/IsraelMFA/status/1488433055257800708>

A colleague told me that the [REDACTED]

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**From:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR <Christopher.Hull@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 12:19 PM  
**To:** Stern, Ada -TAVIV -PA <Ada.Stern@international.gc.ca>; \*TAVIV-FPDS <D-TAVIV-FPDS@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Reactions to Amnesty report

Thank you Ada.

Chris

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**From:** Stern, Ada -TAVIV -PA <Ada.Stern@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 11:54 AM  
**To:** \*TAVIV-FPDS <D-TAVIV-FPDS@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Reactions to Amnesty report

**General trend:** While Israel dismissed previous reports as biased, it has adopted a far more adversarial stance toward Amnesty, accusing it of antisemitism and of delegitimization of Israel's very existence even before the report was published.

I could not find comments made by prominent ministers except by FM Lapid and Justice Minister Sa'ar.

**President Isaac Herzog** issued a statement on Tuesday saying that the report amounts to "ideological de-legitimization of the very right of Israel to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people."

**The Israel Foreign Ministry issued the following statement:** "Amnesty quotes lies spread by terrorist organizations. The State of Israel absolutely rejects all the false allegations that appear in the report. The report consolidates and recycles lies, inconsistencies, and unfounded assertions that originate from well-known anti-Israeli hate organizations, all with the aim of reselling damaged goods in new packaging. Repeating the same lies of hate organizations over and over does not make the lies reality, but rather makes Amnesty illegitimate. In publishing this false report, Amnesty uses double standards and demonization in order to delegitimize Israel. These are the exact components from which modern antisemitism is made."

**Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lior Haiat** - The report is a part of "an orchestrated effort by anti-Israel organizations to defame and delegitimize Israel," Haiat said. The report doesn't "criticize the occupation, but contests the existence of the State of Israel as a Jewish state," he added.

**Foreign Minister Yair Lapid** said [in a video statement in English]: “In the past, Amnesty was a respected organization. Not anymore. Today it is precisely the opposite. It isn’t a human rights organization, but just another radical organization which echoes propaganda, without serious checking the facts. Instead of seeking the truth, Amnesty echoes the same lies shared by terrorist organizations. Five minutes of serious examination would be enough to know that the so-called facts in the report published by Amnesty this week are delusional and disconnected from reality. Israel isn’t perfect, but we are a democracy committed to international law, open to criticism, with a free press and a strong and independent judicial system. Amnesty doesn’t call Syria, where the regime has murdered half a million of its own citizens, an apartheid state. Nor Iran, or other murderous regimes around the world. Only Israel. I hate to use the argument that if Israel wasn’t a Jewish state no one at Amnesty would dare make such a claim against it. But in this case, there is simply no other explanation.”

**Deputy Foreign Minister Idan Roll:** “Instead of focusing on human rights, the Amnesty report focuses on rejecting the State of Israel’s right to exist. This is a mendacious report that pours fuel on the bonfire of anti-Semitism. Israel isn’t an apartheid state, but a thriving democracy, and the composition of our government reflects that well.”

**Justice Minister Gideon Sa'ar** (New Hope) on twitter: Whitewashing terror & blaming the Jewish state. Is that not antisemitism? @amnesty has again chosen dirty politics & falsehoods over human rights. An organization founded to give a voice to people held captive fail to even mention Israelis held by Hamas. Amnesty has lost its way.

**Diaspora Affairs Minister Nachman Shai** (Labor): The report was “a clear expression of the new antisemitism under the guise of ‘humanitarianism.’” “It is false, one-sided, completely detached from the daily reality in Israel, and it denies the right to exist of the nation-state of the Jewish people,” he said. “This report is antisemitic propaganda, without a shadow of a doubt.”

**Minister Esawi Frej** (Meretz Arab MK) wrote on Twitter: “Israel has many problems that it must solve within the Green Line, as well as in the occupied territories, but Israel is not an apartheid state.”

