



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 23 August 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

With deep grief and sorrow, I am writing to inform you of the horrific murder of Rina Shnerb, a 17-year-old from Lod, at the hands of Palestinian terrorists, this morning in Binyamin.

Rina, her older brother, Dvir, and their father, Rabbi Eitan Shnerb, were hiking in the Dolev stream when an improvised explosive device was activated, killing Rina and wounding Eitan and Dvir, who is now fighting for his life. The first responders reported that the father used his *tzitzit*, the traditional ritual garment worn by Jews, as a tourniquet for his son's wounds, saving his life.

Israeli security forces are currently pursuing those responsible for this horrific crime to bring them to justice.

It must be emphasized that this attack, like so many others conducted by Palestinians, was intentionally aimed at innocent Israeli civilians. This is terrorism, and it must be unequivocally condemned as such.

However, as I write, the attack is being glorified in Palestinian social media, and candies are being distributed in the streets of Palestinian towns. The leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, commended the terrorists and called their murderous act "heroic".

The Palestinian Authority is directly responsible for this attack, a result of the Palestinians' ongoing policy of educating and incentivizing their youth to kill Jews throughout Israel. The Palestinian Authority glorifies terrorists, rewarding their horrific actions with guaranteed salaries and renaming streets, schools and town squares in their honour. About 7 per cent of the Palestinian Authority's annual budget is spent on terrorist salaries.

Earlier this week, in a Security Council debate on challenges to peace and security in the Middle East, we saw a vivid example of the Palestinian Authority's extreme incitement against Jews. In his remarks, the Palestinian representative falsely accused an Israeli Jew for attempting to set fire to the Al-Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount 50 years ago, when the perpetrator was neither Jewish nor Israeli. The wild and anti-Semitic accusations of this representative are disgraceful.

The international community must join Israel in our struggle against terrorism; this is the most justified fight. The international community needs to join it, and condemn not only the murder but also the culture of incitement and salaries to murderers. It must send a clear and unequivocal message to the Palestinian leadership: stop your hateful incitement against Jews and Israelis, stop denying the right of the



Jewish people to self-determination and their historic connection to the land of Israel, and stop providing cash rewards and publicly honouring those who commit acts of terrorism. Above all, stop educating your children to hate.

I call upon the Security Council to condemn this sickening act of terror immediately, unequivocally and in the strongest terms possible. It is the duty of the Council to put an urgent stop to all Palestinian incitement.

I should be grateful if the present letter were distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Danny Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative