

# SPOTLIGHT ON AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

# FROM BIAS TO OBSESSION REPORT BY DAVID COLLIER

**Ashira Prem Rachana** who worked as a human rights researcher for Amnesty International telling non-Jewish citizens of Israel not to vote in an election:



Any vote in the election is going to give legitimacy to these murderers... the

### **Sahar Mandour** Amnesty International's researcher on Lebanon:

Sahar Mandour 13 December 2017 · 🚱	€ Follow	•••
Fuck Israel; long live Palestine! وعاصمتها القدس		
See Translation		

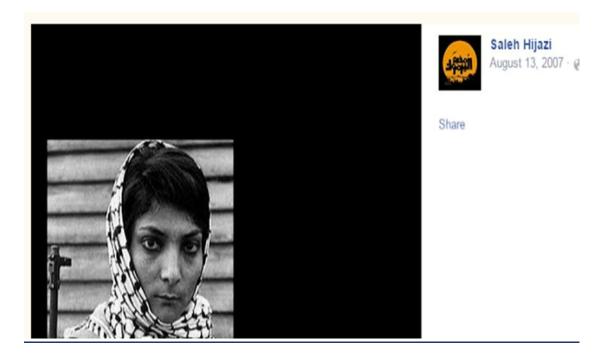
**Nadine Moawad**, 'MENA Communications Manager for Amnesty International', refers to Israel as the 'Zionist entity' and calls for a 'full disbanding' of the Israeli state:



Hind Khoudary Amnesty Consultant, refers to two Islamic Jihad terrorists as 'heroes':



**Saleh Hijazi** Amnesty Deputy Director MENA, previous profile picture, Leila Khaled, a PFLP terrorist and airline hijacker:



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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Key findings:

- The research found extreme bias in the output of many Amnesty employees.
- Amnesty has employed people with open pro-terrorist sympathies, crucially relying on them to provide information upstream that shapes opinion. One Amnesty consultant was found tweeting support for a terrorist group and sharing advice about hiding the truth to protect the 'resistance'. Another was found giving advice to 'factions' asking not to publicly identify 'martyrs' as belonging to terrorist groups.
- When the existence of this research became public knowledge, some Amnesty staff deleted public social media accounts in what appears to have been an attempt to hide evidence.
- Amnesty International has recruited 'one-cause' activists despite their obvious unsuitability for any organisation seeking to demonstrate impartiality.
- 'Silence' and 'noise' define Amnesty activity. There is silence in some areas and obsessive noise in others. Amnesty employees choose on whom they wish to focus on and whom they don't.
- In areas of sectarian violence, by dressing up hostile activists as 'human rights defenders', Amnesty International endangers the lives of genuine human rights activists.
- Israel is not the only issue negatively affected by bias. India is another target of unnatural Amnesty hostility.
- Persecuted Christians across the globe do not receive the coverage that their suffering warrants.
- Amnesty are a large NGO with a global reach. In order to grow, Amnesty International lowered their guard to issues of bias and this has destroyed parts of the organisation from within.
- As Amnesty grew, politicised employees became more able to use it for their own causes.
- Amnesty International's energy rests largely on the bias and motivations of its employees.
- Some of Amnesty's staff have little interest in human rights beyond their hatred of Israel. It is logical to assume the same level of bias could be directed at other targets by staff with different obsessions.
- Amnesty's enthusiasm level surges on anti-Israel campaigns. There are more of them, they are visibly better funded, and they are more widely spread.
- Amnesty's arsenal is turned towards Israel. All of its departments appear to allocate disproportionate resources to attack Israel. The cumulative effect results in what can only be termed as a never-ending obsession.
- Amnesty pursues a policy that aligns with full BDS (Boycott, Divestment & Sanction), producing material in such a coordinated manner that one inevitably concludes that the strategy is deliberate.

- As Amnesty displays a symbiotic relationship with BDS, it is fair to conclude that elements within Amnesty International actively seek to promote the destruction of the Jewish state.
- Because there is a religious aspect to some of Amnesty's obsession, we conclude that the cumulative effect of the organisation's unnatural hostility towards Israel is antisemitic.
- Amnesty International allows the obsessions of its employees to drive its activity at the cost of the lives of people caught up in more worthwhile causes, which are left unpublicised and under-supported.
- Amnesty International is political in nature, distributes some toxic ideology and displays unnatural, blatant hostility towards certain nationalities. There are places, such as schools, that currently grant it access. The logic behind granting these permissions should be revisited.
- Amnesty should commission an external and completely independent investigation into the issues highlighted by this research.
- Until these internal issues are addressed, Amnesty should roll-back campaigns that have been launched in areas where its objectivity has been clearly compromised.
- Amnesty should consider rotating staff and volunteers who work on areas of sectarian conflict and set about searching for an effective replacement to the 'Work On Own Country' rule. Its current processes are clearly flawed.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Amnesty International is a London-based NGO that was founded in 1961. Today it claims to be a global movement 'of over 7 million people'.<sup>1</sup> This makes Amnesty International the world's largest grassroots human rights organisation.

Amnesty was created to avoid the 'revolutionist' stigma that was often attached to the type of causes it wished to tackle. Amnesty's founders realised that human rights struggles often stumbled blindly in the political extremes. They sought to form an apolitical group that maximised its impact by crossing party lines.

Amnesty managed to do this successfully. As its leadership deliberately avoided being tainted with the Marxist brush, the unions and the Labour Party did not feel threatened and so Amnesty was able to gather mainstream support.<sup>2</sup>

Today Amnesty has many critics. Amnesty would argue that these are from nation states that simply want their 'abuses' to go unreported.<sup>3 4</sup>

Amnesty has core principles outlined in its statute.<sup>5</sup> Impartiality is stressed constantly:

rights abuses accurately, quickly and persistently. It systematically and impartially researches the facts of individual cases and patterns of human

As Amnesty grew, it needed to address the changing environment. It wanted wider reach, more members and to enter more nations. It faced growing competition. Amnesty left behind the simple world of the 1970s and entered far more complex political struggles.<sup>6</sup>

It weakened some mechanisms that protected its impartiality in order to do so. Amnesty had a rule (WOOC) that meant nobody could work on their own country.<sup>7</sup> In part it was set in place to avoid conflict of interest. It was scrapped in 2002 and never adequately replaced.

The problem isn't all about Israel. In 2010 the Head of Amnesty's Gender unit was suspended having accused the organisation of 'losing its moral compass'. Amnesty's relationship with known Islamist extremists had made her uncomfortable. But she also commented on a 'atmosphere of terror' in the organisation – one that suppresses debate.<sup>8</sup>

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/who-we-are/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Buchanan, Tom. "The truth will set you free': The making of Amnesty International." Journal of Contemporary History 37.4 (2002): 575-597

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dr Phelps, Peter, Amnesty Infomercial, Review, (Institute of Public Affairs), September 1999

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This Wiki article provides only a short list https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criticism\_of\_Amnesty\_International <sup>5</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/POL2072982017ENGLISH.PDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> General outlines drawn from parts of 'Keepers of the Flame: Understanding Amnesty International' by Stephen Hopgood, 'the Truth will set you free' by Tom Buchanan and by reading through decades of Amnesty annual reports that are available online.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.ngo-

monitor.org/reports/breaking\_its\_own\_rules\_amnesty\_s\_gov\_t\_funding\_and\_researcher\_bias/ <sup>8</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/apr/25/gita-sahgal-amnesty-international

This workplace atmosphere problem has recently resurfaced, with suicides, resignations and several public criticisms.<sup>9</sup>

In 2019 a Kurdish group tried a 'sit in' at Amnesty offices in London to raise awareness for its cause and force Amnesty to 'speak out' on its issue.<sup>10</sup> Amnesty's patience with the sit-in lasted about 24 hours. Then the police were called and Amnesty had the protestors arrested.<sup>11</sup>

Putting aside Amnesty's hypocrisy, this raises questions. Why do the Kurds feel that Amnesty International is not addressing their cause? Amnesty does not seem to have a country coordinator for 'Kurdistan' yet they appear to have more than one coordinator for the Palestinian areas.<sup>12</sup>

At Amnesty, people are key. Amnesty International stress the volunteer element of the organisation. People at Amnesty – certainly those in the field (and those working with them) – work there because it allows them to act on causes that are important to them.<sup>13</sup>

I have no ties to Amnesty as an organization. As I said, I didn't join Amnesty because I wanted to be part of Amnesty, but because it gave me the opportunities to continue working on human rights in the region. So theoretically, if there were another organization that allowed me to continue that work on the region or develop it in dif-

Amnesty are driven, as they have always been driven, by their people. They are a grassroots organisation driven by energy and motivation from the bottom up.<sup>14</sup>

As a global movement of over 7 million people, Amnesty International is the world's largest grassroots human rights organisation.

Amnesty's network in the field provides the information and its coordinators build and work with these networks so its researchers must decide which source to trust.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/feb/06/amnesty-international-has-toxic-working-culture-report-finds

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://morningstaronline.co.uk/article/b/kurdish-hunger-strikers-continue-occupation-of-amnestyinternationals-hq

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/039e31a1-c1fd-4081-9567-df7a3c582921

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/contact-country-coordinators

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> From Hopgood, Stephen. Keepers of the flame: understanding Amnesty International. Cornell University Press, 2013. Page 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/about-amnesty

Amnesty's focus is partly driven by their employees and volunteers. Those that disagree can consider this: How will Amnesty's board ever decide on an issue if it is never passed upstream in the first place?

It was therefore considered reasonable to look at the output of people who work at Amnesty International. Where do their interests lie? Do they seem impartial? Was bias publicly visible before they were employed by Amnesty?

This is what Amnesty claim:15

### What does Amnesty International do?

We work independently and impartially to promote respect for all the human rights Rights.

For an organisation of Amnesty's size to claim impartiality when it is driven by the motivations and energies of those that work for it, would mean that Amnesty must spend a lot of time enforcing such impartiality. How did it compensate for dropping the 'Work On Own Country' rule?

A search was made of online activity of Amnesty employees and official Amnesty social media accounts. There was no list to work from. Different access points were randomly chosen and the research developed from names gathered as it went along. The only demand was the existence of an active social media account, publicly accessible and written for the most part in English.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/frequently-asked-questions

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> This automatically excluded all those with private accounts, and those who write in a language other than English

**SECTION ONE** 

THE PEOPLE

### FROM HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS TO EMPTY PROPAGANDISTS

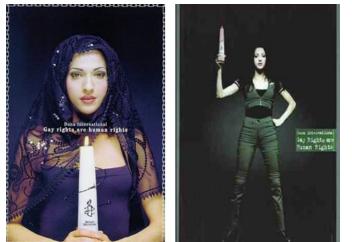
Historical Amnesty annual reports display a clear attempt to provide context and balance.<sup>17</sup> Those reports are virtually unrecognisable today as a product of Amnesty International. By 2007 Amnesty was singling out Israel for more condemnation than Syria, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Lebanon and Algeria.<sup>18</sup>

NGO Monitor conducted a quantitative analysis of Amnesty's 2007 Middle East reporting. They monitored Amnesty reports, public statements, press releases, letters and the Amnesty magazine.

The obsessive reporting on Israel during 2007 led NGO Monitor to conclude that 'if detailed reports are used as an indicator, Amnesty ranks Israel and Iraq as equally the worst human rights abusers in the Middle East.'

The NGO Monitor analysis also strengthens the argument that Amnesty's unnatural hostility towards Israel can also be found within the language they use. When Amnesty used the terms 'violations of international law' or violations of 'international human rights law', or 'war crimes' Israel had 22 mentions. Syria, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Libya only had 2 such mentions combined. By 2007, Amnesty were already reserving the worst for Israel.

These images were used by Amnesty in 1998 as part of their 'gay rights are human rights' campaign.<sup>19 20</sup>



They feature the Israeli singer Dana International.

It is impossible to imagine that Amnesty would consider using an Israeli artist today. Amnesty may claim not to support BDS explicitly but Amnesty's biased and distorted material provides the key pillars upon which BDS rely for legitimacy in the West.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>17</sup> See for example <u>https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/196000/mde150341991en.pdf</u> written during the first 'Intifada'.

19 https://en-law.tau.ac.il/sites/law-

english.tau.ac.il/files/media\_server/Law/faculty%20members/AeyalGross/43\_Post%20Colonial%20Queer%20 Globalisation%20and%20International%20Human%20Rights.pdf

1998%22&filter[]=authorStr:Olaf%2C+Erwin

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>18</sup> https://www.ngo-

monitor.org/reports/review\_of\_amnesty\_international\_in\_attacking\_democracy\_instead\_of\_oppression\_in\_ middle\_east/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> https://search.iisg.amsterdam/Search/Results?filter[]=era\_facet:%221998-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> BDS is the 'Boycott Divestment Sanctions' movement against Israel. Many of the 'boycott Israel' statements use Amnesty data as primary evidence of the need to boycott.

Some of Amnesty's key problems were already visible in the early 1990s. Asking for governments to release prisoners of conscience in the geo-political environment of a world full of Soviet influence was a relatively straightforward affair.

As Amnesty grew and it widened its sphere of operation, the issues of 'what are your politics', 'with whom do you ally' and 'whom you believe' enter the equation. The 1990 story of the 'incubator babies' in Kuwait during the lead up to the first Gulf War is a perfect early example of Amnesty lending its credibility to a propaganda story.<sup>22</sup>

This is an extract from a Guardian article on April 23, 2002.<sup>23</sup> It concerns events in the city of Jenin at the height of the second 'Intifada'. This event is far more damning of Amnesty International:

Amnesty has collected a number of witness statements alleging, among other things, that extra-judicial executions took place, that some Palestinians were shot while in the process of surrendering or even afterwards, that detainees were used as human shields and that medical workers were attacked in circumstances where there was no reason to suspect they were terrorists in disguise.

The events in Kuwait were unexpected. It was impossible to move around in occupied Kuwait. Amnesty had no real opportunity to create an information network in their own image. They should never have confirmed the story but their inability to disprove it is not surprising.

The same cannot be said of Jenin in 2002. Amnesty's network in the PA areas was embedded – it was tried, tested and trusted. This network provided daily updates that Amnesty regularly used to spread 'information' to its millions of members. These were Amnesty's people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4516044/nayirah-testimony</u> also https://www.latimes.com/archives/laxpm-1990-10-11-mn-2801-story.html and <u>https://www.prwatch.org/books/tsigfy10.htm</u> and

https://www.nytimes.com/1992/01/06/opinion/remember-nayirah-witness-for-kuwait.html Amnesty didn't just confirm the story, they added to it, bringing in additional 'witnesses' and placing the number over babies at over 300 – see https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE140161990ENGLISH.PDF There is an earlier story - when Amnesty came 'dangerously close to being used' by the Baader Meinhof gang and 'pushed deeper into the case than was warranted'. From Amnesty International: The Human Rights Story. Jonathan Power p76 see also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red\_Army\_Faction

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2002/apr/23/worlddispatch

This from the Amnesty team inside Jenin on 18 April:<sup>24</sup>



The report suggested a massacre had occurred and the bodies were all buried under the rubble, Amnesty's man on the ground actually compared it to genocide:

### 'The truth will come out, as it has come out in Bosnia and Kosovo'

Within the context of the second 'Intifada' the military operation in Jenin was part of 'Operation Defensive Shield'.<sup>25</sup> It was triggered by a March 27 suicide bombing when a Hamas suicide bomber walked into a hotel dining room just as Jewish people sat down for the Passover Seder meal and murdered 30 of them.<sup>26</sup>

It was the largest but far from only suicide attack of early 2002.<sup>27</sup>

The Israeli military entered and secured the city of Jenin on 2/3 April. The intense fighting would take place in the Jenin refugee camp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> See article http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle\_east/1937048.stm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\_Defensive\_Shield

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/israel/1389228/Hotel-blast-survivors-relive-the-Passover-massacre.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_Palestinian\_suicide\_attacks#2002\_(47\_bombings)

Amnesty's network was a primary source of news. By April 7 they were reporting a massacre as factual, asking people urgently to campaign so that 'those responsible for unlawful killings' can be 'brought to justice'.

PUBLIC	AI Index: MDE 15/038/2002
EXTRA 26/02	Fear for Safety 8 April 2002
ISRAEL/OCCUPIED TERRITORIES	Palestinians in Jenin Refugee Camp

The Israeli armed forces have reportedly killed scores of Palestinian civilians, and injured hundreds more, in a sustained assault on the Palestinian refugee camp in Jenin on the West Bank. Many more will die unless the Israeli forces stop the attack and withdraw immediately.

By 11 April they had produced a 26-page report.<sup>28</sup> There was another Amnesty call for action on April 17 that spoke of 'a scene of total devastation as though someone had bulldozed a whole community' in which the 'IDF used bulldozers to flatten a portion of the town completely, and no one could have survived in those houses'.<sup>29</sup> To reinforce its credibility, Amnesty found a 'forensic pathologist' to accompany its employees.

In reality Palestinian fatality figures in the 'Battle of Jenin' were 52, of which 27 were 'militants'. 23 Israeli soldiers were killed.

Amnesty was not alone in spreading the massacre myth. In the UK Parliament, MP Ann Clwyd, still with 'dust in her lungs' from Israeli tanks in Jenin, spoke of 'up to 1000 people' killed.<sup>30</sup> Amnesty also provided a 'dossier' for Parliament to discuss on that day.

Amnesty has built a reporting mechanism within these areas that makes itself part of the propaganda machinery. Driven by unnatural hostility towards Israel, Amnesty creates, reproduces and distributes anti-Israel propaganda at will.

In turn, thanks to Amnesty's credibility – that raw anti-Israel propaganda is then fed to Parliaments and the UN by decision-makers who go on to make strategic decisions about how to respond to Israeli 'transgressions'. The media tell the world the story. **There is no** way to correct the consequent damage to the truth and to justice.

The evidence that Amnesty has little regard for the truth is everywhere. The 2010 Flotilla episode provides another example.<sup>31</sup> It is now known that an ex-US Marine, on board the Mavi Marmara started the violence by attacking an Israeli soldier.<sup>32</sup>

That the specific ex-Marine is a 9/11 'truther', a hard-core conspiracy theorist, an antisemite with some very unsavoury friends doesn't help his case.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/120000/mde150422002en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/120000/mde150542002en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/2002-04-16/debates/d696a1af-a3c2-4bbc-b541-

f1b4e1eed6ea/TheMiddleEast?highlight=amnesty#contribution-d1636cb2-a039-4d08-9bbe-74c00812983d

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> https://mfa.gov.il/MFA/PressRoom/2010/Pages/Israel\_Navy\_warns\_flotilla\_31-May-2010.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> http://david-collier.com/exclusive-corbyn-antisemitism/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth\_O%27Keefe

When an incident such as the Mavi Marmara occurs, the anti-Israel propaganda machine springs into life. Within hours, tales of massacres fill social media. There is a finely tuned network that creates a false narrative that demonises Israel. Amnesty has become a willing part of this network. It does it the 'Amnesty' way, with carefully worded press releases and 'calls for action', but the bottom line remains that it 'accepts' the word of the Free Gaza spokesperson and discounts the Israeli version of events by default.

This is explicitly evident in their activity. They hold events that uncritically push the anti-Israel narrative.<sup>34</sup>



And when Israel conducted an inquiry into the flotilla incident, Amnesty could only ridicule it:<sup>35</sup>



# Israeli inquiry into Gaza flotilla deaths no more than a whitewash

This is Amnesty spreading the lies of the anti-Israel network. This is then picked up by all the activists who in turn now have the raw anti-Israel version (supplied by Amnesty) and a rejection of Israel's defence (supplied by Amnesty). Amnesty themselves remain clean; they haven't 'officially' taken a firm position over precisely what happened.