**MK Aida Touma-Sliman** (Joint List): “The report currently being launched a press conference in East Jerusalem is a severe indictment against the State of Israel—and against the project of occupation, dispossession and discrimination that it enacts against the Palestinian people.

The report reflects the crystallization of a consensus among the leading human rights organizations in the world that Israel is guilty of the crime of apartheid—an institutionalized regime of control and oppression that is used by one ethnic group against another ethnic group.

The report thoroughly itemizes a range of human rights violations that Israel commits in the occupied Palestinian territories, in Gaza and East Jerusalem—but also within Israel’s borders. There is a complex and multifaceted mechanism that privileges the Jewish people over the Palestinians in the entire territory between the sea and the Jordan River.

Responsibility for the acts of oppression and dispossession in Israel and in the Palestinian territories resides with the Israeli government. Contrary to the description by Israeli ‘hasbara,’ which has tried to undermine Amnesty International’s position as biased and even worse, it is evident to anyone who reads the report that its purpose is to call on the State of Israel to change course urgently, in belief that the injustices can be corrected.

In order to achieve that change, it is incumbent upon the international forces to enlist in the service of justice and to stop granting Israel’s crimes immunity. But, at the end of the day, the international community’s role is partial, and the people who can bring about an end to the occupation, the exploitation, the oppression and discrimination are the two peoples that live here.



The forces of peace in Israel and Palestine, along with partners in the international community, can still bring about a more just future.”

**Media:** most of the articles are just repeating the points from the report.

**Israel Hayom** (Right-wing outlet) calls the report “Anti-Semitic and Misleading”

**Ha'aretz** (Left-wing outlet): This is the third such report in a year to label Israel an apartheid state, but Jerusalem has only succeeded in generating greater interest in Amnesty’s accusations. Is Israel an apartheid state? Are the staffers and executives of Amnesty International UK Jew haters? Who cares? Either way, these accusations have long lost any potency they might have once had to shock. These reports get a few headlines and then gather dust, and Israel’s foreign trade and diplomatic relations continue to flourish. But if that is the case, why assume that a campaign trying to brand the report as “antisemitic” would work against an organization with Amnesty’s long decades of credibility?

Whatever the legitimate claims Israel has against the report, this all-out attack on Amnesty, rather than arguing about the report on its merits, is basically a declaration of war on the entire human rights community. It will convince no one but the already convinced. And as usual in such cases, it is more about pandering to domestic political constituencies.

**Jpost:** Amnesty International is the fourth left-wing NGO to accuse Israel of the crime of apartheid in the last two years. It follows similar accusations by Human Rights Watch and B’Tselem. Yesh Din makes a similar accusation, but limits its charges to the West Bank. The other reports spoke of Israeli actions of apartheid within Israeli sovereignty and areas of military rule.

But Amnesty is the first to so forcibly place the report at the center of an international public campaign that would target the International Criminal Court (ICC), the United Nations and Israel’s diplomatic relations, including its strongest allies.

#### **R-wing organizations:**

The legal adviser to the **Btsalmo organization**, Michael Litwak, sent a letter to the Finance Minister demanding that he immediately revoke the tax benefit (section 46 of the tax law) given to the Israeli branch of Amnesty. In his letter he noted that the aim of the tax benefit is to give Israeli citizens the opportunity to donate money to an organization that works to promote important public goals. “Does the Finance Minister think that slurs and a boycott of Israel is an important public goal that Israeli citizens should be financing?”

Litwak added that in the past the organization has called for a boycott of Israel several times, and has even called for an arms embargo on the state. In addition, Amnesty has aided the United Nations in drawing up a blacklist of companies that it called on the UN to boycott. “The boycott law gives the Finance Minister the authority to revoke the tax benefit from an organization, just like his predecessor, Moshe Kahlon, did,” he wrote.

