

**Palestinian Authority Antisemitism:  
A fundamental and lethal component of PA ideology**

**Written testimony :**

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**House Committee on Foreign Affairs  
Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and  
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**Hearing:**

**“Responding to Anti-Semitism and Anti- Israel Bias in the UN,  
Palestinian Authority, and NGO Community” - June 22, 2023**

(Arabic to English translations by Zachy Ben Hamu, Roe Cohen,  
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## **Palestinian Authority Antisemitism: A fundamental and lethal component of PA ideology**

Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Wild, esteemed members of Congress. My purpose before you today is to shed light on an overlooked yet fundamental and lethal component of Palestinian Authority (PA) ideology: Antisemitism.

PA Antisemitism is not a collection of disconnected hate-speech; it is a systematically disseminated ideology that is by now deeply ingrained in the Palestinian national and political identity. It serves as a primary source of loathing towards Jews and Israelis and is a significant motivator for Palestinian terror.

I will focus today on two aspects of PA Antisemitism: Political Antisemitism and Religious Antisemitism.

The PA's Political Antisemitism asserts the following:

1. Jews are inherently evil, endangering not only Palestinians but all of humanity.
2. Accordingly, Jews themselves are responsible for the Antisemitism and hatred they have faced throughout history.
3. The PA turns this demonization of Jews into its political ideology: the Western countries were anxious to get rid of the Jews and solve their "Jewish problem," so they initiated the establishment of a Jewish state. The Jews would never have come to Palestine on their own because the Jews have no history in the land. Israel is defined as an illegitimate result of "settler-colonialism" with no right to exist.

This ideology is disseminated by PA leaders, Mahmoud Abbas appointees, and through the structures controlled by the PA. Here are some examples.

A Palestinian researcher interviewed on official PA TV this year, described the worlds problems with Jews:

- "Jews are by nature arrogant, do not accept the other."

- “Their [Jewish] thinking is based on racism that caused them to be hated everywhere. The Zionist thinking is based on... *the Protocols of the Elders of Zion*”
- “The Europeans hated them and wanted to get rid of them, so the European countries ... had the idea of establishing a Jewish state.”

The Protocols is of course a fabricated document about which Elie Wiesel said: "If ever a piece of writing could produce mass hatred, it is this one." The Nazis used it extensively to promote hatred, and although it was exposed as a forgery, the PA still presents it as an authentic Jewish plan to subjugate humanity. Official PA TV chose to broadcast this hateful interview already 3 times in 2023.

[Official PA TV, *Returning*, Jan. 17, 2023 and Feb. 27, 2023, May 14, 2023]

Similarly, Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah Movement produced an educational documentary, disseminated on Fatah's Facebook page, filled with hate speech such as:

- Jews see others as their animals;
- Jews allied with Nazis to accumulate wealth;

- Jews “led the project to enslave humanity.”

This ideology originates from the highest levels of the PA. Mahmoud Abbas himself said in a televised speech that 10 centuries of recurring massacres and the Holocaust the Jews brought upon themselves due to their “social role ... usury, and banks, etc.”

And Abbas speaking in the UN last month, said:

“Britain and the United States... decided to plant a foreign entity in our historic homeland, **for colonialist purposes of their own... *these Western countries wanted to get rid of the Jews – and profit from them in Palestine. 'Two birds with one stone'.***”

Abbas was telling the UN the most fundamental principle of PA ideology spread since the early days of the PA: Israel exists solely because the colonial powers wanted to get rid of their Jews and have a foothold in the Middle East. Israel, as a result of “settler colonialism,” has no right to exist.

An article in the official PA daily recently warned that Jews continue to pose the same danger to humanity:

“They [Jews] are continuing to fulfill the same negative social, economic, and political role that caused societies in Europe to vomit them out.” [Official PA daily *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, Dec. 19, 2022]

This PA demonization of Jews has been embedded into the Palestinian worldview. According to the 2014 ADL Global 100 Poll, a full **87% of Palestinians say it is “probably true” that “People hate Jews because of the way Jews behave.”** This poll shows the effectiveness and danger of incessant hate incitement.

The PA’s denial of Israel's legitimacy leads directly to its message that Israel, like all colonial endeavors, will inevitably be destroyed. Here are a few examples from Fatah’s educational magazine for children, *Waed*:

**“[The] goal is liberating Palestine from the thieving Zionist entity and restoring the right to its Palestinian owners.”**

**“[The] goal is to liberate Palestine that was stolen by the colonialist and aggressive Zionist movement.”**

**“There is no invader who invaded this land and did not leave it defeated in the end, and that is what will happen to the Zionist invaders.”**

**“Palestine from the river to the sea.”**

**“Algeria’s experience [of the French leaving] assures that the Jewish settlers in Palestine will disappear in the end.”**

PA Antisemitism has not only permeated Palestinian society it has become a source of global Antisemitism, including here in the United States. Last month when Fatima Muhammad said at the CUNY law school graduation that Israel is a “project of settler colonialism,” she was echoing this PA ideology.