During recent violence a stray rocket from Islamic Jihad struck a building in Gaza. Amnesty were quick to post condemnation, attacking Israel for 'targeting civilian buildings':<sup>36</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> http://newsbytes.com.au/2010/08/australian-activists-recall-gaza-flotilla-horror/#.XWJufXt7kuU

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israeli-inquiry-gaza-flotilla-deaths-no-more-whitewash
 <sup>36</sup> https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1194289553038811136



We strongly condemn attack on the Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights whose office in Gaza was struck by an Israeli missile earlier this morning. Strikes targeting civilian buildings is a violation of international law. We are sending our solidarity to @ICHR\_Pal.

4:23 PM · Nov 12, 2019 · Twitter Web App

292 Retweets 525 Likes

Witnesses quickly made it public that it was in fact a stray Islamic Jihad rocket that had done the damage.<sup>37</sup> Amnesty were caught once again acting as a mouthpiece for radical Islamic terrorist groups.

There has been a visible deterioration in Amnesty's ability to 'judge' Israeli actions fairly. Israel is facing the same threats as it has faced for decades. Amnesty International clearly understood this in 1991. They were still highly critical of Israel and the reports on administrative detentions and allegations of torture continued throughout the 1990s. The inherent bias necessary to operate would always create a de-facto anti-Israel leaning but the unnatural hostility was not visibly present and Amnesty went out of its way at times to remind people it was trying to at least be seen to remain impartial:<sup>38</sup>

# Be sure to indicate in your letters that AI is making similar appeals to both sides to the current conflict.

This appears to change as the 1990s progressed. There was more open condemnation of Israel, an increase in frequency of the notifications and a more hostile and toxic use of language. There was also less visible criticism of the PA.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>38</sup> Examples <u>https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/168000/mde150261996en.pdf</u> or <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/034/1996/en/</u> or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> https://www.algemeiner.com/2019/11/13/amnesty-international-called-out-for-falsely-accusing-israel-of-attacking-gaza-building-which-was-actually-hit-by-misfired-palestinian-rocket/

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/029/1995/en/</u> Many of the cases circa 1996 were directed towards abuse of Palestinians by the PA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> This search function allows for sorting 'by date'

https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/?q=israel&sort=date&country=38537

Amnesty's first visible use on their website of 'war crimes' when describing the actions of Israel occurred in 2000, ironically at the time of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.<sup>40</sup> The second event that raised such an Amnesty allegation was the mythical Jenin 'massacre'.<sup>41</sup>

By 2008 Amnesty were producing reports that suggested Israeli soldiers who commit 'war crimes' are routinely granted 'impunity'.<sup>42</sup> Since 2009 there are several reports each year that push the 'war crimes' allegation.

Amnesty first used the word 'Apartheid' on its website in relation to Israel in 2013.<sup>43</sup> Although their alliance and support for those pushing the Apartheid label on Israel preceded this by a few years.<sup>44</sup>

Amnesty's slide from an NGO concerned with global human rights issues into a propagandaspreading and politicised anti-Israel movement became inevitable following their involvement in the notorious 2001 Durban 'anti-racism' conference.<sup>45</sup>

The 'Durban Strategy', which set out to turn Israel into the new 'South Africa', was a failure of the west to protect itself. The NGOs funded by western governments are given a 'halo effect' by media and lawmakers alike. They have been empowered through the western outsourcing of human rights issues and began a coordinated and 'intense political war designed to delegitimise and isolate Israel in the international community'.<sup>46</sup>

In 2001 the visible anti-western agenda that now infests many NGOs globally became semiofficial coordinated strategy, put together by a UN body that would be dismantled within five years because of its own racist obsessions and discussed at events where the Protocols of the Elders of Zion were distributed.<sup>47</sup> Amnesty International actually criticised those nations that walked out.<sup>48</sup>

The Durban 2001 conference, that ended just 3 days before 9/11, did not come out of thin air. There would have been push and pull factors that created both the environment for Durban 2001 and the internal Amnesty thought processes that led them to believe participation was a good idea.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde02/006/2000/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/149/2002/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2008/12/israeli-teenagers-jailed-refusing-serve-army-20081218/ <sup>43</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2013/03/conscript-facing-jail-again-for-refusing-to-go-againsthis-conscience/ and https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2013/04/a-west-bank-village-in-protestagainst-israels-military-occupation/

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Example https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/amnesty\_s\_water\_report\_israel\_apartheid\_allegations/
 <sup>45</sup> http://fathomjournal.org/responding-to-the-ngos-durban-strategy-between-engagement-and-confrontation/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> The UN Commission for Human Rights created a working group to 'make recommendations with a view to the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action' see comments on the resolution <u>https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Racism/IntergovWG/Pages/IWGIndex.aspx</u> For discussion of the UN body see the following chapter in this report. For Protocols distribution see 'Dismantling the Big Lie: The Protocols of the Elders of Zion'. 2003. Steven L. Jacobs, Mark Weitzman pp8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> http://www.cnsnews.com/ForeignBureaus/Archive/200109/For20010904a.html

The desire to protect the Palestinians from human rights abuse is an understandable pull factor. Having sympathy for Palestinians, recognising the lack of self-determination and understanding that the Israeli military's role is primarily to protect the citizens of Israel gives rise to a need for NGOs. Amnesty would naturally want to be involved.

Israel is also so accessible. If an NGO wants to put a team on the ground in a highly sensitive area, then Israel is the safest place on Earth to do so – 'war zone' that is safe and yet allows you to have a really good time. It is one of the reasons thousands of journalists roam the streets of Jerusalem – none of them are willing to go to Raqqa.

This duplicity is visible on NGO websites. NGOs that have a public face screaming 'genocide', 'ethnic cleansing', 'brutality' and 'violence', have quieter parts of their websites that tell would-be volunteers how safe it all is.<sup>49</sup>

The rest of the work is created by the imbalance of situations. The PA is corrupt, Gaza is run by a terrorist organisation and Arab clans rule many streets in both areas. After Oslo stagnated and conflict returned in the violence of the second 'Intifada' most of what comes out is raw anti-Israel propaganda.

Someone openly and visibly hostile to Hamas for an extended period, who does not come to some type of agreement with them, will disappear. A point worth remembering when you listen to those that have not disappeared.

Those people you see are 'connected'. The streets are not free, you do not walk where you like. Visitors are directed to the house of the 'victim' they need to talk to. This extends to PA areas and not just Gaza. NGOs are taken to the specific street that others want them to see. For organisations such as Amnesty, 'hostility' to terrorist organisations such as Hamas becomes self-defeating.

The walls break down because they have to and as they break, groups like Amnesty suffer the same fate as extremist organisations such as the PSC. The movement is driven by the energy of its component parts. The ones who stumble get left behind. On specific issues the organisation becomes driven by the very people it should have restrained.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> http://david-collier.com/schizophrenia-palestinian-ngos/

## CASE STUDY: HIND KHOUDARY

Hind Khoudary is listed as an 'Amnesty International research consultant' in Gaza. She is one of those providing Amnesty with their information from the Gaza strip. In March she was arrested, allegedly for working for Amnesty.<sup>50</sup>

Today, an Amnesty International Research Consultant, Hind Khoudary, has been detained and interrogated by the security forces of the Ministry of Interior for working with Amnesty International. Her interrogation lasted for three hours during which four male interrogators subjected her to ill-treatment. The interrogators used abusive language and warned her not to carry out human rights research and threatened to prosecute her for spying and working as a foreign agent.

The allegation that she was taken by Hamas because she 'worked for Amnesty' is of course unsubstantiated. This is information coming out of Gaza, so there are few 'checks and balances', yet it is published by Amnesty as the 'truth'. Middle East Eye also claimed Hind was one of their own:

As Amnesty made no public criticism about the internal protests prior to her interrogation it is more likely she was part of a general crackdown against internal dissent that took place throughout the Gaza Strip in March.<sup>51</sup>

Once Amnesty report that their research consultant was arrested because she works for Amnesty, this immediately becomes the 'news':<sup>52</sup>



Amnesty said their own consultant Hind Khoudary was detained and interrogated by the Hamas-run Ministry of Interior due to her work with the group. In the three-hour ordeal, male interrogators treated her poorly and threatened to prosecute her for being a foreign agent, Amnesty added.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/03/gaza-hamas-must-end-brutal-crackdown-against-protesters-and-rights-defenders/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> See <a href="https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/mees-gaza-reporter-interrogated-hours-hamas-officials">https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/mees-gaza-reporter-interrogated-hours-hamas-officials</a> and <a href="https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-reporters-held-brutally-beaten-by-hamas-for-covering-gaza-protests/">https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-reporters-held-brutally-beaten-by-hamas-for-covering-gaza-protests/</a> and <a href="https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-reporters-held-brutally-beaten-by-hamas-for-covering-gaza-protests/">https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-reporters-held-brutally-beaten-by-hamas-for-covering-gaza-protests/</a> and <a href="https://ref.org/en/news/journalists-targeted-governments-desperate-control-news">https://ref.org/en/news/journalists-targeted-governments-desperate-control-news</a> also

https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-reporters-held-brutally-beaten-by-hamas-for-covering-gaza-protests/ <sup>52</sup> <u>https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/gaza-hamas-crackdown-dissent-protesters-violence-torture-amnesty-a8829756.html</u> and the Guardian

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/mar/23/palestinian-writer-has-fingers-smashed-in-gaza-atef-abusif

This is her Facebook bio:53

0	Intro
С	onsultant Amnesty International-Fixer & Freelance Palestinian News Reporter based in Gaza Strip.
Ð	Research Consultant at Amnesty International
	Alumni at The U.SMiddle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)
Ð	Volunteer at Save Gaza Project
	Volunteer at Save Youth Future Society
	الفزيون الكويت News Correspondent at Kuwait TV
	Writer at We Are Not Numbers
	Works at Amnesty International
	Writer at The Electronic Intifada
	News Reporter at RT
A	Writer at Middle East Eye

Khoudary is clearly an anti-Israel propagandist who also writes for Kuwaiti and Russian State TV and hard-core propagandist outlets such as the Electronic Intifada.<sup>54</sup>

And we immediately run into problems. There was this recent post on Facebook, talking about a project with Amnesty from June 2018:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> https://www.facebook.com/HindUsama

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Given the violence of the 'intifadas' and the 'anything goes' terrorism underlying them, it would be absurd to suggest the name itself doesn't give the game away. For a better understanding of its intense propaganda campaign and to underline the fact Amnesty should have nothing to do with them, a browse through the archive for stories about 'antisemitism' is advisable. <u>https://electronicintifada.net/search/site/antisemitism</u> They are big supporters of the 'Labour against the witch hunt' group and one of their editors has been suspended by the Labour Party. <u>https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/labour-suspends-electronic-intifadablogger-asa-winstanley-who-called-jlm-israeli-embassy-proxy-1.481167</u> Regardless of your politics, it would be difficult to call El anything but an 'anti-Israel' and antisemitic' media outlet.

And yet here is an Amnesty article from 2018, introducing her, not as part of Amnesty, but as a 'Palestinian Journalist'.<sup>55</sup>



"The past six months have been more than a nightmare. I would have never imagined I would see people shattered into pieces. Bullets flew over my head and I suffocated from tear gas every time I went to work. Every time I went to work, I prayed I would go back home safe to my family and friends. Despite all of the danger, what made us continue to cover the demonstrations was to show to the world that Palestinians have the right to live a better life," Hind Khoudary, 23, a Palestinian journalist, told Amnesty International.

Why Amnesty is quoting their own 'consultant' as a 'journalist' is anyone's guess. Her English is excellent and she is clearly in demand. This is what Amnesty consider a source. Someone inside Gaza that it can use to provide information, however biased they may be.

It is worth watching some of what she says when interviewed by foreign journalists/bloggers. In a YouTube video uploaded in January she is asked about Hamas in Gaza. Khoudary described a conservative but tolerant society where people never 'make you feel bad' if they see something different. When asked about rockets, she responded that 'this is the only way Gazans can raise their voice'. She says she has been going to the 'march of return' demonstrations for almost a year, but 'has never seen a single gun'.

At one point she is asked directly if she wants Israel 'gone', to which she simply replies 'of course' it is 'our land'.<sup>56</sup>

Khoudary's Twitter feed is full of the usual propaganda one would expect of an anti-Israel activist.<sup>57</sup> When writing in English, she sees nothing, hears nothing and talks of nothing that would suggest there are human rights violations in the Gaza Strip.

Khoudary is interesting because she posts in both English and Arabic.

In English she shouts out about the human rights crisis in Gaza, telling the world in clear English how serious the situation is:<sup>58</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2018/10/gaza-great-march-of-return/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> See <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rODEey7Iy30</u> for Israel gone comment see timestamp 13:25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> https://twitter.com/Hind\_Gaza

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> https://twitter.com/Hind\_Gaza/status/1141644157632569344



Hind Khoudary هند.الخضري @Hind\_Gaza · Jun 20 Ministry of Health #Gaza: As a result of the medical crisis, about 500 children are deprived from their Therapeutic Milk, in addition to suspending treatment protocols for cancer patients after the depletion pf 62% of their specialized drugs 35 categories for 8000 Cancer patients

♡ 1⊒ 1 ♡ 1 ₫

And engages in Twitter trends that network her into other activists and show she is clued up with what it is taking place on the global PR stage:<sup>59</sup>



She is regularly on the front line of the 'great march of return', and as she has 'never seen a single gun there', spends the time reporting about Israeli 'brutality':



By +972 Magazine | Published May 15, 2019

# The bloody scenes I'll never forget from Gaza's Return March

A year ago, Israeli forces gunned down 64 demonstrators during Gaza's Great Return March. Palestinian journalist Hind Khoudary was there to see it all — the bloody stretchers, the wounded, and the dead.

By Hind Khoudary

Her articles in Middle East Eye are all about dead Gazan children, Israeli military actions, Palestinian injuries, the horrors of living in Gaza, cancer patients and all the usual

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> #palestiniansitty was a trending Twitter campaign that erupted after Israel denied access to Rashida Tlaib. https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/aug/20/thousands-are-celebrating-palestiniangrandmothers-i-wish-i-had-more-memories-of-mine

decontextualised reporting that anti-Israel activists love to share.<sup>60</sup> Her face appeared on RT, Kuwaiti TV and numerous other outlets.

Amnesty is pushing iconic imagery of her in a press jacket to get the message across:



Then you look at her output in Arabic. This is an example of a recent Arabic retweet:



And this is how it translates:

Abuhawash @Abuhawash10
يبدو أن غزة قدمت في ليلتنا هذه خمس شهداء، صعدوا إلى ربهم حاملين سلاحهم ونواياهم، وليس هناك أفضل من أن تدخل الجنة والرشاش على كتفك

#### Translated from Arabic by Google

It seems that Gaza presented five martyrs on our night, ascended to their Lord with their weapons and intentions, and there is nothing better than to enter Paradise and machine gun on your shoulder

"...nothing better than to enter paradise with a machine gun on your shoulder". The words of Amnesty International 2019. This one best sums up the entire situation. Self-censorship to support 'the resistance':

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> https://www.middleeasteye.net/users/hind-khoudary



The post above is an Amnesty consultant explicitly sharing instructions to lie about events on the ground in order to support the 'resistance'.

She recently retweeted a video of Hezbollah leader Nasrallah as he made threats to Israel. Alongside the tweet were words that translate as 'It is a true promise to us.'<sup>61</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> For video see <u>https://twitter.com/aliimortada/status/1165403934011404289?s=20</u> it was translated as a threat of retaliation for any Hezbollah 'soldier' that is injured.

These are not tweets spread over years that someone needs to search for. This is all recent output. I went back to the last major outbreak of violence in May. These two 'heroes' are members of the Islamic Jihad terrorist group.<sup>62</sup>



This is the tweet she embedded underneath her 'heroes' comment:



الصور # | The martyrdom of Mujahideen Bilal Mohammed Al-Banna and Abdullah Abu Al-Atta from Al-Quds Brigades after the occupation shelling east of Shijaiya in Gaza City this afternoon.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/Hind\_Gaza/status/1125046707652263937</u> see also https://twitter.com/KhaledAbuToameh

The Al-Quds Brigade is the military wing of the Islamic Jihad.<sup>63</sup>

This is her Twitter bio, describing herself as a 'human rights worker'.



### هند،الخضري Hind Khoudary

@Hind\_Gaza

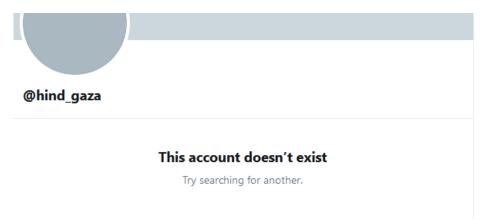
News Reporter/ Human Rights Worker based in Gaza Strip. @Amnesty - Tweets/Views are my own.

This is the joke played on those not paying attention. Hind openly speaks about wanting Israel 'gone'. She retweets Hezbollah threats and shares comments about martyrs entering paradise with machine guns. She promotes self-censorship to support the resistance and calls Islamic Jihad fighters 'heroes.' And nobody cares.

She can call herself a 'human rights worker' because organisations such as Amnesty International have been letting the whole world down for decades.

This is not a single incident. This is decades of a gradually decaying environment in which Amnesty International have used their once sterling reputation to drip-feed lies, propaganda and antisemitic poison into western parliaments and think tanks. Their reputation ensured that the media carried this message to hundreds of millions of people.

The information about Hind Khoudary was made public as a teaser in preparation for the publication of this report.<sup>64</sup> In response Khoudary simply deleted her accounts, removing the evidence:<sup>65</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al-Quds\_Brigades

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> https://twitter.com/mishtal/status/1169645722511249413

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Hind deleted the account on September 6<sup>th</sup>, a day after the teaser was published

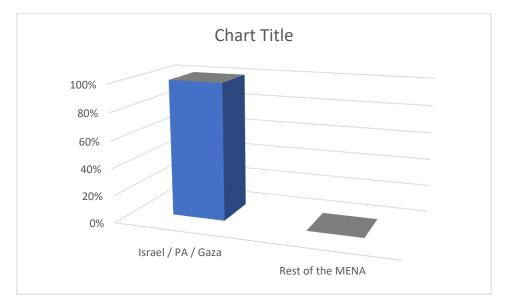
### **CASE STUDY: SALEH HIJAZI**

Saleh Hijazi is the Deputy Regional Director for Amnesty MENA.



This means he covers Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco & Western Sahara, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, UAE & Yemen.<sup>66</sup>

This is the content of his Facebook feed for 2019:67



Not a single post relating to Iran, Syria or Saudi Arabia was found. Israel, a nation involved in a conflict that has claimed about 90 casualties in 2019 takes 100% of the attention of the

<sup>66</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde01/9433/2019/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> https://www.facebook.com/saleh.hijazi.5

Deputy Director for MENA, whilst conflicts that have taken the lives of tens of thousands are totally ignored.

Hijazi wears his colours on his sleeve and always has. He was born in Ramallah and has always been a politically active Palestinian working explicitly against Israel.

As long ago as 2012, when he was simply part of the anti-Israel team at Amnesty, he was described by Ynet as 'a radical activist who volunteers as a human shield for terrorists with a former Palestinian Authority spokesman'.<sup>68</sup> The article also explained that in 2005 'he worked as a Public Relations officer for the Office of the Ministry of Planning in Ramallah and in 2007 he was listed as contact for the NGO 'Another Voice' – under the group's signature 'Resist! Boycott! We Are Intifada!'.