**The Ad Kan organization** issued the following statement: “This is another distorted, anti-Semitic and false report that aims to show that the State of Israel is, as it were, an apartheid state. The time has come for the Foreign Ministry to act firmly against them and prevent the continuation of their activities in Israel.”

#### **Left-wing organizations**

Executive Director **of Combatants for Peace**, Yonatan Gher, said that “Apartheid means that there are separate, discriminating sets of laws for different ethnic groups, as is taking place within Israel towards its Palestinian citizens, and certainly in the occupied territories against the Palestinian population there.”

**B'Tselem on twitter:** B'Tselem welcomes Amnesty International's new report, calling the Israeli regime what it is: apartheid.

The AI report is a major addition to previous reports on the subject and marks a new consensus recognizing the fact that Israel employs

**Peace Now:** “The Amnesty report that was issued today and which defines the State of Israel as apartheid is another step towards the dangerous blurring between the territory of the State of Israel and the territory of the West Bank. A leadership that screeches ‘anti-Semitism’ every time there is criticism of Israel’s conduct in the West Bank bears responsibility for that blurring—which serves the settlements and is damaging to the citizens of Israel.

What Israel has been doing in the West Bank for the past 50 years can be called many names—not a single one of which is going to be gracious with the military occupation of millions of human beings. As long as Israel continues to hold the occupied territories—its conduct there will radiate, spill over and impact the reality within the Green Line as well.

One thing is clear—the ongoing military occupation and settlement in the territory of the West Bank will ultimately lead to an apartheid bi-national state. The two-state solution, with all of its challenges, is the only way for Israel to be Jewish and democratic.”