With political Antisemitism firmly entrenched in the Palestinian psyche, the PA's religious Antisemitism intensifies the hate by adding God (Allah's) stamp of approval, including God's curse of the Jews.

The PA's religious Antisemitism also comes from the leadership. The most important PA religious figure is Mahmoud Al-Habbash, appointed by Abbas as his advisor on Islam and Chief Justice of the Islamic Courts. He also gives almost all the Friday sermons on official PA TV. Last year, he demanded Palestinians not abandon the Temple Mount to Jews, who he described as:

“Herds of humanoids, people or creatures that Allah created in the form of humans... Those whom Allah has cursed and with whom He became angry and made of them apes and pigs.” [Quran 5:60]  
[Official PA TV, Sept. 30, 2022]

Significantly, this interpretation of the Quran by the PA that today's Jews are descendants of apes and pigs is not a necessary interpretation of the Quran, but it is the interpretation the PA has chosen to disseminate.

Al-Habbash has also taught that Jews throughout history have been the ally of Satan, disseminating evil and falsehood around the world. And THAT is the reason for the conflict with Israel:

“This is a conflict between two entities, good and evil, between two projects: Allah’s project vs. Satan’s project.” [Official PA TV, Oct. 23, 2015]

Al-Habbash and other PA religious leaders openly support killing Israelis and Jews. In a televised lesson Al-Habbash quoted the Quran: “Kill them” [Quran 2:191] and then defined 10 categories of people to kill. “If someone takes ... my home... my land... my homeland...” etc – all 10 “crimes” Israelis are routinely accused of. Al- Habbash continued: “I am commanded to fight him and I am allowed to kill him if necessary as Prophet [Muhammad] said: “kill them wherever you find them.” [Official PA TV, *Review*, Feb, 2, 2020]

Last year, during the Ramadan, the PATV preacher prayed: “Allah, delight us with the extermination of the evil Jews.” [Official PA TV, April

17, 2022] And the PA director of Preacher Training Sheikh Majed Saqr taught on PA TV: “Allah willing, the end of the Jews and America that supports the Jews will be in Palestine.” [Official PA TV, May 9, 2021]

This combination of political and religious Antisemitism with hatred of Israel, all in the name of Allah directly leads to the PA’s policy to see murdering Israelis as heroic and Allah’s will, and as a result:

- 100% of the murderers of Israelis are honored;
- 100% of terrorists in jail for murdering Jews receive PA salaries;
- 100% of terrorists killed while murdering Jews are declared “Shahids” - meaning “Martyrs” who “died for Allah”.

One recent horrific example:

On April 7, a Jewish mother and her two daughters Lucy, Maia and Rina Dee were murdered in a drive by shooting. After the initial shots caused their car to crash, the terrorists drove back and at point blank range shot and murdered them. After Israel tracked down the murderers and killed them, PA Prime Minister Muhammad Shtayyeh posted pictures of the murderers on his Facebook Page with the text:

“Glory and eternity to our righteous *Shahids*” – i.e., Martyrs who died for Allah [Facebook, Muhammad Shtayyeh, May 4, 2023]

According to the PA, murdering 3 civilians is a “righteous” act and was done for Allah. The families of the murderers will now receive a lifetime monthly stipend from the PA. The shocking PA support for murder of civilians can be understood when recognizing the centrality of PA Antisemitism. Since Jews are “humanoids,” “cursed” by Allah, and Israelis are settler-colonialists, about whom the Quran instructs “kill them,” then murdering each and every Israeli is a “righteous” act for Allah and dying while killing Jews is Death for Allah. Suicide bombers who murdered children and infants are also coined by the PA as *Shahids* – meaning that their dying in the act of murdering children was an ideal act on behalf of Allah.

Not surprisingly, PA Security Forces are actively involved in terror, even as the international community continues to fund to fight terror. In an interview just two weeks ago, Muhammad Al-Masri, former deputy head of PA General Intelligence, describe the PA Security Forces current activities:

“More than roughly 63-65% of the number of Martyrs in the West Bank, in the daily confrontations, are members of the Fatah Movement, and most of them are members of the [PA] Security Forces or their sons – in other words, Security Forces officers or their children – and the ones who are being pursued in the streets, arrested, and imprisoned are the Palestinian Security Forces officers.” [Official PA TV, Topic of the Day, June 14, 2023]

The PA has been tragically successful disseminating Antisemitism to its people. That same ADL Global 100 Poll I referred to, found Palestinians to be the most antisemitic people in the world, with 93% of Palestinians believing that at least 6 of the 11 antisemitic claims in the poll were "probably true."