In 2011, an Israeli Druse singer had been due to sing at a concert on New Year's Eve in Ramallah. There were protests and threats from those who 'oppose normalisation' with Israelis. Eventually the PA banned the entertainer from appearing.<sup>69</sup>

A YouTube video under the title 'voices of resistance' published a rather disturbing video that shows people inside the PA areas ripping down his poster, then trampling on and kicking the image of his face.<sup>70</sup>

Hijazi shared the video:

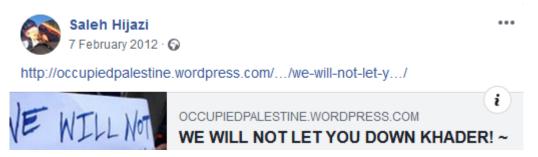


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4238719,00.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> https://www.jpost.com/Diplomacy-and-Politics/PA-bans-Druse-singer-from-Ramallah-New-Years-bash

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlaqoX7dxu0

His use of sources is enlightening. Two months after the Druze concert cancellation he shared a post from a blogsite called 'Occupied Palestine'.



The news was about a hunger strike, but that isn't the point. The choice of source is relevant. 1000s of different sources discussed the 2012 Khader hunger strike – both mainstream and alternative – yet as a 'human rights activist' Hijazi still identified with this blogsite and chose to share it.<sup>71</sup>

The 'pro-Hamas website' shares Muslim Brotherhood claims of Mossad false flags and publicises calls from the PFLP for 'activating armed resistance'.<sup>72</sup>



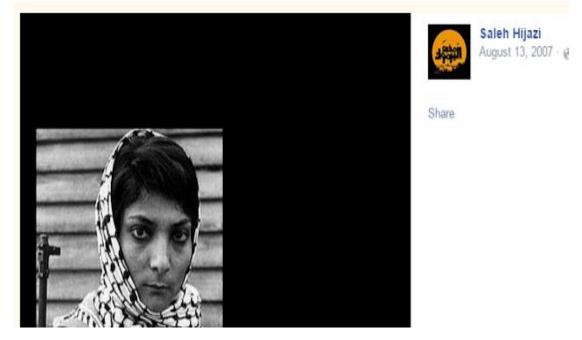
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> For example: https://mondoweiss.net/2012/02/today-in-palestine/

<sup>72</sup> The website is described as 'pro-Hamas' because of the way it reports on the 'resistance'. There are dozens of articles that support the claim. See this article about threats to bomb Tel Aviv as an example.

https://occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com/2014/08/09/gazaunderattack-palestinian-resistance-threatens-tobomb-tel-aviv-unless-its-demands-are-met/ For article on Muslim Brotherhood Mossad claims

https://occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com/2012/08/06/egypts-brotherhood-says-mossad-behind-sinai-attack/ PFLP activating armed resistance https://occupiedpalestine.wordpress.com/2013/08/29/pflp-pflp\_ps-calls-foractivating-armed-resistance-in-wb/

The website Elder of Ziyon ran an expose on Hijazi highlighting how in 2007 his Facebook profile was of Leila Khaled, a PFLP terrorist and airline hijacker.<sup>73 74</sup>



And in 2012 for Khader Adnan, a hero of Islamic Jihad:<sup>75</sup>



This is all before he learnt how to play the part properly. Today he is part of the 'Shabaka Palestinian Policy Network'.<sup>76</sup> This is an explicitly pro-Palestinian think tank.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2015/07/amnesty-researcher-loves-terrorists.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-terrorist-barred-from-entering-italy-over-visa-issue/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> https://ukmediawatch.org/2012/02/22/propaganda-by-wife-of-islamic-jihad-terrorist-khadr-adnancourtesy-of-the-guardian/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> https://al-shabaka.org/policy-network/members/

In its 2016 Annual Report Shabaka places 'Ali Abunimah' second in a list of 'sustaining donors'.<sup>77</sup> This means Amnesty's Deputy Director of MENA sits on a policy panel partially funded by the founder of Electronic Intifada.

Al-Shabaka rhetoric includes accusations of 'ethnic cleansing', 'apartheid' and 'genocide'.<sup>78</sup> It is also a major platform for boycott Israel activities. It is perhaps no coincidence that Hijazi's rise in Amnesty has coincided with a further slide of the organisation into raw BDS territory with their Airbnb and Trip Advisor campaigns.<sup>79</sup>

Hijazi regularly shares propaganda sites and gives voice to official pro-Palestinian NGOs, including those that deal with improving Palestinian PR.<sup>80</sup>



Once more we can see this misuse of the term 'human rights activist'.

Hijazi's Twitter feed is as bad as his Facebook page. This is a 'word cloud' taken from his tweets over the last year:<sup>81</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> https://al-shabaka.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Al-Shabaka-2016-Annual-Report.pdf#page=16

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Institute for Middle East Understanding and https://7amleh.org/about-us/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/al\_shabaka\_the\_palestinian\_policy\_network/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/02/is-this-a-tourist-attraction-or-a-war-crimeairbnb-and-tripadvisor-dont-care/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Hijazi has shared those like Ali Abunimah and Ben White many times

https://socialbearing.com/search/user/s\_jazi\_also Salem Barahmeh from the Palestinian Institute for Public Diplomacy, IMEU, another 'pro-Palestinian' NGO and 7amleh another propaganda outfit, this one specialising in the 'online space'. See <a href="https://twitter.com/thepipd">https://twitter.com/thepipd</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/S\_jazi

This is a cloud of his hashtags:



It is all about Israel. In fact, of the 152 tweets from the past year that were logged, only 4 were not related to the Israel/Arab conflict. That is an obsession rate of over 97%.

A search through the full eight years of his Twitter activity was also enlightening. The keyword 'Syria' returned just one result, a tweet from 5 years ago:

← Q Syria from:S_Jazi						
Тор		Latest	People	Photos	Videos	
Saleh Hijazi @S_jazi · Jan 21, 2014 We demand access to #Yarmouk & all vulnerable civilians in #Syria. How much longer will they be left to suffer? thndr.it/1avqFrC						

'Saudi' and 'Yemen' also returned just a single result:

← (	Q Sauc	li from:S_Jazi			000	
Тор		Latest	People	Photos	Videos	
Saleh Hijazi @S_jazi · Feb 6 States must stop supplying arms to the Saudi Coalition for use in #Yemen; Huthi forces must stop laying anti-personnel landmines and firing recklessly into civilian areas. bit.ly/2D72Psl via @Amnesty						
0	2	1.J	$\odot$			

Which brings up a rather glaring question. If MENA contains nations such as Syria, Iran and Saudi Arabia and if many of the world's human rights abuses are taking place in this area, then what on Earth did Saleh Hijazi have that warranted him being appointed as a 'Deputy Director' for the region? He is a one-track, anti-Israel obsessive. Little of Amnesty's activity is more damning than this.

#### Why is this all so important?

#### Because of Interviews like this one.<sup>82</sup>



### t 3 Saleh Hijazi Retweeted

Salwa Sadek @salwa\_sadek · Apr 30 I interviewed @S\_jazi deputy regional director @Amnesty, @billvanesveld senior researcher for the Children's Rights Division @hrw and @briankbarber senior fellow at the Institute for Palestine Studies to get a better understanding behind the normalization of this mistreatment

Vox 📀 @voxdotcom · Apr 27 Israeli soldiers routinely detain Palestinian children for throwing rocks vox.com /world/2019/4/2...

And in this position, he meets foreign dignitaries such as the Swedish Foreign Minister.<sup>83 84</sup>



#### Saleh Hijazi @S\_jazi Apr 10

Was great meeting @frances\_black and @conoraon today and discuss the hugely positive impact the Irish Occupied Territories Bill will have on the human rights on the ground, really looking forward to see this law enacted and enforced

# This isn't just about blatant and unacceptable anti-Israel bias. This is about Amnesty International *abusing* its position and, in doing so, placing other lives at risk.

This is Amnesty's obsessive, unnatural hatred of Israel giving rise to a total dereliction of duty. These are a few things that the Deputy Director of MENA didn't bother to tweet about as he piggybacks on Amnesty to push his obsessive anti-Israel activism.

Syria:<sup>85</sup> Yemen:<sup>86</sup> Iran:<sup>87</sup>

All of the following totals include civilians, rebels and government forces:

Source	Casualties	Time period
Syrian Centre for Policy Research	470,000 killed <sup>[13]</sup>	15 March 2011 – 11 February 2016
UN and Arab League Envoy to Syria	400,000 killed <sup>[2]</sup>	15 March 2011 – 23 April 2016
Syrian Observatory for Human Rights	371,222–570,000 killed <sup>[1]</sup>	15 March 2011 – 15 March 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> https://www.vox.com/world/2019/4/27/18511367/palestinian-children-arrested-throwing-rocks-israelimilitary

<sup>83</sup> https://www.alhaq.org/advocacy/6062.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Frances Black is an independent Senator in Ireland https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances\_Black

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualties\_of\_the\_Syrian\_Civil\_War

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/yemen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/iran

In fact, there are dozens of campaigns, press releases and news items on the Amnesty website related to human rights abuse in the MENA region that Hijazi could not be bothered to share with his followers.<sup>88</sup>

Look back over his earlier shares: the gang kicking the face of the Israeli Druze in the poster, promoting the work of a pro-terrorist blogsite or the people he used to have as his profile image. Then remind yourself that this is a Deputy Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa. It is fair to argue Amnesty are utterly shameless.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/?q=&sort=date&country=38526

### CASE STUDY: MAGHDA MUGHRABI

Maghda Mughrabi is a regional 'Deputy Director' for MENA.<sup>89</sup>



Mughrabi appears to have risen through Amnesty's ranks, starting as their researcher in Libya.<sup>90</sup> Mugrabhi's area of expertise is the North African element in the MENA region. A search of subject matter in her Twitter feed for 2019 returned these results:<sup>91</sup>

ISRAEL / PA /GAZA	27	FAR RIGHT EUROPE	2
LIBYA	19	ROHINGYA	2
ALGERIA	12	SUDAN	2
EGYPT	8	IRAN	2
GENERAL	6	MOROCCO	2
EUROPE – REFUGEES	6	IRAN	2
TUNISIA	5	SAUDI	1
SYRIA	5	AFGHANISTAN	1

Over 27% of her tweets are related to one issue in the region – the Israel conflict.<sup>92</sup> Saudi and Yemen get but a single mention, with Iran scoring just two. This is a word cloud generated from her tweets over the last 683 days:<sup>93</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> This is the title Amnesty give her in this report

https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE1576322017ENGLISH.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> https://www.ecfr.eu/article/the\_mediterranean\_migration\_crisis\_and\_libyas\_turmoil\_3045

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> https://twitter.com/magdamughrabi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> This does include a few tweets on Gaza / Hamas

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Compiled from the last 291 tweets https://socialbearing.com/search/user/magdamughrabi

It is Mughrabi's job to focus on some of the world's worst human rights abusers. Instead this is what she talks about:

TOP WORDS
Top words used in tweet (excluding hashtags, handles & boring words)
ALL WORDS 🗸
israe <mark>li (58)</mark>
rights (56)
palestinian (55)
israel (50)
must (46)
human (46)
has (39)
detention (29)
gaza (29)
against (28)

This is important because it highlights the issue of inherent institutional bias being a cumulative effect. Despite the official 'regional' title she has at Amnesty, Mughrabi's area of expertise is North Africa and that clearly comes through in her personal Twitter timeline. The number of mentions of Libya, Algeria and Egypt dwarfs those of Syria, Saudi and Iran.

The obsession with Israel is the one constant. A search of keywords in all tweets since 2015 returns absurd results:

ISRAEL	327	EGYPT	80
PALESTINIAN	156	IRAN	119
IRAQ	15	SYRIA	87

If you place together a few Amnesty decision makers, with different interests but a similar singular obsession, there would be only one logical result. Institutional obsession.

Mughrabi is not an outright anti-Israel activist, but it is clear that she obsesses over Israel anyway and her position is unacceptably hostile and biased against it.

### **CASE STUDY: MOHAMMED ALI ABUNAJELA**

Mohammed Ali Abunajela has a PhD from the University of Bedfordshire.<sup>94</sup> His thesis was on the pro-Muslim Brotherhood slant of Al-Jazeera during the 'Arab spring' in Egypt.<sup>95</sup> His first degree was from the Islamic University in Gaza. He was also on a list of BBC press officers published in 2014.<sup>96</sup> He co-authored a book an Al-Jazeera and 'political Islam', due for publication in 2020.<sup>97</sup>

Abunajela is referenced as a 'MENA Media Manager' on several country pages. For example, on the Israel page of the Amnesty website, he is referenced alongside Sara Hashash for media enquiries:<sup>98</sup>

# **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

### SARA HASHASH AND MOHAMMED ABUNAJELA

Middle East and North Africa Media Managers, +44 (0) 7831 640170, +44 (0) 7961 421555 sara.hashash@amnesty.org, mohammed.abunajela@amnesty.org

Which means if you are a member of the press and want information on Israel, Amnesty are directing you towards Sara Hashash (page 75) or a graduate of the Islamic Uni in Gaza.

His Twitter account and Facebook profile display basic, obsessive anti-Israel activism.<sup>99</sup>

TOP WORDS
Top words used in tweet (excluding hashtags, handles & boring words)
ALL WORDS 🗸
israeli (213)
palestinian (92)
killed (89)
palestinians (83)
israel (58)
gaza (57)

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>94</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohammed-ali-abunajela-ph-d-26201a32

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> http://uobrep.openrepository.com/uobrep/bitstream/10547/601085/1/repository%20version.pdf
 <sup>96</sup> https://www.pressgazette.co.uk/bbc-spending-slick-pr-condemned-after-website-reveals-220-press-contacts/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> https://www.amazon.co.uk/Reporting-Muslim-Brotherhood-Jebril-Nael/dp/1788311604

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Mohammed-Ali M. Abunajela see <u>https://www.facebook.com/m.alipalestine</u> and <u>https://twitter.com/AbunajelaMA</u>

Most of his posts were in English. Over 90% of Abunajela's 'country-specific' Twitter and Facebook activity in English were posts criticising Israel. Iran was mentioned once, in a post attacking Israel – as was Hezbollah.

Hamas were criticised once. Most references to Hamas were non-critical. This one has Abunajela almost acting as a PR spokesperson for the group:



More troubling, was the different attitudes towards Islam and Judaism. Islam/Muslims were referenced explicitly in about 30 tweets. Most dealt with anti-Muslim hatred, were used in an attack on Israel, were about Islamic art or were suggesting 'ISIS' was the enemy of Islam.

Four tweets contained the word 'Jew'. Two were about 'Jewish settlers'. The others were about religious Jewish orthodox sexism.

1	13 Mohammedali Abunajel Louay Ismail @Louay	
n" #UK	etely <b>unacceptable</b> ir Education Secretary driving <mark>ban bbc.co.u</mark> ondon	criticises <b>#Jewish</b>
via Andı	roid	<ul><li>↔ 다 ★</li></ul>
(B)	Mohammedali Abuna @AbunajelaMA	1703 days ajela 😋
picture	ewish paper removes v e: An ultra-Orthodox Je paper has photoshoppe	wish Israeli
n/1BjJ	2jw"	

This is extraordinary. That he chooses to highlight women's rights when the target is the Jewish (not the Israeli) community.

A closer analysis of this issue was conducted to see if Mohammed was active in feminist issues, which would excuse these two posts. The keywords 'women', 'woman', 'female' and

'feminist' were searched. A total of only 23 tweets were logged going back through 6 years of twitter activity.

- 1 tweet Ahed Tamimi as Wonder Woman.
- 1 tweet comment on act of anti-Muslim hatred against Muslim woman.
- 13 tweets about Israeli attacks that killed women.
- 1 tweet about Israel denying Congresswomen entry was Israel 'attacking women'.
- 1 tweet about IDF soldier dressing as woman
- 1 tweet general IWD support
- 3 tweets congratulatory tweets to Saudi Arabia for allowing women to drive
- 2 tweets attacks on Jewish orthodox attitudes towards women

The vast majority (17) of the mentions were explicit attacks on Israel. There was one single International Women's day mention. This leaves just 5 tweets in 6 years related to women's rights within national borders. There were three positive tweets on feminist attitudes in Saudi Arabia. The two explicitly critical tweets on women's rights, were both against the Jewish orthodox. Not a word, not a tweet about any other religion oppressing women.

**This looks exactly like antisemitism.** Not that this is a surprise. His own twitter feed is full of abhorrent personalities. He has even retweeted the antisemitic conspiracy theorist and Holocaust-denying Sarah Wilkinson on 4 occasions.<sup>100</sup>



https://antinazisunited.wordpress.com/2017/09/09/activist-or-holocaust-sarah-wilkinson%E2%80%8F-akaswilkinsonbc/ also see PSC report http://david-collier.com/wp-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> See <u>https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/jewish-social-media-users-respond-in-disgust-to-corbyn-supporting-accounts-mimicking-holocaust-tweet-1.485794</u> and

 $content/uploads/2017/02/170222\_palestine\_solidarity\_campaign\_report.pdf$ 

It is unnecessary to list in detail the one-sided, obsessive activism in his posts, and the idea that Mohammed is fit to be called 'impartial' is clearly absurd but I wish to highlight one more vitally important example. A Facebook post about the 'Great March of Return'.



The post addresses the march and raises suggestions to ensure its success. Most of it focuses on the peaceful aspects of it. The last three are different – they are about winning the propaganda war on social media.

The one I have circled is beyond troublesome. It suggests that 'martyrs' should be called 'martyrs of the march of return' and not be 'claimed' by 'factions.' In other words, it is suggesting that Hamas and the Islamic Jihad should refrain from publicly claiming ownership of fighters when they are killed by Israelis, to 'hide them' as innocent protestors who have been killed. All in order to positively influence international opinion.

This appears to be the Amnesty International Media Manager for MENA asking terrorist factions such as Hamas and the Islamic Jihad, to 'play along'.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> As there are no dates to Mohammed's appointment, it is assumed he was working for Amnesty at the time.

# **CASE STUDY: SAHAR MANDOUR**

Sahar Mandour is Amnesty International's Researcher for Lebanon and Jordan.<sup>102</sup> She worked for one of Lebanon's major newspapers until it ceased publication in 2016.<sup>103</sup> When she left in January 2017, she began working for Amnesty.

As a starting point this can be used to highlight the difference between the way Israel is treated and the way Amnesty treats every other nation. Is it possible to imagine a world in which the Editor of Ma'ariv or Yediot, two of Israel's major newspapers, became the 'researcher for Israel' at Amnesty International?

Sahar Mandour was also editor of the newspaper's monthly supplement on Palestine.<sup>104</sup>

From 2014, Mandour was pursuing a masters at SOAS. In fact, Israel seems to have been her thing. She had a paper published in 2015 titled '*From Diaspora to Nationalism via Colonialism: The Jewish "Memory" Whitened, Israelized, Pinkwashed, and De-Queered*'.<sup>105</sup> Make of that what you will.

The piece displays a total misunderstanding of Zionism, Jewishness, Ashkenazi, Mizrahi and the transformative societal processes occurring in Israel. It is beyond the scope to address it fully here, but it is full of all the 'anti-white' post-colonial psychobabble you'd expect from a masters student at SOAS. We are sure she passed with a distinction.