**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR  
**Sent:** February 2, 2022 9:12 AM  
**To:** Flanagan Whalen, Ann -ELD; Garner, Karen -ELA; McCardell, Sandra -EGM  
**Cc:** \*TAVIV-FPDS; \*TAVIV-CBS; \*EGM; \*ELA; \*ELD; \*ELD FPDS; \*ELD HOM-CDM; \*ESB Gulf/Golfe; \*ESD FPDS Middle East and Maghreb/Moyen-Orient et Maghreb; \*ESD HOM-CDM; \*EUD HOM-CDM; \*IFM; \*IGD; \*IRD; \*RMLAH-CBS; \*ELB; Ana.Djordjevic@canada.ca; Angell, David -BNATO -HOM/CDM; Anya, Victry -ESA; Arbeiter, Richard -PRMNY -DHOM/CDMA; Atallah, Michael -PCO/BCP; Aulthouse, Andrew -ESA; B. Roberge, Lysanne -ELB; Baradei, Yasmine -LCF; Bejzyk, Melanie -JLO; BELINDA.KATO@forces.gc.ca; Bertram, Eric -IOP; Bhusari, Maya -CAIRO -GR; Bibeau, Claude -BII; Bilodeau, Alexandre -VPERM -GR; Blitt, Jessica -MINA; Boisclair, Manon -AMMAN -GR; Bonser, Michael -POG; Boudreau, Genevieve -ESA; Brian.Darling@pco-bcp.gc.ca; Brousseau, Nicholas -BREU -DHOM/CDMA; Brown, Catherine -MIO; Burton, Christopher -ROME -GR; CAITLIN.MOUNCE@forces.gc.ca; Campbell, Ailish -BREU -HOM/CDM; Castillo, Juan Camilo -IRZ; Caty, Jean-Francois -BII; Chastenay, Chantal -BERUT -HOM/CDM; Chris.Levan@forces.gc.ca; Clifford, Laurie -MGS; Crockett, Teresa -JLH; Desjeunes, Emmanuel -BII; Desmeules, Hubert -TPZ; Duggan, Christopher; Dumas, Louis -CAIRO -HOM/CDM; Duval, Yves -ERBIL -GR; Fetz, Thomas -GENEV -GR; Fraser, Jessica -IFM; Fraser, Sean -IRZ; Friesen, Matt -CAIRO -GR; Galligan, Gregory -BGHDD -HOM/CDM; Gareau, Paul -HFP; Gartshore, Geoff -CFXL; Gilbert, Alexandra -IRZ; Gompf, Janet -POG; Grant, Alison -IGR; Graveline, Maegan -TCT; Grewal, Ramneek -IOR; Harrison, Nicole -ESA; Helal, Marie-Thérèse -ANKRA -GR; Hinton, Anthony -PRMNY -GR; Hirji, Hussein -PRMNY -GR; Holland, Ursula -BRLIN -GR; Hopkins, Jennifer -TCT; Hulan, Heidi -PFM; Hunter, Sarah -PRMNY -GR; Hussain, Lamya -OAA; Hussain, Naveeda -ESA; Janson, Kristin -IRG; Kevin.Wong@forces.gc.ca; Lake, Colin -BGHDD -GR; Leblanc, Joffre -IGR; Wallbaum, Alistair -ELB-TRPLI; Kamarianakis, Emmanuel -BID; Kessel, Alan -JFM; Khokhar, Jamal -ANKRA -HOM/CDM; Komorski, Christina -MIO; Kumar, Apeksha -ESA; Lacasse, Jean-François -IOD; Lamoureux, Monique -IOP; Larose, Martin -ESA; Lessard, Stéphane -BII; Loken, Martin -WSHDC -GR; Magee, Sara -ESA; Marder, Jeffrey -IOR; Marleau, Amy -LCBR; Mawhinney, Tamara -GENEV -GR; McIntyre, Graeme -WSHDC -GR; McPhail, Bernard -OPB; Michael.Purcell@forces.gc.ca; Milligan, Ashlyn -IGN; Morris, Caitlin -IGR; Musani, Farrah -BRLIN -GR; Nancy.Faraday-Smith@ps-sp.gc.ca; Napier, Vienna -WFO; Netley, Rebecca -JLH; Norton, Leslie -GENEV -UNCD; Palmer, Jane -ESC; Panitcherska, Eugenie -WSHDC -GR; Parsons, James -IRG; Pickering, Patrick -IOP; Pottie, Donica -AMMAN -HOM/CDM; Poupart, Isabelle -BRLIN -DHOM/CDMA; Powers, Kate -BREU -GR; Rae, Bob -PRMNY -HOM/CDM; Raudsepp-Hearne, Rory -GENEV -GR; Richardson, Mark -BNATO -GR; Robert.Tesselaar@pco-bcp.gc.ca; Rowsell, Mathieu -IOP; Roy, Mathieu -IRG; Ruest, Camille -LDN -GR; SARAH.PEDNEAULT@forces.gc.ca; Schoenauer, Andrea -CFXL; Sekhi, Menad -IRG; Senay, Claudie -ELB; Shanti, Mohammed -CAIRO -GR; Shkolnik, Michael -INA; Shrimpton, Brianna -ESA; Simon.Beauregard@forces.gc.ca; Speirs, Mary-Catherine -TCA; Steven.Graham4@forces.gc.ca; St-Michael, Stephen -ESC; St-Pierre, Nicolas -JFM; Tam, Sing-En -SPORE -GR; Tardif, Jean-Francois -ESC; Thissen, Sonya -NMD; Wilshaw, Sara -BFM; Young, Kathleen -WSHDC -GR; Zarghami, Saba -ROME -GR; Zhou, Aaryn Yunwei -IOR

**Subject:** TAVIV 1952/2021: Israeli response to Amnesty International report declaring its an apartheid country

**Attachments:** MFA Press release: Amnesty UK expected to publish a false, biased, and antisemitic report tomorrow

The Israeli MFA pre-emptively responded to the release of Amnesty International report labelling Israel an apartheid state. The MFA statement, reinforced by a tweeted video by FM Lapid, is a very strong and adversarial one critical of Amnesty and its report, arguing that the report is not only anti-Semitic, but aims to delegitimize the very existence of the state of Israel. Subsequently, President Herzog, Minister Sa'ar and various Israeli Embassies, as well as Jewish organisations around the world, have reiterated this argument. Positive messaging from the MFA and others asserted Israel's diversity and inclusiveness to demonstrate that it is not an apartheid state. Reactions online, at least to the initial MFA post and Minister Sa'ar's tweet, have been overwhelmingly critical. To date, the US State Department, the US Ambassador, and the Australian PM have publicly supported Israel, to TAVIV's awareness.