This hearing is also to discuss “the Martyrdom of children in suicide attacks.” Today unprecedented numbers of Palestinian children are dying in terror or combat, and their parents’ statements as well as the children’s farewell notes show that the goal of their terror acts were to achieve Death for Allah. This is a direct result of the PA’s indoctrinating its children that Dying for Allah – *Shahada* – by fighting Israel is the

greatest achievement. We have testimony of many Palestinian parents, relatives and friends, and farewell letters of the dead children confirming this.

There has been much talk about the recently released U.S. NATIONAL STRATEGY TO COUNTER Antisemitism, which says the US “has embraced the IHRA” definition of Antisemitism and “welcomes and appreciates the Nexus Document,” which has different definitions of Antisemitism.

As far as PA Antisemitism is concerned both are extremely relevant: the PA violates almost all the definitions of IHRA and at least 4 of the 6 categories of the Nexus definitions. The PA has made Antisemitism a central part of its ideology and national policy.

**Recommendations:** It is time for the international community to change its attitude to the PA. The activities described above, the PA’s demonizing Jews and Israelis, denying Israel's legitimacy, justifying the murder of Jews and Israelis, and rewarding the murder of Jews and Israelis, are activities of a terror organization. Even though the PA is not

designated, penalties should be imposed fitting these terror-like activities:

1. The US should designate, blacklist and deny visa to every Palestinian, including PA and Fatah officials who disseminate Antisemitism, promote, justify, glorify or reward terror, and promote or glorify child Martyrdom.
2. US funding to the PA and Palestinian projects through all channels, should be dispersed quarterly. Any quarter in which the PA has continued to promote Antisemitism, terror and terror glorification and this can be defined and quantified, the PA would lose the next quarter's funding. PMW is able to submit reports immediately at the end of every quarter, with Arabic originals and translation.
3. Something valuable that should be encouraged as a tool to fight terror worldwide: In addition to compensatory damages there must be punitive damages for terrorists, for those who send them, and for terror financing.

4. Finally, since this hearing is also discussing the UN, I will add that there are 2 UN resolutions 3236 and 3246 that refer to the Palestinian right to “use all means,” the PA repeatedly claims gives them the right to murder civilians. These resolutions must be cancelled, like the UN ‘Zionism is Racism’ resolution was cancelled. (More details appear in the appendix.)

I will end with one more piece of striking background information. In 1996, after 30 years of Israeli rule and soon after the PA was created, Palestinians thought Israel was the best in the world in democracy and human rights. In the poll by the Khalil Shikaki, director of the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research, 78% of Palestinians gave Israel a positive rating in democracy and human rights, whereas only 65% gave the US positive, 55% gave France positive, and 50% gave the PA positive ratings. The poll was repeated 4 years in a row with slight changes in the questions, and in every year, Israel was best democracy and/or human rights according to Palestinians.

So 30 years of direct Israeli rule made Palestinians conclude Israel was best in the world in democracy and human rights; and after 30 years of



PA rule Palestinians believe everyone hates Jews because they endanger all humanity, Jews brought Antisemitism on themselves, and Allah supports the killing of Israelis.

It is time for the international community to recognize the antisemitic terror-supporting nature of the PA and take concrete steps to treat them as befits a terror-supporting government.

Thank you.

## **Appendix: US should initiate the cancelling of UN Resolutions 3236 and 3246**

One year before the infamous UN decision to declare Zionism is Racism (Nov 1975) there was an equally evil and lethal UN resolutions 3236 that “recognizes the right of the Palestinian people to **regain its rights by all means,**” and in 1975 UN 3246 that “Reaffirms the legitimacy of the people's struggle for liberation from colonial [etc]... **by all available means including armed struggle.**” The Zionism is racism resolution was eventually canceled. Resolutions 3236 and 3246 are more lethal and cited regularly by the PA to justify the murder of civilians.

Two example of the PA citing the UN to justify murder:

**Fatah Central Committee member Abbas Zaki: “All the forms of struggle complement each other according to UN Resolution 3236, which says that the Palestinian people may use all forms of struggle, including armed struggle.”**

"Commission of Prisoners and Released Prisoners' Affairs Director Issa Karake said that the recent ruling of the American court in New York, according to which the PA must pay 218 million dollars in compensation to [the families of] those killed, who were US citizens... contradicts international law. In addition, he called [the case] a political lawsuit against the legitimate Palestinian national struggle, **which is sanctioned by international law and UN resolutions... UN resolutions have established that resisting occupation (i.e., killing civilians) in order to achieve self-determination and independence is a legitimate right...**"

The PA claims that all murderers even murderers of children have status of prisoners of war - because of UN 3236.

The PA has justified its Pay for Slay policy that rewards terror by arguing there is no such thing as Palestinian terror because of UN 3236.

It is critical that the UN's vote to cancel or amend those resolutions and send a unequivocal message to the PA that the UN does not sanction the murder of Israelis as legitimate "resistance."

A full report on the PA's justification of murder based on these resolutions is now being prepared by PMW and can be supplied to the committee.