She was also active in the Student Union, writing in another piece that she 'fought, as part of her student union, for an academic boycott of Israel'.<sup>106</sup> This is Mandour's Facebook post when the resolution passed:<sup>107</sup> 'From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free':

 Sahar Mandour 27 February 2015 · ⊙
 73% of the SOAS body that participated to the referendum voted YES to boycott Israeli academic institutions!
 YEEEEEEEEAAAAAH!
 Now, chanting:
 From the river to the sea /
 Palestine will be free
 ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
 Mabrouuuuk!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/05/lgbti-community-activism-in-lebanon-a-story-of-existence-and-oppression/</u> and https://www.linkedin.com/in/sahar-mandour-a7b50914/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Sahar worked as an Editor for Assafir between 1998 and Jan 2017. <u>https://www.linkedin.com/in/sahar-mandour-a7b50914/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Ibid. also see FB page for supplement <u>https://www.facebook.com/palestine.assafir/</u> and website <u>http://palestine.assafir.com/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> https://kohljournal.press/from-diaspora-to-nationalism

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> https://madamasr.com/en/2018/04/29/opinion/u/treachery-isnt-a-perspective-boycotting-israel-in-lebanon/

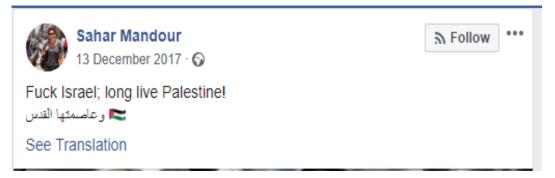
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\_fbid=10205103371936234&id=1601987061

In the response to that post, she wrote this in Arabic:



Which says she is just a 'simple soldier' for the State of Palestine.

Amnesty employed Mandour and she brought that hostility into Amnesty with her:



Mandour's Facebook posts are a mix of Arabic and English, which makes precise calculations impossible for someone who does not have a fluent grasp of the Arabic language. However, it was reasoned that some basic checks were still possible.<sup>108</sup>

Sahar Mandour is based in Lebanon, so it was assumed many posts would have had a local flavour. This rendered a search for 'Lebanon' pointless. It was still possible to test for other keywords to test bias, in both Arab and English.

Mandour is a country researcher for Jordan and Lebanon. 'Jordan' was one keyword chosen. 'Hezbollah' was another. 'Israel' was the third. Mandour's Facebook page was searched for these terms in both Arabic and English:

	JORDAN		ISRAEL		HEZBOLLAH	
	ENGLISH	-	ENGLISH	ARABIC	ENGLISH	ARABIC
	9	5	19	22	4	20
TOTAL	14	14		41		4

Another simple test was possible. In 2019, the Amnesty researcher for Lebanon and Jordan has shared 9 posts with the keyword 'Amnesty', just 6 of them directly from Amnesty websites.

[	ISRAEL	LEBANON	SYRIA	LGBT
	4 (3 direct)	3 (2 direct)	1	1 (1 direct)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Even if the results are not precise in number, they should still be indicative and relatively accurate in proportional distribution

This indicates that the 'simple soldier' for Palestine shares more on Israel than she does on her 'own' nations, both outside of and underneath the Amnesty umbrella. It also indicates that some of Amnesty's reports and campaigns for Lebanon and Jordan are not considered worthy of sharing by their own country researcher.

The paper she edited alongside Talal Salman was described as 'Islamo-progressive'. Because of the positions it had taken up (up until the Syrian civil war), it was viewed as pro-Syrian, sympathetic towards Hezbollah and leant towards Pan-Arab nationalism.<sup>109</sup>

The Palestinian magazine she edited is far less forgiving. Given Israel is in conflict with Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah and Hamas it is difficult to see how anyone editing a magazine on the conflict that the Lebanese public would see as acceptable, could be viewed as 'Amnesty material'.

The paper opposes Arab state normalisation with Israel. It is fully supportive of the 'resistance'. It protects Hezbollah by defending it from legal and political attacks by other Arab states.<sup>110</sup>

In any event, Mandour sees Hamas as 'legitimate', Israel as 'illegitimate' and has been actively opposing Israel, which includes political activism at a UK university to pass boycott motions. She wrote academic papers that are clearly anti-Israel in nature and edited a pro-Palestinian newspaper. Mandour clearly views Israel as illegitimate and actively opposes it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> See <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/As-Safir and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March\_14\_Alliance</u> and <u>https://gulfnews.com/world/mena/pan-arab-paper-al-safir-paper-may-not-close-down-1.1698944</u> and <u>https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2016/12/9/lebanons-as-safir-newspaper-to-close-after-42-years</u> and <u>https://gulfnews.com/world/mena/al-safir-to-officially-close-in-january-1.1943516</u> and also https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/authors/talal-salman.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> There are many examples to see just surfing through the website. This is one <u>http://palestine.assafir.com/Article.aspx?ChannelID=106&ArticleID=3553</u> The Arab states attacking Hezbollah should be seen in the context of the Arab state opposition to Hezbollah providing assistance to Assad. It is therefore perfectly in line with the pan-Arab, pro-Syrian stance of the mother paper.

### CASE STUDY: LAITH ABU ZEYAD

At the UN Laith Abu Zeyad is described simply as an Amnesty 'briefer'.<sup>111</sup> Al Jazeera describe him as an Amnesty 'Israel/Palestine' campaigner.<sup>112</sup> Amnesty call him a 'staff member.'<sup>113</sup>

Given his explicit input into the UN on the Airbnb campaign and his article in Al-Jazeera it can be assumed he worked heavily on the campaign.<sup>114</sup>

Priefing by Amnesty International Briefer: Mr. Laith Abu Zeyad ...
 https://www.un.org > unispal > wp-content > uploads > 2019/02 > Briefing...
 Briefing by Amnesty International. Briefer: Mr. Laith Abu Zeyad. Subject: Presenting Amnesty International's recent report titled: Destination: Occupation. Digital.

This from a source who often retweets the rantings of raw anti-Israel activists. He has retweeted BDS Egypt and Electronic Intifada.<sup>115</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Briefing-by-Amnesty-International-Notes.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/tripadvisor-corporate-irresponsibility-190726195632692.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/state-of-palestine-amnesty-staff-member-arbitrarily-detained-and-tortured-by-palestinian-security-officers/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Briefing-by-Amnesty-International-Notes.pdf <sup>115</sup> The retweet of Egypt BDS <u>https://twitter.com/BdsEgypt/status/1164465613521035266</u> it is related to terrorism charges against the head of BDS in Egypt.

He recently retweeted a revolutionary socialist group in Egypt that has ties to the Muslim Brotherhood. It was about the death of Morsi, a leader of the Muslim Brotherhood.<sup>116</sup>



Abu Zeyad also recently shared this, from an outlet viewed as pro-Assad and pro-Hezbollah.<sup>117</sup>



Before Amnesty, Abu Zeyad worked for the 'PFLP affiliate' Addameer.<sup>118</sup>

If we include the BDS Egypt tweet that was concerned with the arrest of someone with possible ties to the Brotherhood, the underlying sympathies visible here are troubling.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolutionary\_Socialists\_(Egypt)

<sup>117</sup> The translation of the article is here

- https://translate.google.com/translate?sl=ar&tl=en&u=https%3A%2F%2Fal-
- akhbar.com%2FOpinion%2F274995 for more on the outlet Al Akbar news read here

<u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al\_Akhbar\_(Lebanon)</u> Even Max Blumenthal quit the outlet because its pro-Assad stance was even too toxic for him https://therealnews.com/stories/mblumenthal0621

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> For more on the Revolutionary Socialist group

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> <u>https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/03/youngest-israeli-prisoner-12-year-girl-160317064812932.html</u> and see https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/addameer/

### He retweeted this account on more than one occasion:

C Laith Abu Zeyad Retweeted



WaadGh @wa3dghantous · Aug 12
۲۶.۸.۱۹۷۲ حاصر الجيش السوري والمليشيات اللبنانية المارونية مخيم تل الزعتر
الفلسطيني واعدموا اكثر من ۲۰۰۰ لاجئ فلسطيني.

To highlight what Zeyad associates with, this was a recent tweet from that account:



This is a news report of a terrorist attack that took place on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019. 17-year-old Rina Shnerb who had been hiking with her brother and father was killed in the blast.<sup>119</sup>

The tweet links to a news article on the attack. The Arabic mentions the 'moment' of the explosion that killed a 'settler' and wounded others.<sup>120</sup> The Hebrew headline suggests 1 person has received life-threatening injuries and two others have been badly hurt.

Her tweet simply gives this terror attack a smiley face. This is what Amnesty aligns with.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-49447035

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> https://twitter.com/qudsn/status/1164820323784515585

There is more evidence on Abu Zeyad. After I had published the teaser on Hind Khoudary, the terrorist supporting Amnesty consultant from Gaza, Abu Zeyad deleted his Twitter account:<sup>121</sup>



It could be argued that it is a coincidence that two Palestinian anti-Israel Amnesty activists deleted their accounts for a reason unconnected to the research. A far more likely scenario is that this is an attempt to hide evidence. As the research suggests their true opinions are toxic and the input these people have is deliberately skewed, there are many reasons that they would be wary of research such as this.

The account eventually returned.<sup>122</sup> Only a few hundred tweets were left on the account. Many tweets have clearly been deleted. Another interesting note. The 'WaadGh' account that had tweeted the happy face suddenly protected her tweets at the same time:<sup>123</sup>



### These Tweets are protected

Only approved followers can see @wa3dghantous's Tweets. To request access, click Follow. Learn more

<sup>121</sup> When I was fact-checking some of the claims in the report, I noticed the account had gone. https://twitter.com/laithzia

- <sup>122</sup> https://twitter.com/laithzia
- <sup>123</sup> https://twitter.com/wa3dghantous

These people are not 'bit-players', they are key elements of the 'authentic voice' on which Amnesty relies to provide information and legitimacy for their anti-Israel campaigns:<sup>1</sup>



On the question of Israel, perhaps far beyond, Amnesty is not a human rights NGO anymore – a structural reliance is dragging them ever closer to raw anti-western, anti-Israel activism.

On 4 Sep 2019 Amnesty published yet another report on Israel. On the face of it, he report – about discrimination faced by Israeli Arab lawmakers – appears farcical.<sup>1</sup> The direction is clear. Amnesty insiders are working on Amnesty labelling Israel an Apartheid state and pushing people towards full support of BDS. There is a destination, but it is not 'occupation', but rather an NGO actively supporting those who seek the destruction of Israel.

The tweet that shared the new report by Laith Abu Zeyad is soon spread around:



🗘 Saleh Hijazi Retweeted

Laith Abu Zeyad @laithzia · 8h #Israel claims to be "the only democracy in

#Israel claims to be "the only democracy in the Middle East," but reality shows the opposite. A new report published today by @amnesty found how deep-rooted discrimination against Palestinians goes right to the heart of Israel's parliamentary system.



Palestinians in Knesset face deep-rooted discrimination The right to freedom of expression of Palestinian Knesset members is threatened by discriminatory legislation and regulations  $\mathscr{O}$  amnesty.org Shared by governments? Lawmakers? No of course not. It was created for and shared by groups like these – the anti-Israel BDS network.

KAHD	ICAHD Finland @ICAHDFinland Finnish branch of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, spreading info about the current situation in Israel/Palestine and Finland's role in it.		<b>onya E Meyerson-Knox</b> DS_MeyersonKnox 1edia Program Manager at J <mark>ewish Voice for Peac</mark> e. Alwa eirut, Boston and Brooklyn	Follow ys somewhere between
UV VI	Independent Jewish Voices @IndJewishVoices A grassroots organization grounded in Jewish tradition that opposes all forms of racism and advocates for justice and peace for all in Israel-Palestine.	BDS	BDS South Africa @BDSsouthafrica South African group part of the international Boycott, (BDS) against Israel movement. Member of @NC4Pso endorsements	
0	Brighton BDS @BrightonBDS We support the call for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions as part of the struggle for Palestinian justice. By word & deed in Brighton & beyond.	(S)	PSC @PSCupdates Palestine Solidarity Campaign campaigns for peace support of international law & human rights & agai RT≠endorsement	

Amnesty has shifted from an organisation that was deserving of respect into an obsessive twisted movement, working for hate groups, that should have doors firmly slammed shut in front of them.

### CASE STUDY: MARK DUMMETT

Mark Dummett is Amnesty's 'Head of Business and Human Rights'.<sup>124</sup> This is important because this makes him head of Amnesty's Corporate Social Responsibility at a time when Amnesty state that 'millions of people are already suffering from the catastrophic effect of climate change'.<sup>125</sup>

He would also have a mountain of work on human rights issues such as child labour, conflict minerals, modern slavery and the regional effects of destructive oil activities.<sup>126</sup>

Dummett's tweets for the last 200 days were analysed. In total he posted an original tweet 102 times.<sup>127</sup>

To add context, a major court case took place in 2019 regarding Shell Oil activity on Ogoni lands in Nigeria.<sup>128</sup> There was also ongoing violent confrontations between miners and the army in the DRC.<sup>129</sup> This would naturally be reflected in Dummett's output.<sup>130</sup>

ISRAEL / PA /GAZA	25	SAUDI ARABIA	1
NIGERIA	23	GHANA	1
DRC	15	ZAMBIA	1
GENERAL	15	SYRIA	1
SHELL	6	SIERRA LEONE	1
REMAIN / BREXIT	4	BANGLADESH	1
ANTI-FACEBOOK	3	GHANA	1
SAUDI ARABIA	1	TANZANIA	1

The global issue that concerns Amnesty's Head of Business and Human Rights more than any other, is the existence of approximately 200 Jewish listed properties in 'area C' of the West Bank.<sup>131</sup> For Dummett, the cobalt or blood diamond industries, child labour, modern slavery and the contribution of dirty supply chains to climate change clearly do not warrant

<sup>127</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/markdummett

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> This is the title Amnesty give him here

https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/05/nigerianetherlandsshell-ruling-a-vital-step-towards-justice/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/climate-change/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> See examples - child labour <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2016/01/Child-labour-behind-smart-phone-and-electric-car-batteries/</u> conflict minerals & modern slavery

https://www.ropesgray.com/en/newsroom/events/2016/March/Is-the-Cobalt-In-Your-Products-Contributingto-Human-Rights-Abuses oil https://www.vice.com/en\_us/article/ney3pg/how-an-execution-20-years-agoshaped-the-fight-against-oil-pollution-in-the-niger-delta

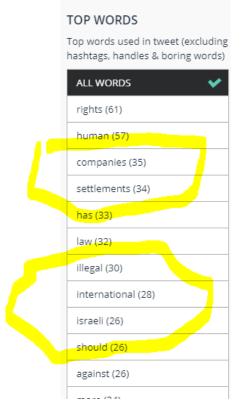
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Ogoni https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/shell-involvement-execution-ogoni-nine-nigeria-bedecided-courtand <u>https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/feb/12/ogoni-widows-testify-the-hague-shell-alleged-complicity-killings</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr62/0625/2019/en/

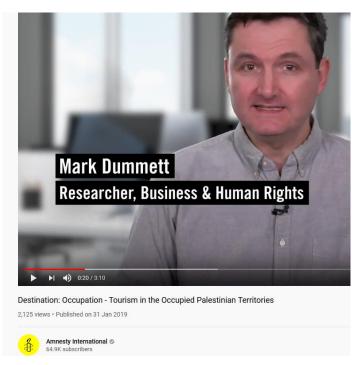
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Shell were referenced 6 times without explicit mention of Nigeria. It is accepted that the argument could be raised these were posts about Nigeria, thus brining Nigeria's total to 29. It hardly derails the point and, in any event,, that would be to suggest the only problem with Shell today is a historical event in Nigeria, which given the state of the oil industry, would be an absurd position to take.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-47881163

as much attention as a few hundred Jewish houses. Once more we see a similar obsession on an Amnesty employee's Twitter account:



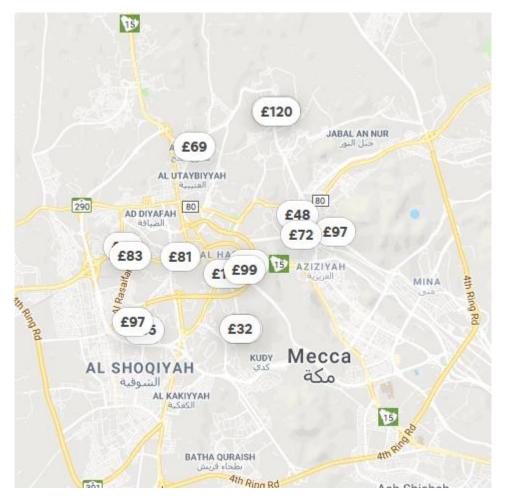
Dummett was too busy telling people to boycott the Jewish state to worry about other global human rights issues. Dummett fronted the Destination: Occupation campaign.<sup>132</sup>



132 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lk7VLsAKIM

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

Up to 4000 people could die as a result of Qatari abuse of migrant workers before the 2022 World Cup.<sup>133</sup> It is encouraging to know that Amnesty's 'Head of Business and Human Rights' has clearly got his priorities right. It isn't like the Amazon is burning, the climate is changing or workers' rights are abused in the trillion-dollar garment industry.<sup>134</sup>



As an additional point. These are properties listed on Airbnb for Mecca:135

Unless you are Muslim you are not allowed in Mecca at all. Which means none of these properties are available to anyone who is not a Muslim. This discrimination exists by law.<sup>136</sup> As of today, there is no petition by Amnesty to delist these properties from the Airbnb website and Mark Dummett has never commented on them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> https://observatoryihr.org/news\_item/labour-conditions-in-qatar-could-result-in-as-many-as-4000-deaths-before-the-start-of-the-2022-world-cup/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2018/essay/transparency-in-apparel-industry

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> https://www.airbnb.co.uk/s/Mecca--Saudi-Arabia/homes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> https://wikitravel.org/en/Mecca

# **CASE STUDY RAED JARRAR**

Raed Jarrar is the Middle East and North Africa Advocacy Director for Amnesty USA. He was born in Iraq and claims 'half-Palestinian' heritage.<sup>137</sup>

### He joined Amnesty in 2017:



In a Middle East that has witnessed so much devastation, this is the Twitter 'word cloud' for Amnesty USA's MENA Director:<sup>138</sup>



Israel, Israeli Palestinians and Trump. Nobody else gets a look in. The issue here is clear, Jarrar was born in Iraq, and raised in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Iraq. He graduated in Baghdad.

Jarrar made his name through the Iraq War. He co-authored a book on the struggles of living in Iraq at the time.<sup>139</sup> According to Wiki he set up an NGO that looked at humanitarian work 'in Baghdad and Southern Iraq'.

For a Director of MENA, that gives him a gateway via Amnesty to Iraq, which you would logically assume defined his key interests.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raed\_Jarrar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/raedjarrar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> https://www.amazon.com/Iraqi-Familys-Inside-First-Occupation/dp/0971679509

Except it doesn't. Jarrar's Twitter feed was searched for references. 817 tweets were loaded.<sup>140</sup> These were the results:

Israel	220	Syria	48
Palestine	132	Iraq	37
		Saudi	20
		Egypt	18
		Jordan	2
		Lebanon	0

Like with so many at Amnesty, Jarrar doesn't direct his interest towards the most brutal oppression, nor does he direct his interest towards where he experienced hardship. He appears completely obsessed with Israel.

Jarrar was an anti-Israel activist long before he arrived at Amnesty. He publicly pushed donations for the propaganda outfit Electronic Intifada:<sup>141</sup>



All these obsessive forces are inside Amnesty. Directing it, allocating resources and choosing what issues are to be focused on. It is a tragedy that those he left behind in Iraq are completely forgotten by one of the people most capable of providing publicity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/raedjarrar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> https://twitter.com/raedjarrar/status/539970347609911296

### **CASE STUDY: RASHA ABDUL RAHIM**

Just like Sahar Mandour. Rasha Abdul Rahim did her masters at SOAS.<sup>142</sup> She is a Deputy Director of Amnesty Tech, which deals with 'surveillance, censorship and all the internet things'.<sup>143</sup>

Abdul Rahim has an active Twitter account.<sup>144</sup> Her profile picture is of Jerusalem:



Her twitter feed is full of retweets from hard-core anti-Israel activists. She has also retweeted the use of the 'JSIL' hashtag.<sup>145</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> https://uk.linkedin.com/in/rasha-abdul-rahim-70115a174?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> https://twitter.com/amnestytech?lang=en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> https://twitter.com/rasha\_abdul?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> The use of this hashtag was an attempt to have Israel see as being comparable to ISIS. 'J' standing for Jewish the original tweet is here <u>https://twitter.com/RaniaKhalek/status/519517115607695360</u>

According to the Algemeiner, Abdul Rahim has described herself as a 'ranty Palestinian activist'.<sup>146</sup>

This is one of the people directing where Amnesty place the emphasis on all things hi tech. Is it any surprise that Amnesty have pushed resources towards fighting an Israel company NSO in the courts.<sup>147</sup> This isn't just about rights and wrongs; it is about the allocation of resources and the list of priorities.