**REPORT:** While Israel dismissed previous reports from HRW and domestic human rights organisations as biased, it has adopted a far more adversarial stance toward Amnesty, accusing it of antisemitism and of delegitimizing Israel's very existence before the report was published. The MFA issued the attached statement, attacking Amnesty's credibility. It stated that the allegations were "false", and that the report "consolidat[ed] and recycl[ed] lies, inconsistencies, and unfounded assertions that originate from well-known anti-Israeli hate organizations. It further stated: "Repeating the same lies of hate organizations . . . does not make the lies reality, but rather makes Amnesty illegitimate. . . . These are the exact components from which modern antisemitism is made. The report denies the State of Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people." The MFA statement defended Israel as "a strong and vibrant democracy that grants all its citizens equal rights, regardless of religious or race." The statement attacks Amnesty's Secretary General personally, accusing her of taking eight years to back down from false accusations that Israel murdered Arafat.

3. In tweeted video, FM Lapid said "Amnesty was once an esteemed organization that we all respected. Today, it is the exact opposite. . . . Amnesty quotes lies spread by terrorist organizations. . . . Israel is not perfect, but it is a democracy committed to international law and open to scrutiny, with a free press and strong Supreme Court." The Deputy Foreign Minister Idan Roll followed up saying, "This is a mendacious report that pours fuel on the bonfire of anti-Semitism. Israel isn't an apartheid state, but a thriving democracy, and the composition of our government reflects that well." From the left, Labour Diaspora Affairs Minister Nachman Shai said the report was "antisemitic propaganda, without a shadow of a doubt." The Arab-Israeli Minister of Regional Cooperation, Esawi Frej, from the left-wing Meretz, wrote on Twitter: "Israel has many problems that it must solve within the Green Line, as well as in the occupied territories, but Israel is not an apartheid state." Opposition MKs from the Arab Joint List called the report a "severe indictment against the State of Israel."

4. **Media response:** Reactions from the media have generally been critical of the report. The right-wing, *Israel Hayom* calls the report "Anti-Semitic and Misleading". The left-wing *Ha'aretz* takes a more critical approach to the government response, arguing that "if downplayed, the report would have withered. . . . However, Israel's reaction has only generated greater interest in Amnesty's report. . . . The campaign will convince no one but the already convinced." In contrast, the right-leaning *Jerusalem Post* argues that the Amnesty report is different from its three predecessors, which tended to limit themselves to the occupied territories. Amnesty, it argues, is the first to forcibly place their accusations at the center of an international public campaign that would target the International Criminal Court (ICC), the United Nations and Israel's diplomatic relations, including with its strongest allies.

5. **Domestic response:** Right-wing organizations like *Btsalmo* have responded by demanding the government remove the charitable status of Amnesty's Israeli branch, using the anti-BDS law. Others have called for the organisation to be banned from Israel. On the left, Amnesty has received support from *B'Tselem* (which applied the term apartheid to the situation in Israel in 2021) and *Combatants for Peace*. However, *Peace Now* was more measured, saying: "The Amnesty report . . . is another step towards the dangerous blurring between the territory of the State of Israel and the territory of the West Bank." *Peace Now* went on to say that the occupation "will ultimately lead to an apartheid bi-national state. The two-state solution, with all of its challenges, is the only way for Israel to be Jewish and democratic."

6. **Amnesty Press Conference and Response to Criticism:** Amnesty launched the report with a press conference in Jerusalem on the afternoon of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Amnesty was harsh in its criticism of systematic efforts by Israel to maintain its "apartheid system", stressing the depth of its research and legal analysis over four years to reach its conclusions. Likely

responding to the Israeli statement, the Secretary General vigorously defended Amnesty, saying it recognizes the right of the Jewish people to self-determination and the State of Israel, but defends its own right to criticise Israel on the basis of international law for its treatment of the Palestinians. Recalling that it calling the situation in Myanmar apartheid, Amnesty said it was not singling out Israel. The Secretary General was clear that the report would be followed by an active advocacy campaign globally to hold Israel accountable through the ICC and through universal jurisdiction cases in domestic courts.

**7. International reaction:** To date, TAVIV has only seen reactions from the American state department and US Ambassador Nides, both of which objected to the use of the term apartheid. The Australian PM, retweeted by the Australian HOM in Tel Aviv, argued that no country is perfect and defended Israel.

Consulted: TAVIV/Stein/O'Neill

Drafted/released: TAVIV/Hull

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Facebook: [@CanadainIsrael](https://www.facebook.com/CanadainIsrael) | [@CanadaenIsrael](https://www.facebook.com/CanadaenIsrael)



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**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR  
**Sent:** January 31, 2022 9:06 AM  
**To:** \*ELA-FPDS  
**Cc:** Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM [She/Her | Elle]; Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He/Him | Il]; Netley, Rebecca -JLH; Crockett, Teresa -JLH; Marder, Jeffrey -IOR [He/Him | Il]; Zhou, Aaryn Yunwei -IOR; Hough, Susan -IOR  
**Subject:** TAVIV HOM meets with Amnesty SG to discuss upcoming report on apartheid in Israel

Colleagues,

Today, Monday January 31, TAVIV HOM and TAVIV/O'Neill met with Agnes Callamard, Secretary General of Amnesty International, to discuss the upcoming release of the organization's 211-page report on apartheid in Israel. The report will be released **tomorrow, February 1**. A culmination of 4 years of work, Amnesty's key finding will be that a **system of oppression and domination intended to ensure demographic control exists within all territories controlled by Israel, and that this amounts to apartheid under international law**. The report will contain a number of recommendations to both the Government of Israel as well as the international community to recognize this system and take steps towards dismantling it.

[REDACTED] Amnesty most recently issued a report in 2019 where it labelled the Myanmar Government's treatment of the Rohingya as apartheid. Amnesty has reached out to Government of Israel officials, including the Office of the Foreign Minister in October, to engage on their findings [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The Government of Israel has already denounced the report as "antisemitism" that "legitimizes attacks against Jews." Amnesty have also engaged with various Members of the Knesset to build partnerships to aid them in their advocacy campaign [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

COMMENT: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**PLEASE PROVIDE TAVIV WITH RESPONSIVE LINES ONCE OTTAWA HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND ANALYZE AMNESTY'S FINDINGS/RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Patrick O'Neill

First Secretary | Premier secrétaire  
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s.13(1)(a)