Is there any doubt Abdul Rahim places anti-Israel activity unnaturally high on her list of priorities?

She also retweets accounts like Max Blumenthal and articles providing links to the official BDS movement webpage:

A	tl Rasha Abdul-Rahim retweete Noura Erakat @4noura	d	1276 days
US, U <mark>ment</mark>	o exit Israel & juvenile cent K after 4-yr #BDS campaig .net/2016/g4s-annou #Ar uk #Onward	n. <mark>bd</mark> s	move
via Tw	veetDeck	•	は 🛧
	13 Rasha Abdul-Rahim retweetee	4	2056 days
	Max Blumenthal @MaxB		2
the Isr	lian PM Stephen Harper cla raeli Knesset that anti-Zioni ism: <mark>twitter.com/lahavhark</mark> f <mark>akin</mark>	ism is	anti-
via iPh	one	<b>4</b> 1	<b>a</b> 🕇

Her Twitter feed was analysed. There are thirty-five tweets that explicitly mention Hamas. Not one is critical of the group. They are either matter-of-fact mentions, deflective or defensive. In 35 tweets the human rights activist could not bring herself to attack a radical Islamist terror group that imposes severe oppression on all the people living under its rule.

When a Palestinian says something she doesn't like, she attacks him:<sup>148</sup>

<sup>147</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israel-amnesty-and-new-york-university-legal-action-prevent-spyware-attacks

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> https://www.algemeiner.com/2014/02/27/watchdog-group-highlights-anti-israel-credentials-of-amnesty-internationals-researchers/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> https://twitter.com/Rasha\_Abdul/status/492692811746406400



Rasha Abdul-Rahim @Rasha\_Abdul · Jul 25, 2014 What happens when a Palestinian guest appears on Fox News: ow.ly/zA86K Appalled by this @DrZuhdiJasser idiot/Israel apologist.

♀7 ℃46 ♡2 企

This from the same tweet but further down the discussion. A partial defence of Hamas ideology. Anything but criticism.



She mentions Pakistan 12 times, none of which appear critical. The tweets either attack the US for the use of drones in Pakistan or are positive references to Pakistan for its stance on 'killer robots':

512 days Rasha Abdul-Rahim @Rasha\_Abdul #Pakistan praises 'seminal work' done by @ BanKillerRobots and encourages us to continue our 'vital **work**' despite frustratingly slow pace of discussions. #CC WUN

Hezbollah get 4 mentions; none appear critical. But she has no trouble repeating the Apartheid smears of Ben White:



11 Rasha Abdul-Rahim retweeted 2021 days Ben White @benabyad

If **#apartheidweek** makes you feel '**uncomfortable**', then maybe you should, you know, **stop supporting** apartheid? **#rethi** nk2014 Her feed (over 7000 tweets) was searched for the names of some nation states. These were the findings:

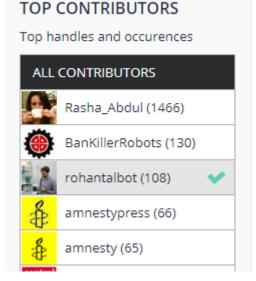
Israel/Israeli	432	Iran	36
Yemen	314	Germany	31
Saudi	291	Turkey	24
Syria	119	Lebanon	24
France	68	India	18
Iraq	56	Pakistan	12
China	46	Jordan	4

It should be noted that the Israel references are far larger than they appear. Mentions of Palestine, Palestinian, Hamas and so on were not counted to avoid duplication. There were over 200 more of these but it was felt unnecessary to examine 7000 tweets more closely.

Given her role and the level of hi-tech surveillance in China, it is surprising to see China receive so few mentions.<sup>149</sup>

If we remove retweets and replies, then of the 977 original tweets Abdul Rahim madeover 160 are connected to Israel:<sup>150</sup> That is over 16%.

This is a list of the accounts she shares the most. Ban Killer Robots is a global NGO campaign. Her top 'personal' share is Rohan Talbot, Advocacy Manager for Medical Aid for Palestinians.<sup>151</sup> She shares MAP more than she does Amnesty or Amnesty Press.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass\_surveillance\_in\_China

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Search terms Israel, Israeli, Palestine, Palestinian. This time they were filtered for duplicates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> https://twitter.com/rohantalbot

# **CASE STUDY: KRISTYAN BENEDICT**

Kristyan Benedict is 'Campaign Manager – Crisis Response & Tactical Campaigns' at Amnesty International.<sup>152</sup> Kristyan has an official Syria focus.<sup>153</sup> He has been at Amnesty for 16 years.

Benedict is active on Twitter.<sup>154</sup> There is a long history of accusations of bias against him. In 2012, the Zionist Federation accused him of 'anti-Israel bias'.<sup>155</sup>

In a now deleted 2011 interview on the Labour Friends of Palestine Website, Benedict aligned Israel with the worst violators of human rights on the planet:<sup>156</sup>

'Israel is now included in the list of stupid dictatorial regimes who abuse peoples' basic universal rights – along with Burma, North Korea, Iran and Sudan, its government has the same wanton attitude to human beings.'

As outrageous as that comment is, perhaps it is worthy to look at who is not included as much as we should focus on who is. Syria, his own pet project is excluded. In fact, none of the Arab states are included.

He went on to compare Israel to both South Africa and the Soviet Union, holding the Apartheid regime and the Soviet empire as comparable examples of unsustainable systems brought down from within. As he spoke in Feb 2011 the Arab spring had already erupted in Tunisia, Algeria, Oman, Egypt and Yemen. It is notable he did not use these examples.<sup>157</sup>

The interview also contained conspiratorial nonsense about Israel 'pushing buttons' to make Arab states feel insecure, so in turn they buy 'weapons themselves'. This makes the entire conflict a money-making scheme in which Israel 'plays nasty' to make Israelis rich.

Comparing Israel to the racist and brutal regimes and an oppressive super-power, wrapping it all up as a conspiratorial money-making scheme almost screams 'antisemitic ideology'.

Like several others who are listed in this report, Kristyan Benedict also appears to have been a member of Palestine Live. This is a toxic, secret anti-Israel group that is overrun with antisemitic dialogue. It was publicly exposed in March 2018.<sup>158</sup>



Elleanne Green ▶ PALESTINE LIVE 23 June 2014 · ⊕

ØKristyan Benedict of Amnesty is now a member of this group ...

<sup>157</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab\_Spring

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>152</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristyanbenedict/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/hagues-announcement-aid-syria-opposition-should-be-warned-about-war-crimes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> https://twitter.com/KreaseChan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/amnesty-international-defends-official-accused-of-anti-israel-bias-1.34415

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>156</sup> The page appears to have been deleted sometime in 2015. It is still available via the internet archive https://web.archive.org/web/20110505064312/https://www.lfpme.org/articles-p181

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> http://david-collier.com/exclusive-corbyn-antisemitism/

While there is no suggestion Benedict engaged himself in such activity, he appears to have had detailed 1:1 discussions with the founder of the group, Elleanne Green. It is suggested that he was willing to allow Green the use of the 'large hall' at Amnesty HQ for a Max Blumenthal event. <sup>159</sup>



Benedict has his fingers all over Amnesty's slide towards the abyss. Earlier in the research it was shown that Benedict has a fondness for sharing Ben White tweets. In 2012 Amnesty hosted a book launch event for White, for his book 'Palestinians in Israel: Segregation, Discrimination and Democracy'.<sup>160</sup> It appears Benedict was a key organiser:

Ben White 25 January 2012 · 👪	•••		
Message from Kristyan Benedict about my book launch event at Amnesty Thursday night: "350 tickets booked - if you are one of those who booked get there early with your confirmation email from us to ensure you get a seat"			
Frank Barat and 7 others	1 comment		

In 2014, Benedict compared Israel to ISIS.<sup>161</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Blumenthal is beyond hard core hate and anyone seeking any type of balance would have nothing to do with him. He has recently been ostracised by anti-Israel outlets who were uncomfortable with his support for Assad. He is a conspiracy theorist and has frequently been labelled antisemitic. See

https://www.algemeiner.com/2017/12/04/salon-mainstreams-the-vile-antisemitism-of-max-blumenthal-andjoseph-massad/ and https://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/189172/max-blumenthal-and-antizionists and <u>http://www.thetower.org/article/the-pro-palestinian-left-is-tearing-itself-apart-over-syria/</u> and <u>https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/comment/2018/5/29/being-pro-palestine-and-pro-assad-doesnt-add-up</u> and <u>http://david-collier.com/a-distorted-evening-with-max-blumenthal/</u> and <u>http://david-collier.com/my-</u> <u>yom-kippur-with-max-blumenthal/</u> and https://mosaicmagazine.com/picks/israel-zionism/2019/08/maxblumenthals-progression-from-israel-hater-to-putin-shill/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> Ben White is a British extreme anti-Zionist. He has also been accused of antisemitism. See more on Ben White here <a href="https://ukmediawatch.org/in-their-own-words/ben-white/">https://ukmediawatch.org/in-their-own-words/ben-white/</a> for the book see

https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/product/0745332285

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>161</sup> https://twitter.com/adamlevick/status/529957731529412608

At another Amnesty event in 2011, Benedict told a panellist there was no point speaking to Richard Millett, a Zionist blogger who was present at the talk, because he is a 'war crimes denier'. He then went on to physically threaten Millett suggesting he would 'smack him in his little bald head'.<sup>162</sup> There is a recording of the incident that implies there was an original threat that was even worse than the one caught on tape.<sup>163</sup>

Outside of his key focus Syria, and one of the active hotspots in the world today Hong Kong, the only visible nation mentioned in a 'word cloud' of Benedict's 2019 tweets, is Israel. Even Saudi Arabia and Iran didn't make the list.<sup>164</sup>



Benedict's Twitter feet is highly active, and he clearly uses it to spread news. His 2019 tweets were analysed.<sup>165</sup> Syria was removed from the equation because that is the focus of his job and it is accepted that he posts consistently on the subject. is reach is global, and he referenced 37 separate nation states:

Israel	114	Hamas / Gaza 3 Azerbaijan		Azerbaijan	1
Hong Kong	56	Algeria	3	Yemen (not Saudi)	1
Saudi Arabia	48	Libya	3	Oman	1
United Kingdom	41	Egypt	2	Zimbabwe	1
USA	38	North Korea	2	Morocco	1
Sudan	31	Turkey (not Syria)	2	Brazil	1
China (not HK)	28	UAE	2	France	1
Venezuela	19	Rwanda	1 Argentina		1
Iran	10	Brunei	1	Sweden	1
Lebanon	8	Bahrain	1	Nicaragua	1
Russia (not Syria)	5	Ecuador	1	Australia	1
Burma	3	New Zealand	1	General, non-specific	36
Bosnia	3	Guatemala	1	Total logged	474

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> https://richardmillett.wordpress.com/2011/04/13/amnesty-event-israel-soldier-used-broken-glass-to-cut-magen-david-into-palestinian-boys-forearm/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> https://richardmillett.files.wordpress.com/2011/04/dw\_b0204.wav

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/KreaseChan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> <u>https://socialbearing.com/search/user/KreaseChan</u> retweets and replies were discounted.

The results of this analysis are truly shocking. Almost 20% of the tweets on nations other than the Syrian state are about Israel. The obsession is both blatant and inexcusable. It was no surprise to learn Benedict got into trouble over a tweet many considered antisemitic.<sup>166</sup>

According to OCHA, there have been 87 Palestinian fatalities in 2019, the vast majority were men of fighting age.<sup>167</sup>

In Afghanistan alone in 2019, casualty figures are estimated at over 31,000.<sup>168</sup> Not that you would know from Benedict's tweets, he didn't explicitly mention them in 2019. In fact, his last direct reference to Afghanistan was a March 2018 tweet, which he probably only made because it gave him an opportunity to attack Israel:<sup>169</sup>



kristyan benedict @ @KreaseChan · Mar 7, 2018 UN Secretary-General Must List Forces From Afghanistan, the Congo, Israel, and Myanmar in its Annual Shame List for Child Violations watchlist.org/wpcontent/upl...

Benedict puts Israel alongside Afghanistan, the Congo and Myanmar. This is not rational, nor is it acceptable.

Benedict is listed as 'crisis response' and 'campaign manager.' He has been actively involved in inviting extremists to Amnesty HQ for events and pushes campaign after campaign against Israel.

Benedict made more tweets poking fun at and belittling milk shake attacks on those who he personally views as politically unacceptable than he made on Kashmir. Which wouldn't be difficult because his last explicit tweet on Kashmir was in 2012.

But there are other oddities. It is over 4 years since his last explicit critical tweet about Pakistan. That is 4 years.<sup>170</sup> If we assume Israel's return is an average, then since the last time he posted an explicitly critical tweet on Pakistan he has posted 608 tweets on Israel.



kristyan benedict 🥑 @KreaseChan

Now **@AFP** are reporting an AFP photographer has been shot at the Pakistan **#CharlieHebdo** protest and is in a serious condition.

11:26 AM · Jan 16, 2015 · Twitter for iPhone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> https://www.timesofisrael.com/amnesty-uk-campaign-manager-in-hot-water-over-jewish-mps-tweet/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> https://www.ochaopt.org/data/casualties

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_ongoing\_armed\_conflicts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> https://twitter.com/KreaseChan/status/971380210976387072

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> https://twitter.com/KreaseChan/status/556049935620374528

### His only explicit mention of Qatar in two years was in critical commentary on the UAE.<sup>171</sup>



kristyan benedict 🤣 @KreaseChan · Feb 5 Today in the UAE's "Year of tolerance"

"Ahmad wore a **Qatar** shirt to the match not knowing that doing so in the UAE is an offence punishable with a large fine and an extended period of imprisonment".



It is just the same old story that is visible every time the research scratches the surface of Amnesty international.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> https://twitter.com/KreaseChan/status/1092832197613105152

# **CASE STUDY: SAMAH HADID**

Samah Hadid is a former Middle East Director of Campaigns.<sup>172</sup> Hadid took up the role in 2016.<sup>173</sup> Hadid is an Australian Muslim.<sup>174</sup> She appears to have Lebanese heritage.<sup>175</sup> When Amnesty opened the Beirut office, Hadid went to work there.<sup>176</sup>

Hadid is active on Twitter and has been since 2010. She has made over 24000 tweets. Many of her tweets are related to women's rights and she covers many different and worthwhile issues.

Hadid's activity can be analysed from a qualitative as well as quantitative perspective.

Hadid has tweeted 50 times explicitly using the keyword 'Israel'. It is a fairly high number for her. She has tweeted about 'Jordan' on 31 occasions, 15 on 'Qatar', once on 'Kuwait' and once on 'Oman'.

Hadid has tweeted 100 times about 'Lebanon'. Having said that, she has only tweeted 3 times explicitly about Hezbollah. None of these tweets were critical of the terror group.

Hadid has tweeted about 'Pakistan' on 43 occasions. This allows for a direct qualitative analysis of Hadid's 50 tweets referencing 'Israel' and the 43 referencing 'Pakistan'.

A reminder. Hadid calls herself a 'human rights campaigner'. So did Amnesty. Pakistan have one of the worst records on human rights in the world. Hadid tweeted about them 43 times and Israel 50. A fairly even number.



@samahhadid

🕗 سماح Samah Hadid



Human rights campaigner. Commentator. Former Middle East Director of Campaigns at Amnesty International.

Let us first look at one of her other tweets. In the summer of 2012, Mohamed Morsi gained power in Egypt. He was the Muslim Brotherhood candidate and was intent on drafting a new constitution enshrined in 'Sharia law'.<sup>177</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> Hadid's Twitter title states she is a 'former' employee see <u>https://twitter.com/samahhadid</u> it must be a recent departure because in March 2019, she still held the position

https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/03/saudi-arabia-women-activists-persecuted-under-boguscharges/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/samahhadid/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> http://www.crescentsofbrisbane.org/Newsletter/CCN0284.asp

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Minorities/No.18-March-April2009.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/02/amnesty-international-strengthens-human-rights-presence-in-mena-with-new-office-based-in-lebanon/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>177</sup> See <u>https://foreignpolicy.com/2012/06/07/brother-number-one/</u> and <u>https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2012/06/25/egypts\_mohammed\_morsi\_moves\_into\_mubaraks\_presid\_ential\_office\_meets\_with\_military.html</u> for more on the Brotherhood see

In October 2012 Morsi joined in a prayer that called for the dispersal of the Jews:

'Oh Allah, disperse them, rend them asunder. Oh Allah, demonstrate your might and greatness upon them.'<sup>178</sup>

On 22 November Morsi launched what was described as a 'coup' after giving the 'Islamistdominated constituent assembly' freedom from legal challenge. <sup>179</sup>

Hadid's first explicit public tweet on Morsi was made on the same day, November 22.<sup>180</sup>

Samah Hadid ک سماح samahhadid · Nov 22, 2012 Good leadership from **Morsi** re Israel and Gaza , hope he can now finally rebuild #Egypt

For Hadid's benefit it has to be assumed that the Morsi compliment is entirely unconnected with either his blatant antisemitism, his Brotherhood/Islamist ideology or the timing of his political takeover. There was a cessation of hostilities between Hamas and Israel at this time brokered by Egypt.<sup>181</sup> Even so, for this to be the only time during this period that Hadid explicitly mentioned Morsi in her tweets and, for it to be an open and unqualified compliment, still appears odd.

Which brings us to the qualitative comparison. All the 93 tweets that mentioned either 'Israel' or 'Pakistan' were analysed and categorized. Four key categories were created.

Positive: A tweet that contained a compliment or positive message

**Irrelevant:** A tweet that carried mention of Israel or Pakistan but wasn't really about either. Or a tweet that was not political in nature.

Negative: A tweet that contained criticism or a negative message

**Unclear:** A tweet that was ambiguous or unclear. Neither obviously positive nor negative.

An example of a positive Tweet:



The tweet is unambiguous and clearly praises Pakistan.

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/30/world/middleeast/is-the-muslim-brotherhood-terrorist.html and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim\_Brotherhood

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>178</sup> https://www.memri.org/tv/egyptian-president-morsi-joins-preacher-prayer-dispersal-jews

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>179</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/nov/23/protests-egypt-presidential-decree

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>180</sup> https://twitter.com/samahhadid/status/271406758604439554

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>181</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/nov/21/gaza-ceasefire-announced-cairo

An example of a 'politically irrelevant' tweet:182



An explicit mention but is related to natural tragedy, a lack of reporting in the west and clearly carries no political positive or negative messaging relevant to Pakistan.

#### An example of a 'negative' tweet:



#### An example of an 'unclear' tweet:



The tweet may carry some implied critical undertones, but it is directed more towards the UK than to Pakistan.

The forty-two Pakistan related tweets were split into the 4 categories:

POSITIVE	IRRELEVANT	NEGATIVE	UNCLEAR	
16	7	13	7	

What is also important is that 8 of the 13 negative tweets came in 2011 and there has been only one negative tweet containing the word 'Pakistan' in the last 7 years.<sup>183</sup> It should also be mentioned that negative tweets were often about 'armed groups' rather than government policies or state sponsored abuse.

Not one tweet at any time attacked Pakistan's character. The only criticisms were general, about specific laws or about acts of violence.

<sup>183</sup> A Tweet about the death of Sabeen Mahmud

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>182</sup> Clearly the issue of irrelevance is directed towards the lack of relevance as a political comment on Pakistan and has nothing to do with the tragic loss of life.

https://twitter.com/samahhadid/status/591975320888180737

Israel's 50 tweets were different:

POSITIVE	IRRELEVANT	NEGATIVE	UNCLEAR	
0	1	47	2	

The bias was clear. These were the four tweets Hadid made about Pakistan in 2012:<sup>184</sup>

My post on	<b>Pakistan</b> goo.gl	ut women and	l girls raising their vo	$\sim$ ices and leading
<b>♀</b> 3	î↓ 12	♡ 1	1 1	
Great to see	d <b>id سماح wer</b> @s Americans and pol no longer hid	Pakistanis ma	arch together against	∨ U.S drone strikes, an
$\Diamond$	tl 2	♡ 1	1 1	
Replying to	o meet @Mehre	qi	Feb 24, 2012 discuss <b>Pakistan</b> an	∽ d politics
Q 1	t]	$\odot$	$\uparrow$	
Replying to			Nov 4, 2012 <b>:tan</b> , I will get there	∽ one day
Q 1	t]	$\bigcirc$	$\uparrow$	

There was not a single tweet about Israel that was comparable to any of these. Nor at any time were there tweets about Pakistan that implied conspiracy, like this one on Israel and WikiLeaks:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>184</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=pakistan (from%3Asamahhadid) until%3A2012-12-31 since%3A2012-01-01

Nor a tweet about Pakistan that suggested the nation was acting like a 'monster':185



On Israel Hadid frequently pushes the boycott, talks about apartheid and references genocide. On Pakistan there are posts such as this:

Samah Hadid • Feb 19, 2011 🤣 سماح 📀				
amazing photos of daily life in <b>Pakistan</b> : http://bit.ly/h7K6fv				
$\heartsuit$	1J	♡ 1		

In percentage terms:

	POSITIVE	IRRELEVANT	NEGATIVE	UNCLEAR
ISRAEL	0%	2%	94%	4%
PAKISTAN	37%	16%	31%	16%

One last incident of note. In 2011 Hadid posted several criticisms of violence in Pakistan. She also tweeted this:<sup>186</sup>



I could find no reference to this death threat online, so there is no indication of who Hadid is directing the comment towards. She clearly believes she faced some threat.

The one piece of evidence that does exist however is that Hadid did stop tweeting criticisms of Pakistan. It may well be a complete coincidence but of the thirteen negative comments on Pakistan, 11 (85%) were posted in 2010-2011 and only 2 (15%) between 2012 and 2019. Further, both of the more recent negative tweets are references to non-governmental actors in Pakistan.<sup>187</sup>

It may be completely circumstantial but after 2011 Hadid did stop tweeting about the 'awful state of minority rights in Pakistan'.

https://www.smh.com.au/world/israel-refuses-to-alert-us-over-iran-attack-20111113-1ndq4.html <sup>186</sup> https://twitter.com/samahhadid/status/23543966502748160

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>185</sup> The 'monster' reference is not from the article, it is Hadid's comment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>187</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/samahhadid/status/544816918692372480</u> and

https://twitter.com/samahhadid/status/591975320888180737

Does this give evidence of another element of the Amnesty bias?

It is true that Hadid displays an unnatural and unforgiving bias against Israel. Her tweets do not treat Israel as a legitimate state comprising real people but rather as a 'monster' state that acts 'insanely'. There is nothing but criticism, distortion and exaggeration. No sign anywhere of the 'humanity' that is visibly displayed in her tweets about Pakistan.

But what about a silent bias? Is Hadid *also* less critical on Twitter towards nations such as Pakistan because she knows the rules and is aware of the dangers? Is this a silent part of Amnesty's crisis – those topics that people are scared to talk about?

### **CASE STUDY: ASHFAQ KHALFAN**

Ashfaq Khalfan is the 'Law and Policy Programme Director' at Amnesty International. His main area of expertise is sustainability and his shared content reflects his primary interests.<sup>188</sup> He has a Twitter account but is not highly active.<sup>189</sup>

This is the hashtag cloud generated from the account:<sup>190</sup>



We can see yet another high-ranking Amnesty official who places Israel high on the agenda. The vast majority of his tweets were about climate change, sustainability or the effects of conflict, such as illness or refugees. These were by far the majority of his tweets. He rarely discussed nations outside of these contexts.

Whilst the numbers were not high for any specific nation outside of Europe or the US (where the main focus was the environment or US racism), Israel still came out on top. There were 15 tweets on Israel in total, all negative. He shared petitions, called for ICC investigations, called for a ban on arm sales to Israel, attacked settlements and so on. Whilst he found the time to attack Israel 15 times, he made these other tweets:

- Lebanon 3: All about their absorption of refugees
- China 1: About the Muslim concentration camps
- Bahrain 0:
- Syria 4: 3 of these were about the US strikes.
- Qatar 0:
- Jordan 1: about their absorption of refugees
- Iraq 4: Only 1 was explicitly negative, the others were about ISIS or other nations arming militias
- Egypt 0:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>188</sup> http://www.cisdl.org/team/dr-ashfaq-khalfan/

<sup>189</sup> https://twitter.com/ashfaqkhalfan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>190</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/ashfaqkhalfan

Ashfaq was included in the report chiefly because Amnesty are part of the demonisation campaign pushing for the ICC to address Israel's activity.<sup>191</sup>

Ashfaq makes 16 references to the ICC on Twitter:

GENE	RAL I	SRAEL	AFGHANISTAN	KENYA	MYANMAR	UGANDA	DRC
4		3	3	2	2	1	1

This type of statistic highlights the huge gap between the real world and the way Israel is viewed by key Amnesty staff. Ashfaq places Israel alongside the DRC and Afghanistan. Worst still most of Ashfaq's references are to ongoing ICC cases. Only with Israel is he explicitly suggesting that a nation not at the ICC belongs there.

In an India/Pakistan comparison There were two explicitly negative tweets on India:



On Pakistan there were only two tweets. Neither negative:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>191</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/02/israel-opt-findings-of-un-inquiry-into-gaza-killingsmust-pave-way-for-justice-over-war-crimes/

This qualitative issue is crucially important. Every mention of Israel is explicitly negative, and this is repetitively seen across Amnesty employees' posts. They never seem able to remove Israel from the context of a demon state and every post, every comment, treats it that way. This is an example.

For a counter example take Saudi Arabia. This type of qualitative difference is stark. In a Facebook post, Ashfaq references Mecca without drawing any connection to Saudi Arabia, the Yemen conflict or the human rights abuses that occur there – something you would probably not see if it were related to Israel. When it comes to Israel, every potential reference is sought out as a means to demonise it.



Pilgrims cycle from Nairobi to Mecca for Hajj Four Kenyan cyclists travel 3,500km from Kenya to Saudi Arabia for the ann...

#### **CASE STUDY: DANA INGLETON**

Like Rasha Abdul Rahim, Ingleton is another Deputy Director at Amnesty Tech.<sup>192</sup> She has an active but not prolific Twitter account.<sup>193</sup> This is a word cloud generated by her tweets since January 2018:



The only visible name is NSO, an Israeli company.<sup>194</sup> Every weapon in Amnesty's arsenal is turned to face Israel. The obsession is everywhere and ingrained into every visible part of the organisation.

There are 21 stories on the Amnesty tech homepage.<sup>195</sup> Amnesty tech deal with 'Privacy, Surveillance and Censorship'.<sup>196</sup> 19 of the 21 stories deal precisely with that. Issues of free speech, surveillance, data privacy & racial profiling. Only 2 do not, both are on Israeli 'war crimes'. Amnesty have used some more of their precious resources to develop yet another tool to be used against Israel:



#### Article The Gaza Platform: seeking justice for war crimes

We've launched a new digital mapping tool to help investigate human rights violations during the 2014 Gaza conflict. We've built a definitive picture of what happened minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, using forensic architecture, satellite imagery, broadcast news and citizen-generated footage.



#### Video CSI: Gaza - Forensic Architects

We've launched an innovative digital tool which maps Israeli attacks during the 50day Gaza conflict in 2014.

The Gaza platform is a unique database of satellite imagery, broadcast news and citizen-generated footage to track what happened minute by minute, hour by hour, day by day, as a way of investigating war crimes.

- <sup>195</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/technology-and-human-rights
- <sup>196</sup> Taken from profilehttps://twitter.com/amnestytech?

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>192</sup> Dana's colleague Rasha Abdul Rahim is mentioned earlier in the report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>193</sup> https://twitter.com/Ingleton

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>194</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NSO\_Group

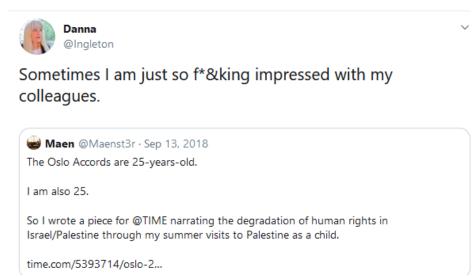
NSO are also one of the subjects in an article on the page. This results in 3/21 of the front page being about Israel. In a world of Microsoft, Apple, Facebook, the UK, the US, China, North Korea, hackers and hundreds of other major privacy battles, Amnesty Tech have covered 14% of the front page with Israel.

It is therefore not surprising that Ingleton's Twitter feed reflects this. References to Israel made up over 20% of Ingleton's tweets since January 2018.<sup>197</sup> Most of her tweets were general in nature. When these are excluded, 90 tweets remain:<sup>198</sup>

Israel, NSO	41	Canada	3	Microsoft	1
Women's rights	12	Pakistan	3	Sudan	1
UK	5	Syria	2	Lebanon	1
US	5	Poland	2	Eritrea	1
Saudi	3	Robots	1	UAE/Bahrain	1
Google / China	3	Drones	1		
Google/ Other	3	Nigeria	1		

Ingleton may have had a professional reason for almost half of her targeted tweets being about an Israeli company. But there is always a professional reason. That is the problem. Every department, for whatever reason, makes Israel the primary focus. Remember, her colleague, the other Deputy Director, has an image of Jerusalem as her profile picture.

Ingleton was not a regular Twitter user. In August to September of 2018, she only made four tweets. Two were about Israel. This is one of them:<sup>199</sup>



A Palestinian propagandist, who dresses up as a human rights researcher for Amnesty, had an article published in Time magazine. Truly something to celebrate. His name is Maen Hammad, there is more on him a little later.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>197</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/Ingleton

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>198</sup> It is not easy to categorise each tweet accurately but given the overwhelming number of references to the Israeli company, if there are some mistakes in this, it wouldn't be enough to change the way this looks.
 <sup>199</sup> https://twitter.com/Ingleton/status/1040251837083987968

## **CASE STUDY: SARAH HASHASH**

Sara Hashash is the MENA Media Manager at Amnesty.<sup>200</sup> She is originally from Lebanon.<sup>201</sup> She was a journalist and had articles published by the BBC, Guardian and the Times.<sup>202</sup>

Another Amnesty employee originally from a state still at war with Israel.

Hashash is active on Twitter. Since mid-July she has tweeted 19 times.<sup>203</sup> On 9 occasions the Tweet referred to Lebanon, almost exclusively on a single subject. Israel was mentioned 5 times. Iran was the subject of 2 tweets and Egypt and Syria both shared 1.

Hashash has been more varied in her subject matter in the past, but Israel is always on the agenda. Syria, Iran, Israel and Egypt are her most common topics. As has been shown to be the trend before, while other nations can receive neutral or positive mentions, Israel is always mentioned in a negative light.<sup>204</sup>

Hashash has been included to highlight another example of the political hypocrisy that runs through Amnesty International. The image below is of a normal Amnesty International post. Refugees have fled devastation and when they are not treated in accordance with Amnesty's values, the host nation is always criticised:<sup>205</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>200</sup> https://twitter.com/sarahashash

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>201</sup> https://www.facebook.com/sara.hashash.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>202</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-16534331 and

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2012/may/08/egyptians-programme-blasphemous-tv-satire and

https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cameron-i-lived-in-the-shadow-of-my-brother-52w8p3f5rr5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>203</sup> As at Sept 11, 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>204</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/sarahashash

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>205</sup> https://twitter.com/AudreyGaughran/status/787961097638772736

This next example is the reverse. The post is clearly informing the reader of the dire state of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. The article does not use the word, but an 'Apartheid' system exists in Lebanon, in which 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> generation 'refugees' are still denied access to education and employment opportunities.<sup>206</sup>

In many cases their grandparents and parents were all born on Lebanese soil. This post references their plight but suggests the way to end their suffering is to '#endnakba.' The post is an attack on Israel, not Lebanon.

This a political statement that has nothing to do with human rights at all. If this were about human rights, there would be a clear and unequivocal demand that Lebanon treat these people properly. Instead, in a twisted logic it suggests that Israel is responsible for the abuse of refugees in Lebanon.

This is rank, anti-Israel hypocrisy from Amnesty. Treating these people in a manner in which they would treat no other refugee in the world. Rather than petition for their rights in Lebanon, Amnesty leaves them to rot, so they can be used to pressure Israel.



Palestinian refugees are **prohibited** from practising over 30 professions in **#Lebanon**. Hana, a refugee & a mother of two, said: "Both of my sons want to be in professions that they are not allowed to **work** in."

Full story: amn.st/6002Ei0ni #EndNakba

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>206</sup> https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/3770/lebanon-apartheid-laws

## CASE STUDY NADINE MOAWAD

Nadine Moawad Is based in Lebanon and works actively on 'feminist' causes.<sup>207</sup> In 2018 she was listed as the MENA 'Communications Manager for Amnesty International.<sup>208</sup>

ARM Advisory Board		
Sawsan AbdulRahim	American University of Beirut, Professor	2016-2018
Nadine Moawad	Amnesty International, MENA Communications	2016-2018
	Manager	
Rabi' Bashour	UN-ESCWA, Coordinator of Palestine Activities,	2016-2018
	& Senior Researcher at ECRI	
May Habib	American University of Beirut, Graduate Student	2016-2018

Moawad has an active Twitter account, which has the hashtag '#BDS' as a key element of the profile:<sup>209</sup>



With a BDS hashtag in her profile, there is little point in statistically showing that Moawad is 'biased'. Here are just a few tweets for anyone who needs further convincing.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>207</sup> https://youngfeministfund.org/our-team/nadine-moawad/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>208</sup> https://www.armlebanon.org/sites/default/files/arm\_annualreport\_online\_20190508.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>209</sup> https://twitter.com/nmoawad

This tweet links to Alison Weir's conspiracy website 'If Americans Knew.'210



Americans R waking up to the TRUTH about what ISRAEL is really about. If Americans ONLY Knew! FACTS/FIGURES: http://ow.ly/PdXi #Gaza

3:24 PM · Dec 27, 2009 · Twitter Web Client

Nadine uses the word 'our' to describe 'resistance':211





A quick search for 'Zionist' shows that much of the time Nadine does not even use the word 'Israel' in her tweets. She retweets those that identify Israel only as the 'Zionist entity'.



## RT: @Palaestina: Zionist Entity To Use Force Against Lebanese Solidarity Ships http://ow.ly/20uAc #Palestine #Gaza

There seem to be hundreds of such tweets for her Twitter feed, mostly between 2009 and 2013. Perhaps this was what attracted Amnesty International. In any event, it is another blatant anti-Israel activist 'managing' something at Amnesty.

international/Alison\_Weir\_Backgrounder-NW.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>210</sup> The tweet is here <u>https://twitter.com/nmoawad/status/7092310595</u> the website it links to is here <u>https://ifamericansknew.org/</u> For more on Weir see

https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/israel-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>211</sup> https://twitter.com/nmoawad/status/15032324583

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>212</sup> https://twitter.com/nmoawad/status/493050194817056770

## CASE STUDY: PAUL DAWSON

Paul Dawson is Amnesty's Country Coordinator for the 'Gulf states.'213

Amnesty include Iraq in their list of the 'Gulf States'.<sup>214</sup> Amnesty also put Yemen in Dawson's in-tray.<sup>215</sup> This gives us a list of eight nations:

Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain the UAE & Yemen.

This is a table looking more closely at the human rights situation of the populations in these nations under Dawson's watch and adding Israel for a comparative measure:

Nation	D I <sup>216</sup>	F H <sup>217</sup>	Government <sup>218</sup>	Population <sup>219</sup>
Bahrain	2.71	12	Authoritarian	1.6m
Iraq	4.06	32	Hybrid	39.3m
Kuwait	3.85	36	Authoritarian	4.2m
Oman	3.04	23	Authoritarian	5.0m
Qatar	3.19	25	Authoritarian	2.8m
Saudi A	1.93	7	Authoritarian	32.9m
UAE	2.76	17	Authoritarian	9.8m
Yemen	1.95	11	Authoritarian	29.2m
Israel	7.79	78	Parliamentary	8.5m
			Democracy	

A brief comparison was made using Human Rights Watch and Amnesty reports.<sup>220</sup> Most of the nations above suffer from forced disappearance, absolute rule, application of the death penalty, massive discrimination against women and high levels of persecution of gays. They also provide little or no access to a functional judiciary. From the list above only Israel, which is a functioning democracy, operates to the rule of law, provides access to a functional judiciary and has laws protecting everyone from discrimination. Which is why it scores so highly in both the Democratic and Freedom House indices.

Paul Dawson is responsible for reporting on the human rights activities of some of the most repressive, backward, abusive and discriminatory nations on the planet.

It would be an understatement to suggest he has his hands full.

- <sup>214</sup> Iraq can be included because it has access to the Gulf, it can also be excluded because it is not part of the GCC https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf\_Cooperation\_Council
- <sup>215</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/contact-country-coordinators

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>213</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/groups/st-albans/update-our-program-speakers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>216</sup> The EIU Democracy Index https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>217</sup> The Freedom House Index https://freedomhouse.org/report/countries-world-freedom-2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>218</sup> Using the descriptions from the Democratic index and https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/299.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>219</sup> Population in millions https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/population-by-country/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>220</sup> See Qatar as an example <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-</u>

africa/qatar/report-qatar/ and https://www.hrw.org/middle-east/n-africa/qatar

Dawson is active on Twitter<sup>221</sup> He posts about a single tweet a day. He rarely retweets, so almost all his Twitter content is original. <sup>222</sup>

Analysing the output of the last 600 tweets, which covers 569 days, only two identities appear on Dawson's 'word cloud'. They are 'Israeli' and 'Palestinian'.<sup>223</sup>



His actual activity is more widespread, but 16% of his tweets are still about Israel.

IRAN	117	IRAQ	24
SAUDI ARABIA	99	YEMEN	32
ISRAEL / PA / GAZA	95	US/UK	5
BAHRAIN	42	OMAN	5
LEBANON	26	JORDAN	6
GENERAL /NOT RELEVANT	48	KUWAIT	2
UAE	33	QATAR	7
SYRIA	57	'PALESTINE' (not Israel)	3

We are once more presented with a disproportionate and unnecessary focus on Israel from someone who should have far more pressing interests.

The Bidun are a persecuted minority in Kuwait. According to Amnesty there are over 100k of them denied citizenship.<sup>224</sup>

It is clear that Dawson knows of them because his twitter feed mentions them in 2014 and 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>221</sup> https://twitter.com/pdawson\_amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>222</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/pdawson\_amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>223</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/pdawson\_amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>224</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/kuwait/report-kuwait/



Yet he has not mentioned them explicitly since 2016.<sup>225</sup>

Nothing came up for that search.