s.15(1) - International

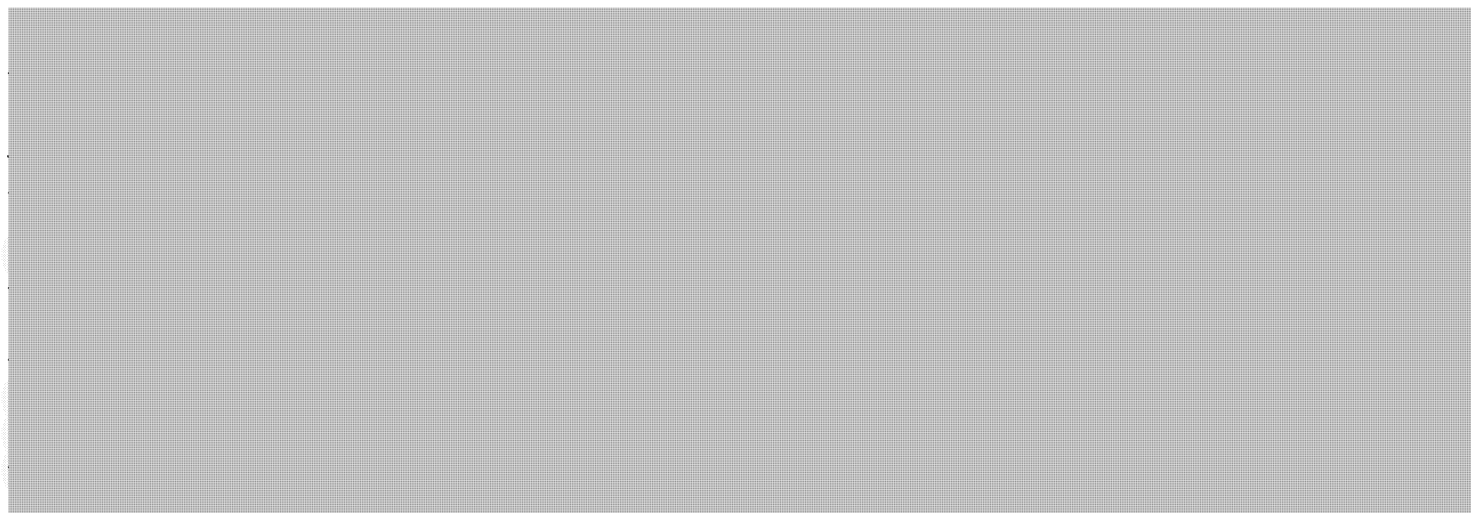
## Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA

**From:** Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR [He,Him | Il]  
**Sent:** February 9, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** Murphy Haglund, David -ELA; Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA  
**Cc:** Wettlaufer, Robin -RMLAH -HOM/CDM; Pennell, Jamie -RMLAH -GR; Niklaus, Andrea -RMLAH -GR; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR; Garner, Karen -ELA [She,Her | Elle]; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR; Flanagan Whalen, Ann -ELD [She,Her | Elle]; Martin, Elisha Jean -ELD [She/Her | Elle]  
**Subject:** TAVIV1961/2022: MFA briefing on its response to the Amnesty International report labelling Israel an apartheid state

Please forward as required

At TAVIV's request, HOM and FPDS/PM were briefed virtually by the Noam Katz, Deputy Director General for Public Diplomacy at the MFA on the Israeli response to the Amnesty International report labelling Israel an apartheid state.

HOM noted up front that this request was not based on instructions, and that Canada is still studying the report. She also highlighted that Canada is on the record as opposing the use of the term apartheid in the context of Israel.



Drafted: TAVIV/Hull

Approved: HOM

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**Punnoose, Jonathan -ELA**

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**From:** Murphy Haglund, David -ELA  
**Sent:** February 11, 2022 12:51 PM  
**To:** Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM; Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR; Wettlaufer, Robin -RMLAH -HOM/CDM; Pennell, Jamie -RMLAH -GR; Niklaus, Andrea -RMLAH -GR; Rivera, Waleska -GENEV -GR; Raudsepp-Hearne, Rory -GENEV -GR; Hinton, Anthony -PRMNY -GR; Hirji, Hussein -PRMNY -GR; McIntyre, Graeme -WSHDC -GR; Young, Kathleen -WSHDC -GR; Mishra, Rachna -BREU -GR; Powers, Kate -BREU -GR; Burgess, Katrina -LDN -GR; Ruest, Camille -LDN -GR  
**Cc:** Flanagan Whalen, Ann -ELD; \*ELA-FPDS; Marder, Jeffrey -IOR; Hough, Susan -IOR; Romanchik, Sulamita -IOR; Bishop, Gabrielle -IOR  
**Subject:** Updated // Responsive Lines - AI Report

Colleagues, the following lines have been decided upon by oMINA and released to a reporter from the CJN. We expect to see these lines in the public domain at some point in the near future.