At the time of writing this report, over a dozen Bidun are currently on hunger strike.<sup>226</sup> So far this does not seem to have been picked up by Amnesty.<sup>227</sup> Perhaps their 'Country Coordinator' for Kuwait is too busy posting about Israel to notice.

This is important. I would imagine that few people know who the Bidun are. Shouldn't they? The Bidun, along with other persecuted minorities in the Gulf region, are virtually ignored. And that is before we start on the dire situation of migrant workers. If only those Bidun were actually Palestinians on hunger strike in an Israel jail. Amnesty would have started a mass campaign by now.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>225</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=bidun (from:pdawson\_amnesty) since:2017-01-01 Dawson did link to one relevant article in 2019, but did not mention them explicitly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>226</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/08/30/kuwait-jailed-bidun-activists-hunger-strike

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>227</sup> Amnesty mentioned their arrest in a single article in July, but have so far not referenced the hunger strike that began in August

## **CASE STUDY: LAURA CARTER**

Laura Carter is a 'Researcher/advisor on sexual orientation and gender identity' at Amnesty.<sup>228</sup> She has been added to the research to highlight just how ethically and morally corrupt Amnesty is on the subject of Israel.

Anyone engaged with issues of sexual orientation should view Israel as a beacon in the Middle East, but that logic was never going to carry over into Amnesty. True to form, while during 2019 Laura has not tweeted on Saudi Arabia, Iran, Yemen, Somalia or numerous other states where you can be killed for being gay, Laura did find time to tweet a few times about Israel.<sup>229</sup>

This is the one example I think important enough to share. Laura retweeted this from Palestinian LGBT group alQaws.<sup>230</sup>



The story is this. AlQaws had planned to hold an event towards the end of August. In response, the PA banned all LGBT activity, going on to say that these activities are 'harmful to the higher values and ideals of Palestinian society'.<sup>231</sup>

This anti-LGBT narrative is a disaster for anti-Israel activism. Despite being banned by the PA due to the normal pressures applied on gay communities in Muslim majority areas in the Middle East, alQaws wanted to make the ban look like it was Israel's fault. Hence the tweet.

There is rampant homophobia throughout the Middle East. Gay people run from PA persecution. They live in fear of their lives in Gaza. LGBT activity can be met with the death penalty in some ME nations and is a taboo subject in most others.

AlQaws must consider anti-Israel activists galactically stupid if they think anybody in their right mind would believe such an ethically redundant absurdity. Let alone be so morally lost as to retweet it. We will will leave Laura's case study at that.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>228</sup> https://twitter.com/LauraC\_AI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>229</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/LauraC\_AI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>230</sup> Original tweet <u>https://twitter.com/alQaws/status/1164181496921542656</u> for more on alQaws see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Al\_Qaws

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>231</sup> https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2019/08/19/palestinian-authority-banned-all-lgbt-activities-west-bank/

## CASE STUDY: SHENILLA MOHAMED:

Shenilla Mohamed is Executive Director for Amnesty International South Africa. She has a relatively active Twitter account.<sup>232</sup> She is 'committed to human rights, social justice, freedom of expression.'

Mohamed's Twitter account has a focus on South Africa as you would expect, and deals primarily with human rights concerns related to women, education, climate change and free speech. Using a keyword search, explicit mentions of states other than SA were analysed:<sup>233</sup>

Israel	29	Russia	3	Algeria	0
Qatar	0	DRC	5	Libya	0
Egypt	5	Nigeria	7	Chad	0
Uganda	3	Kenya	10	Angola	0
Syria	3	Sudan	4	Lebanon	0

Unless Africa is turned upside down, the list makes no sense without an anti-Israel bias. Further, there were indications of real hostility. For example, rather than opting to retweet the Al Jazeera article that it linked to, Mohamed chose to retweet this vile commentary that suggest Israel is the 'epitome of evil':<sup>234</sup>



 1 Shenilla@Amnesty retweeted
 471 days

 Phindile Kunene @kunenephindz

➡ ➡ This is what your "holy Israel" does to Palestinians on a daily basis. There is no God, in any religion, in any world, that gives blessings over such murderous, inhumane & annihilating deeds. If this is the work of God, then God has become the epitome of evil. twitter.com/AJEnglish/stat...

via iPhone



The visible hostility and inclusion of 'religion' and 'god' warranted further checks. A search for keywords 'Muslim', 'Christian' and 'Jew' was conducted: 'Muslim' was recorded 6 times, with a focus on the persecution of Muslims.

<sup>232</sup> https://twitter.com/amnestyshenilla

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>233</sup> <u>https://socialbearing.com/search/user/amnestyshenilla</u> The research looked chiefly for African nations, global super-powers and those in the Middle East near Israel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>234</sup> The Al Jazeera tweet was about the death of the medic Razan al-Najjar. See original tweet <u>https://twitter.com/kunenephindz/status/1002804990065414144</u>

'Christian' was mentioned only once, in reference to fundamentalist Christian attitudes.



1 Shenilla@Amnesty retweeted 748 days Pierre de Vos @pierredevos Flood destroys home of Christian lobbyist

who preaches God sends natural disasters to punish gays independent.co.uk/news/world/ ame...

'Jew' was never mentioned. In addition, to the explicit mentions of Muslims there were over a dozen more references to the 'Rohingya'. None were recorded for 'Yazidi'.<sup>235</sup>

Mohamed's attitude allowed for another test. Most of the Israel/Pakistan/India discussion has taken place from within a European geo-political environment. Mohamed presented an opportunity to test this bias outside of that paradigm. Mentions of Pakistan and India:

PAKISTAN	INDIA
2	26

#### Neither of the tweets about Pakistan were critical.<sup>236</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>235</sup> This is a straightforward comparison between two oppressed groups suffering extreme persecution. One chiefly Muslim, the other Christian.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>236</sup> https://twitter.com/Rabail26/status/988513506659065856 and see also original tweet at https://twitter.com/SALSIKandar/status/979397106044633089

#### Only 3 of the India tweets were non-critical. Most were like this:



Shenilla Mohamed provides further evidence that Israel is not the only nation that key Amnesty executives display disproportionate hostility towards. There exists a hierarchy of bias.

## **CASE STUDY: PHILIP LUTHER**

This is not an exercise in careful selection. This research is simply picking at low hanging fruit presented to it by Amnesty International.

Philip Luther was chosen because he is the Amnesty campaigner named in the 26 March press release that launched the Amnesty Asylum seeker campaign referenced in the case study on page 122.<sup>237</sup> His title appears to be 'Research and Advocacy Director for the Middle East and North Africa at Amnesty International'.<sup>238</sup>

According to Amnesty he covers Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco & Western Sahara, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, UAE & Yemen.<sup>239</sup>

He has a relatively active Twitter account.<sup>240</sup> All the 2019 output was analysed. A total of 113 tweets were counted. Philip clearly speaks Arabic and the internal Twitter translator was used to translate tweets that were not in English.

There was only one tweet relevant to a country outside his region.

Iraq, Libya, Morocco, Tunis, ISIS & the UAE only appear to have one explicit tweet reference each, although the UAE was mentioned as part of two other tweets on Saudi Arabia.

Qatar, Bahrain and Algeria had two tweets each. Egypt was mentioned in 4 tweets. Gaza got 4 tweets; Lebanon got 7. Syria was more complicated because most of the 10 tweets on Syria actually attacked the USA. It was considered to split Syria into two to highlight this but was eventually considered unnecessary. An example of a tweet counted as Syria but in reality, is directed towards the US:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>237</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israel-secret-deal-over-deporting-african-migrants-recklessand-illegal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>238</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/philip-luther-a2bab839/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>239</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde01/9433/2019/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>240</sup> https://twitter.com/philipluther

There were 6 tweets that were general in nature and not country specific. Iran received 17 tweets. Saudi Arabia and Yemen were combined into one as most references to Yemen were about Saudi military activity there. They received 18 tweets. **Israel received 34 explicit tweets. All negative**.

This positive/negative element is important because it adds a qualitative element to the bias that suggests **the true level of anti-Israel obsession is far higher and more hostile than simply counting references.** This for example is a tweet about Syria that talks about 'inspiring women':



If we were to reference this tweet as an example of a campaigner talking about Syria and count it the same as the campaigner calling for a boycott of Israel, the end result becomes meaningless. This invisible bias that hides behind the qualitative difference in treatment, as we witnessed earlier in the use of language, counts for much of Amnesty's attack on Israel.

UnheardNoMore #Syria pic.twitter.com/g47R

Did they run campaigns against Pakistan? Yes, but they were empty gestures. Unless You compare the effort, resources, language, meaning and output, the comparison can be highly deceptive. Therefore, Amnesty's bias is far worse in reality than anyone realises.

Another example of a neutral or positive tweet on Syria:

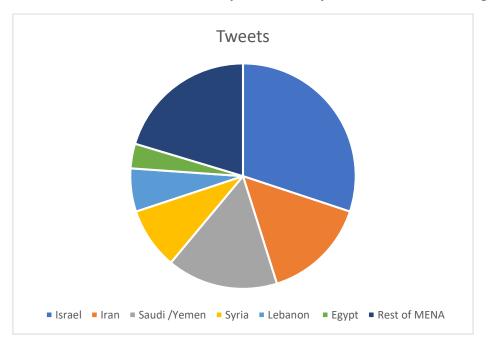
sqKOL7



This is a relatively positive tweet about Gaza:<sup>241</sup>



Luther tweeted about Israel twice as often as he did Iran and Saudi Arabia and unlike Syria, about which 30% of the tweets were positive, every tweet on Israel was negative.



The same obsession is visible everywhere. There is no visible sign of the cause of the correlation between Amnesty activity and an anti-western, anti-Israel agenda. Because Amnesty is to a large part reliant on the flow of data from its network of staff and volunteers, this may be related to their political leanings and where they are willing to invest their energies.

If their recruitment policy carries that inherent bias, then Amnesty would create an environment where confirmation bias merely amplifies that influence – an influence that causes it to obsess over Jews in Israel yet ignore blatant human rights violations in some of the world's worst human rights abuse hotspots. An obvious means of testing the reach of this influence further would be to look at Amnesty's attitude towards the persecution of Christians.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>241</sup> https://twitter.com/laithzia/status/1110111678086213633

## **CASE STUDY: OMAR WARAICH, AMNESTY SOUTH ASIA**

Take Amnesty's South Asia 'Campaigns Director' and 'Deputy Regional Director' Omar Waraich.<sup>242</sup> South Asia covers Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal and Afghanistan.<sup>243</sup>



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGNER / WRITER / JOURNALIST



Omar Waraich is a writer, journalist and human rights campaigner. He is currently Deputy Regional Director for South Asia at Amnesty International. From 2007-16, he covered

Waraich has worked for years as a specialist on Pakistan, writing articles for Time Magazine and the Independent. <sup>244</sup> Waraich is clearly invested in human rights issues, but despite heavily criticising Pakistan writes in a contextualised, respectful manner. This from an article in 2016:<sup>245</sup>

Following outrage at the December 2014 massacre of over 100 children at a school in Peshawar, Pakistan has intensified its fight against militants at home, though human-rights groups criticize it for too eagerly favouring military courts, extrajudicial assassinations and executions, including those of prisoners who were convicted as juveniles.

The renewed campaign against militants has yielded results, however, with 2015 seeing a 48% fall in the number of terrorist attacks, year on year, according to the respected Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies. The same report, however, noted that there had been a 7% rise in the number of sectarian attacks.

This carries over into Amnesty International. This recent article is about Afghani refugees in Pakistan.<sup>246</sup>

At a time when Pakistan is looking to contribute to peace efforts in Afghanistan, there is little to lose. This is a chance to not just honour the past forty years but set an example for the rest of the world. By doing so, Pakistan can confidently say that it played its part, that it did more than they did – that instead of abandoning refugees, it chose to give them homes.

Waraich has a publicly accessible Facebook page and an active Twitter Account with 146k followers.<sup>247</sup>

- <sup>242</sup> This recent Amnesty article lists 'Campaign Director' as his job title
- https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/06/pakistan-a-chance-to-show-leadership-on-refugee-rights/ although his Twitter feed suggests he is 'Deputy South Asia Director'. It is possible perhaps that both can be true. See also <u>https://www.omarwaraich.com/about.html.</u>
- <sup>243</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/sub-regions/south-asia/

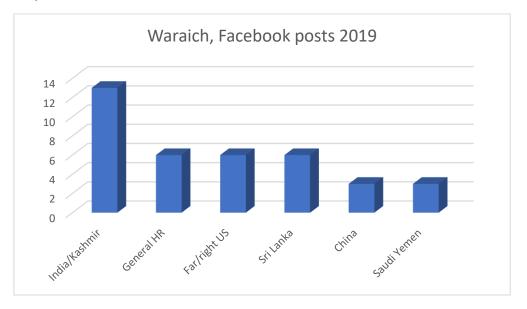
David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>244</sup> See https://time.com/author/omar-waraich/ and https://www.independent.co.uk/author/omar-waraich
 <sup>245</sup> https://time.com/4174835/pakistan-iran-saudi-arabia-sunni-shiite/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>246</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/06/pakistan-a-chance-to-show-leadership-on-refugeerights/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>247</sup> See https://www.facebook.com/waraich.omar and https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich

On Facebook he has made just 46 public posts in 2019.<sup>248</sup> Only five issues received more than three posts:



He posted about India/ Kashmir on thirteen separate occasions, but only made two posts about Pakistan, his own personal area of expertise.

On Twitter he is far more active with over 2600 tweets in the last 6 months.<sup>249</sup> Most of these were 'retweets' (1510) with just 341 being original Waraich tweets. Some of the tweets were about sport or other non-related issues but the vast majority were about human-rights.<sup>250</sup>

This is a breakdown of the subject matter of the 290 (out of 341) tweets that were categorised.<sup>251</sup>

US, far-right	53	UK	15
India / Kashmir	46	Saudi / Yemen	13
Pakistan	34	China	12
Islamophobia	26	Myanmar	10
General human rights	25	Afghanistan	8
Sri Lanka	24	New Zealand	8

<sup>248</sup> As at 10 August 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>249</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/OmarWaraich

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>250</sup> Waraich likes Cricket and clearly supports Pakistan. See

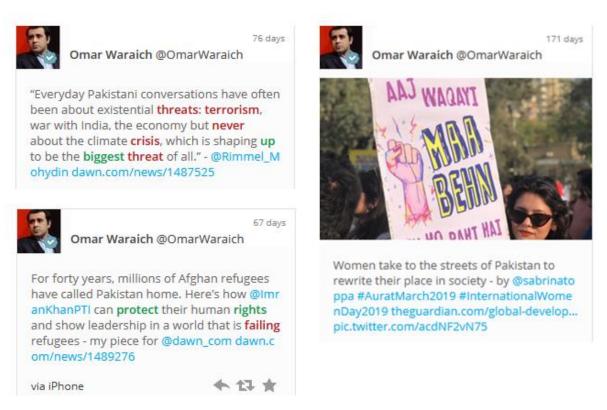
https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1146469827222966273 and

https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1145348051080318976

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>251</sup> The list goes back 6 months. Some tweets are difficult to place into a single category, but this has still been done, so the accurate count is subjective. An example would be references to the terror attack in New Zealand. In reality these could have been placed inside the 'Islamophobia' category, but I considered that unfair. They could also have been put inside the 'far-right' category but it was felt the linkage to the US of this massacre would also be unfair. Therefore, New Zealand has several mentions which don't really reflect that nation's human rights record nor the reason for Waraich's interest. Similarly, Sri Lanka. Most references to Sri Lanka were negative. However, there are also several about the attack on the Churches. The final results therefore are indicative, rather than intended to be a strictly accurate result. For New Zealand terror attack see. <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2019</a> Sri Lanka Easter bombings

Israel received 7 mentions, all of them negative, and this was more than Syria and Egypt were mentioned combined. The Deputy Director for Amnesty International, a man whose role it is to highlight human rights abuse in nations such as Pakistan and Afghanistan, clearly seems to think that the US and far-right extremism are the most visibly important things for him to share with his followers. Next in line? India.

There is also a qualitative issue. Every single one of India's 46 mentions could be classed as negative. Even though Pakistan was referenced less often, some of the mentions were far more positive, or at least, less vindictive:



A simple exercise. We can remove the 'General' references because they have no visible targeted address and remove Sri Lanka from the equation to avoid mixed signals"

- Most of the mentions of the US were about white racism, supremacism & Trump
- Most of the mentions of the UK were about the far right
- Saudi was mentioned mainly in relation to its attack on Yemen
- China was mentioned mainly in relation to the Uyghurs
- Myanmar was mentioned mainly in relation to the Rohingya
- New Zealand was mentioned mainly in relation to the Mosque massacre
- Islamophobia is self-evident

'Islamophobia' or areas of anti-Muslim hatred or violence was always high on the agenda. It received more mentions than any other subject and some of those, such as with New Zealand, are listed under a country rather than the 'Islamophobia' category, which in turn 'understates' the actual number of references. For example in the UK, the Tory 'bigotry scandal' moved Omar to tweet:

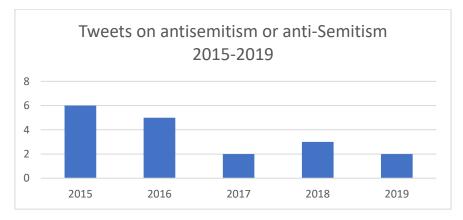


This is interesting for two reasons. Firstly, it is about the UK and the antisemitism scandal that has rocked the Labour Party has even led to an EHRC investigation into the party.<sup>252</sup> Secondly, he uses the Daily Mail as a source.

Is the Daily Mail now an acceptable source of news for Omar Waraich to use? Would Omar retweet any of the hundreds of Daily Mail articles on Antisemitism?<sup>253</sup> He would retweet Deborah Lipstadt on antisemitism in 2014:



But is unlikely to use her as a source now.<sup>254</sup> Since 2015, Omar has tweeted about 'antisemitism' or 'anti-Semitism' on 18 occasions.<sup>255</sup>



It is notable that someone who discusses antisemitism in the UK, is discussing it less now than they were in 2015.

https://twitter.com/search?q=antisemitism from%3Aomarwaraich

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>252</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-45030552

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>253</sup> https://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/search.html?offset=0&size=50&sel=site&searchPhrase=anti-semitism&sort=recent&channel=news

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>254</sup> Lipstadt is an outspoken critic of Jeremy Corbyn and frequently comments on the rise of antisemitism in the UK <u>https://twitter.com/deborahlipstadt/status/1123610260688781313</u> and

https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/deborah-lipstadt-corbyns-labour-softcore-holocaust-denial-acceptable/ <sup>255</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/search?q=anti-semitism%20from%3Aomarwaraich</u> and

His feelings on the subject are not hidden. Anti-Muslim hatred trumps other racism.<sup>256</sup>



 Omar Waraich 
 @OmarWaraich 
 Mar 22
 ~

 Replying to @holland\_tom
 The Islamophobia in Britain is far worse. The far right is far stronger. Anti-semitism in Britain infects both the left and the right
 ~
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Is Amnesty's Deputy Director of South Asia really suggesting he uses the 'what is worst' calculation when he decides which particular issues to address? Surely that would mean Amnesty would never talk about Israel.