- Canada is a steadfast ally of Israel and friend of the Palestinian people.
- We are aware of the recent Amnesty Report.
- Canada rejects the view that Israel's actions constitute apartheid.
- We are firmly committed to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- We continue to support the goal of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, including the creation of a Palestinian state living side by side in peace and security with Israel.

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**From:** Murphy Haglund, David -ELA <David.MurphyHaglund@international.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** February 9, 2022 8:03 PM  
**To:** Stadelbauer, Lisa -TAVIV -HOM/CDM <Lisa.Stadelbauer@international.gc.ca>; Hull, Christopher -TAVIV -GR <Christopher.Hull@international.gc.ca>; O'Neill, Patrick -TAVIV -GR <Patrick.ONeill@international.gc.ca>; Wettlaufer, Robin -RMLAH -HOM/CDM <Robin.Wettlaufer@international.gc.ca>; Pennell, Jamie -RMLAH -GR <Jamie.Pennell@international.gc.ca>; Niklaus, Andrea -RMLAH -GR <Andrea.Niklaus@international.gc.ca>; Rivera, Waleska -GENEV -GR <Waleska.Rivera@international.gc.ca>; Raudsepp-Hearne, Rory -GENEV -GR <Rory.Raudsepp-Hearne@international.gc.ca>; Hinton, Anthony -PRMNY -GR <Anthony.Hinton@international.gc.ca>; Hirji, Hussein -PRMNY -GR <Hussein.Hirji@international.gc.ca>; McIntyre, Graeme -WSHDC -GR <Graeme.McIntyre@international.gc.ca>; Young, Kathleen -WSHDC -GR <Kathleen.Young@international.gc.ca>; Mishra, Rachna -BREU -GR <Rachna.Mishra@international.gc.ca>; Powers, Kate -BREU -GR <Kathryn.Powers@international.gc.ca>; Burgess, Katrina -LDN -GR <Katrina.Burgess@international.gc.ca>; Ruest, Camille -LDN -GR <Camille.Ruest@international.gc.ca>  
**Cc:** Flanagan Whalen, Ann -ELD <Ann.FlanaganWhalen@international.gc.ca>; \*ELA-FPDS <D-ELA-FPDS@international.gc.ca>; Marder, Jeffrey -IOR <Jeffrey.Marder@international.gc.ca>; Hough, Susan -IOR <Susan.Hough@international.gc.ca>; Romanchik, Sulamita -IOR <Sulamita.Romanchik@international.gc.ca>; Bishop, Gabrielle -IOR <Gabrielle.Bishop@international.gc.ca>  
**Subject:** Responsive Lines - AI Report

Dear Colleagues,

Several of you have requested responsive lines for your use in private discussions with international counterparts on the subject of a recent report by Amnesty International. Please find below responsive lines to this effect, approved by ELD

and EGM. Please draw upon these as appropriate in your local context, noting that they remain for private/responsive use only at this time please.



Canada does not typically comment on specific reports put out by civil society organizations. While these lines have not yet been employed in a public setting since the publication of the report in question, we are aware of at least two open media requests for which the department provided these lines as responsiveness. We are also providing them via DCL for use as responsive points in case questions were to arise in the House.

As you may be aware, Canada has been on the record publically on this topic when similar allegations were made last spring; notably then-MINA's intervention in the House on 11 June, 2021, in a response to a question from another MP:

*Mr. Speaker, the position of the Liberal government is extremely clear on the question of the apartheid label. We reject it categorically. It is not part of our approach with respect to Israel or the Jewish community. We, of course, are completely against any anti-Semitism that would be displayed by any Canadian citizen.*

<https://openparliament.ca/debates/2021/6/11/marc-garneau-3/>

David

**David Murphy Haglund**

Deputy Director | Directeur adjoint  
Israel, West Bank and Gaza Division (ELA) | Direction Israël, Cisjordanie et Gaza (ELA)  
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