In the seven tweets that reference antisemitism Omar Waraich made between 2017-2019 his careful selectiveness betrays his underlying attitude:

- 1. An opinion piece dismisses the claim of antisemitism in the Labour Party and attacks the IHRA definition<sup>257</sup>
- 2. A Rabbi talks about how he experienced anti-Muslim hatred when he was mistaken for a Muslim<sup>258</sup>
- 3. An antisemitic, anti-Hindu incident in Pakistan<sup>259</sup>
- 4. On the rise of antisemitism in Germany<sup>260</sup>
- An article about an antisemitic attack in St Louis, USA that also references how local Muslim groups came to help<sup>261</sup>
- 6. A comment about how bad anti-Muslim hatred is (see image on previous page)
- An article that belittles the antisemitism issue in Labour, talks of Corbyn's 'ideological purity' and compliments Seamus Milne on his understanding of antisemitism.<sup>262</sup>

In short, antisemitism exists, but only as he defines it. Because when Waraich does mention antisemitism, the sources he uses for anti-Muslim hatred are no longer suitable. Waraich has tweeted about 'Islamophobia' on 21 occasions since 2017 or 300% more than he has antisemitism.<sup>263</sup> The qualitative difference is even more startling.<sup>264</sup>

<sup>260</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1130857558120419329</u> for article see

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/21/magazine/anti-semitism-germany.html

<sup>261</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/834597123895226368</u> and for article

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>256</sup> This was a response to a tweet that references levels of racism in other countries. His response that 'Islamophobia' in the UK is 'far worse' see the tweet and what it was in response to. https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1109145489008521216

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>257</sup> https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/983066966666592256 for article see

https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/06/opinion/anti-semitism-britain-labour-party.html

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>258</sup> https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1015345126640504833
 <sup>259</sup> There is no link to explain what happened, for the tweet see

https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/941627205855186944

https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/st-louis-responds-to-a-rise-in-anti-semitism <sup>262</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1031272332587753472</u> for article see

https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2018/08/17/behind-the-anti-semitism-crisis-of-jeremy-corbyns-labour-party/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>263</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=islamophobia (from%3AOmarWaraich) since%3A2017-01-01

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>264</sup> An Observer opinion article https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1107243028039630848



Omar Waraich 🥑 @OmarWaraich · Mar 17 Islamophobia is not confined to online groups. It leaks across public life | by @NosheenIgbal

#### Another:265



Omar Waraich 🤣 @OmarWaraich · Mar 17

Australians are asking how did we get here? Well, **Islamophobia** is practically enshrined as public policy | Jason Wilson

Another:266



Omar Waraich <table-cell> @OmarWaraich · Mar 3 Replying to @sunny\_hundal Much of the British mainstream media is not just fine with Islamophobia but a constant source of it. I recall some years ago an Observer columnist asking me, to my incredulity, "Do you think Islamophobia exists?"

Unlike the 7 references to antisemitism, most of which either downplayed the hatred or were actually part of a comment about the level of anti-Muslim hatred, every single one of the 21 references to Islamophobia was explicit and addressing the seriousness of it.

And this is only the start of it. Searches for 'antisemite' or 'Jew' or 'Jewish' since 2017 returned only 2 results, both connected to the far right (one in the US, one in Poland). Searches for 'Islamophobe' and 'Muslim' return over 60 additional tweets explicitly connected to anti-Muslim hatred.<sup>267</sup> Some examples:

E		-	arWaraich · Mar soar in UK after	23 Christchurch shootin <u>c</u>	js ~
	Revealed: An	-		5, 2018 on soared by 40% in 	∽ a year
	Donald Trum	ich 🥑 @Omai	Waraich · Jan 29	), 2017 d Dangerous, via @r ①	∽ nytimes

Or references to anti-Muslim hatred exceed references to antisemitism by 900%. A key issue is surely this: on matters of racism, is anti-Muslim hatred more prevalent in South Asia than anti-Christian or anti-Jewish attitudes?

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>265</sup> A Guardian opinion article https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/mar/17/australians-are-asking-how-did-we-get-here-well-islamophobia-is-practically-enshrined-as-public-policy
 <sup>266</sup> https://twitter.com/OmarWaraich/status/1102135388813119488

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>267</sup> See for example here https://twitter.com/search?q=muslim (from%3AOmarWaraich) since%3A2017-01-01 tweets were discounted that did not explicitly refer to anti-Muslim hatred.

On the one hand, the Amnesty South Asia Deputy Director publicly uses a handful of articles to suggest antisemitism isn't as bad as suggested, on the other he persistently pushes the argument that anti-Muslim hatred is both rife and understated. This is not an anti-racist campaigner. His attitude towards human rights and racism appears influenced by his own personal political bias.

There is nothing wrong with any of this. From a personal perspective, Waraich's likes, dislikes, preferences and opinions are all legitimate. So too his inherent bias. Waraich clearly campaigns more forcefully on some human rights issues and that is okay - everybody has bias.

But if it carries over from the personal to the professional this would highlight a clear problem and as his tweets on international politics show that much of his public concern is directed towards areas where anti-Muslim violence occurs, then it would be logical to assume his position on issues between India and Pakistan or Israel and the PA areas are not going to treat all sides fairly.

# How can someone who downplays antisemitism – and clearly thinks anti-Muslim hatred is understated and of primary importance – possibly remain objective when it comes to the conflict between Israel and the Arabs?

This is an Amnesty International decision-maker. There is nothing toxic or malicious visible in Omar's politics but by default he appears to carry a clear bias. When it comes to allocating resources, starting campaigns and deciding which issues to highlight he surely cannot help but lean towards his own bias. In his region, it would suggest that he gives India and Sri Lanka a harder time than Pakistan. If he were asked whether he supports an activity against Israel, his answer would surely be 'yes'.

This should not be easily discarded. Amnesty is no more than the sum of its parts. Amnesty chose to spread into more political fields. Like all such NGOs it is reliant on the emotional energy of its staff and volunteers. They will work harder, dig deeper and advertise more strongly those causes that they personally identify with. What happens if bias is duplicated, extrapolated?

Would Omar hire someone that believes antisemitism is rife and anti-Muslim hatred is not one of the most pressing issues in the world today? It is unlikely there is a single person employed by Amnesty today that would fit such a profile.

If Amnesty are effectively hiring ideological clones on the key issues of the day, then this type of bias is not individual, but institutional. It moves from a situation of 'okay' to one of 'extremely problematic'

Amnesty's activity becomes an equation of how many people are biased towards or against any given cause. The more people biased towards a particular cause, the more active Amnesty will be and the more skewed their activity.

## **CASE STUDY: RANDA HABIB**

Randa Habib is listed as International Regional Director for MENA.<sup>268</sup> Another of Amnesty's people with a list of North African and Middle Eastern regimes to be concerned about.

She has a highly prolific Twitter Account.<sup>269</sup> Word and hashtag clouds were generated for her last 3200 tweets, spanning to the beginning of March 2019.<sup>270</sup> These calculate the most common used words and hashtags in her tweets. The only nation state mentioned in the word cloud is Israel:



The hashtag cloud is worse. The three most commonly used hashtags were Syria, Israel and Iran. When you check the others that are visible in English, there is also 'Israeli', 'Netanyahu' and 'Gaza'. Which means four of the most common used tags are all about Israel.



It was considered unnecessary to explicitly count individual tweets. The two clouds give a clear picture. In a region devoid of human rights and destroyed through conflict, Habib still somehow manages to fixate on Israel, the only democratic state in the region. It does raise the question of whether any of these Amnesty people ever really talk about anything else?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>268</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/04/randa-habib-appointed-regional-director-for-middle-east-and-north-africa/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>269</sup> https://twitter.com/RandaHabib

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>270</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/RandaHabib

A less accurate check was undertaken. A simply 'keyword count'.<sup>271</sup> Habib made 3193 tweets: 80% of her tweets were in English, which is more than enough to provide a reliable sample.

		User search & analytic:			
	2	Showing the user timeline for @RandaHabib. Tw			
			Tweet Share		
TWEETS	TIMEFRAME	REACH	IMPRESSIONS		
3193	195 days	35,095	103,948,573		
LOAD MORE	-				

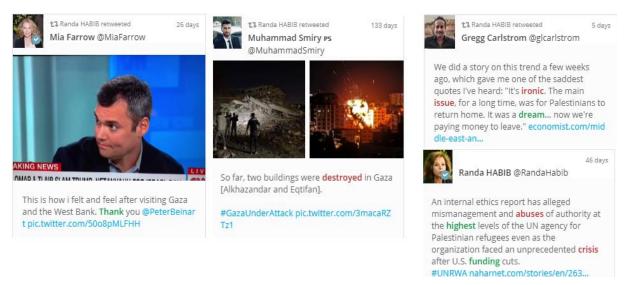
Israel was mentioned 500 times:

ISRAEL 2/500

These are the states in MENA, with their results:

ISRAEL	500	LIBYA	79
IRAN	392	OMAN	49
SYRIA	376	LEBANON	48
SAUDI ARABIA	209	TUNIS	44
YEMEN	127	UAE	43
ALGERIA	119	QATAR	31
IRAQ	108	BAHRAIN	22
EGYPT	105	MOROCCO	12
JORDAN	99	KUWAIT	11

#### These results could be described as obscene. And it gets worse, because there are more.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>271</sup> This is not a precise representation, because there can be duplicate mentions in a single tweet. However, all things being equal the skew would be evenly spread amongst every keywork checked and therefore the totals are certainly indicative.

'Palestinian' and 'Gaza' are mentioned 191 and 106 times respectively. As the previous image shows, these can be posted without mentioning Israel. As it was not considered necessary to analyse every tweet, Israel is 'undervalued' at 500.

It also means that even if we exclude the keyword 'Israel', which came top with 500 tweets, the words 'Palestinian' and 'Gaza' scored more highly than Kuwait, Morocco, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Tunis and Lebanon *COMBINED*. It must be considered fortunate these are all democratic free nations without victims who need Amnesty's assistance.

But Habib is included in this research for a reason other than Amnesty's obsessively hostile anti-Israel obsession. Unlike many of the Amnesty's Arab employees who attack Israel, Habib is a Christian:

Randa HABIB 🥑 @RandaHabib

I am a Christian because I was born in a Christian family. It doesn't make me a better person! People should judged on ethics not religion..

2:57 PM · Jun 4, 2017 · Twitter for iPhone

This allows for an interesting experiment. The research has shown that while Israel is obsessively attacked, nations such as Pakistan are left alone. All things being equal, Randa Habib's twitter feed should show the same reverence and respect for Pakistan as all of the other examples from MENA or other regional employees do. If religion is not a variable that affects output, we should logically see no difference.

Except that is not what was found. There are 97 tweets on Pakistan, many explicitly negative and this does not even count retweets. Examples:



Randa HABIB 🥑 @RandaHabib · Aug 6, 2017

So that's how it goes! Infuriating--> **#Pakistan** teenage girl raped in revenge for a crime committed by her brother



Randa HABIB 🤣 @RandaHabib · Nov 4, 2018

The Pakistani lawyer who helped a Christian woman Asia Bibi, overturn her death sentence for blasphemy said he had left the country in fear of his life after her acquittal earlier this week sparked street protests by Islamists. **#Pakistan** #AsiaBibi



Randa HABIB 🥑 @RandaHabib · Nov 21, 2015

Blasphemy is a hugely sensitive issue in **#Pakistan** even unproven allegations often prompting mob violence & killings twitter.com/olivers700/sta...







Q

Randa HABIB 🥥 @RandaHabib · Dec 31, 2014 118 Journalists Killed in 2014 , with **Pakistan** and Syria the deadliest countries naharnet.com/stories/en/161...

1↓1 ♡1 企



Randa HABIB 🤣 @RandaHabib · Nov 27, 2016

**#Pakistan** market where women seek justice and help against the violence of **Pakistan**'s patriarchy finance.yahoo.com/news/pakistani...

♀ 1↓2 ♡4 Å

<b>Randa HABIB</b> @ @RandaHabib · Dec 23, 2014 Convicted of murder when a teenager, Shafqat Hussain could be next on the gallows in <b>#Pakistan</b> wave of executions u.afp.com/aWV								
$\heartsuit$	t]	$\bigcirc$	<u>↑</u>					
Outcry as <b>#P</b>	<b>B 📀</b> @RandaHa <b>akistan</b> deports staff and families	450 people: 130	) teachers suspected linked to #Tu	∽ ırkey				
$\heartsuit$	t.↓	♡ 1	$\uparrow$					
<b>#Pakistan</b> to		rror convicts afte	)14 r lifting moratorium following a /pakistan-plans	~				
9	ţ]	$\bigcirc$	<u>↑</u>					
Sigh Regulators ir banned from associated m	n promoting or c	reminded the co overing Valentin	ountry's media outlets that they ar e's Day events as well as the sale o					
9	17	$\bigcirc$	⊥					
Bruned alive	<b>B</b> 🤣 @RandaHa by her mother fo g' <b>#Pakistan</b> vic	or marrying the	6 man she lovedHorrifying so calle	v ed				
Q 1	17 3	♡ 1	↑					

There is still anti-Israel bias. On Israel, Habib has made an incredible 33 tweets since August 1, 2019 (40 days at time of writing). On Pakistan she has made just three. But the reluctance to criticise Pakistan has gone.<sup>272</sup>

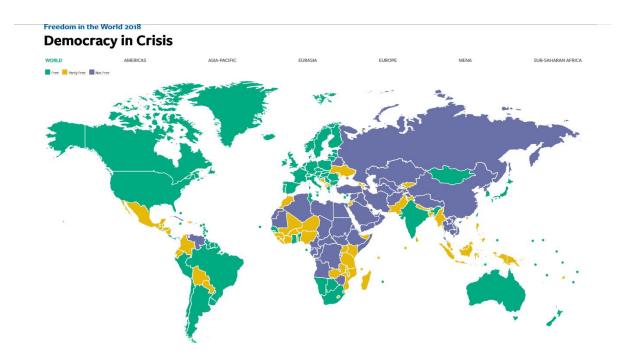
All this implies that Habib carries with her the unnatural obsession with Israel that is endemic in the Middle East yet does not carry the same reluctance to discuss human rights abuse in Pakistan as some of her colleagues do.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>272</sup> https://socialbearing.com/search/user/randahabib

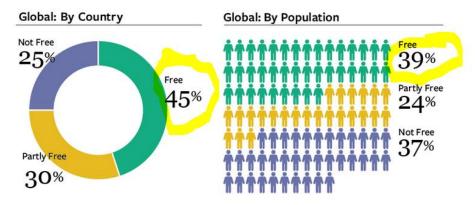
SECTION TWO OPERATIONS

## **GLOBAL CONFLICT: THE DATA**

The world is full of repression, war and the abuse of human rights. Only 39% of its population is considered 'free' and only 45% of nations are democracies. Israel is listed as the 30<sup>th</sup> 'most free' nation, above European nations such as Belgium and Italy.<sup>273</sup>



#### Freedom in the World 2018 Status by Population and Country



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>273</sup> The NGO Freedom House conducts research on democracy, political freedom, and human rights https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2018

These countries are listed as having 'a near total lack of political rights and civil liberties'.<sup>274</sup>



Since 1950, conflicts increasingly affect non-combatants:<sup>275</sup> A study from the Centre of Systemic Peace suggests over 250,000 people are killed annually from conflict, almost all of them civilians. These are listed as the eight deadliest conflicts of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.<sup>276</sup>

- Second Congo War (1998–2003) 3 million+.<sup>277</sup>
- Syrian Civil War 500,000+, 4 million displaced.<sup>278</sup>
- Darfur 300,000 + 3 million displaced.<sup>279</sup>
- Iraq War (and aftermath) 400,000+.<sup>280</sup>
- Afghanistan War 120,000+.<sup>281</sup>
- War against Boko Haram 50,000+, 2 million displaced.<sup>282</sup>
- Yemini Civil War 91,000+, 2 million displaced.<sup>283</sup>
- Ukraine Conflict 14,000+, 1.5 million displaced.<sup>284</sup>

In just 2017 there were 12 million new displacements due to conflict.<sup>285</sup>

<sup>275</sup> https://www.un.org/pga/70/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2016/01/Conflict-and-violence-in-the-21stcentury-Current-trends-as-observed-in-empirical-research-and-statistics-Mr.-Alexandre-Marc-Chief-Specialist-Fragility-Conflict-and-Violence-World-Bank-Group.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>274</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democracy\_Index

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>276</sup> https://www.britannica.com/list/8-deadliest-wars-of-the-21st-century

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>277</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second\_Congo\_War

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>278</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syrian\_Civil\_War

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>279</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darfur\_genocide

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>280</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iraq\_War

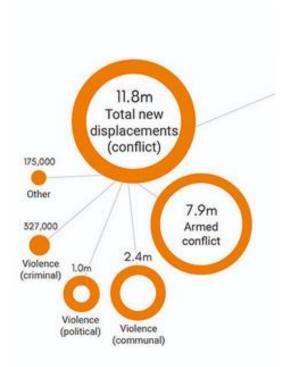
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>281</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War\_in\_Afghanistan\_(2001%E2%80%93present)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>282</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boko\_Haram\_insurgency

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>283</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yemeni\_Civil\_War\_(2015%E2%80%93present)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>284</sup> <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\_military\_intervention\_in\_Ukraine\_(2014%E2%80%93present)</u> and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War\_in\_Donbass

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>285</sup> http://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2018/



# Since 2008, the total number of deaths in the Israel/Palestinian conflict is 5700, which includes all the casualties on all sides in three conflicts. In the last four years the total has been 600.<sup>286</sup>

Which means scores of nations that are not even in the list of 'deadliest conflicts' such as Turkey, Pakistan, Egypt have been involved in deadlier conflicts than Israel has.<sup>287</sup>

These conflicts have caused more than 10,000 deaths in the last calendar year:

Afghanistan, Syria, Mexico (drug wars) & Yemen

These conflicts have caused between 1,000 and 10,000 deaths in the last year:

Somalia, Nigeria, Iraq, Boko Haram, South Sudan & Libya.

There are also dozens of conflicts in which less than 1000 fatalities were recorded. Pakistan, Colombia, Baluchistan, Turkey, Congo, Ituri, Darfur, Kivu, Sinai, Philippines, Somalia and Cameroon all recorded higher recent casualty figures than the Israeli conflict.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>286</sup> https://www.ochaopt.org/data/casualties

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>287</sup> For example see Turkey

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kurdish%E2%80%93Turkish conflict (1978%E2%80%93present), Pakistan https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insurgency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Egypt https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sinai insurgency

A further 500,000+ are killed globally in 'interpersonal violence'.<sup>288</sup> <sup>289</sup> Israel has one of the lowest homicide rates in the world.<sup>290</sup>

Nor is Israel the oldest of the conflicts. The troubles in Baluchistan, Kashmir, Myanmar, Kurdistan and Khuzestan are all as old, or older than the Israel / Palestinian conflict.

From whichever angle this issue is considered

- Casualties
- Populations involved
- Age of conflict
- Severity of conflict
- Land area
- Intensity

Israel and the Palestinians should rarely be at the top of the list. An impartial organisation would have several targets involving conflict and human rights abuse before it reached the subject of Israel. **This is also true when we consider gender-based violence**:<sup>291</sup>

At least 200 million women and girls alive today have undergone female genital mutilation

Approximately 15 million adolescent girls (aged 15 to 19) worldwide have experienced forced sex.<sup>292</sup>

Global estimates published by WHO indicate that about 1 in 3 (35%) of women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual/intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.<sup>293</sup>

In many nations the law treats men and women differently. For example, in the Philippines, adultery is illegal, but women receive harsher sentences than men.<sup>294</sup>

Honour killing is still culturally acceptable in several countries. Women's advocacy groups have estimated that more than 20,000 women are killed worldwide to preserve the family 'honour' each year. <sup>295 296</sup>

#### LGBTQ rights.

<sup>289</sup> Interpersonal violence is defined as violence between individuals and includes gang and drug related cartels. The levels are naturally high where institutions are weak

https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/definition/en/ for data see

https://www.un.org/pga/70/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2016/01/Conflict-and-violence-in-the-21st-century-Current-trends-as-observed-in-empirical-research-and-statistics-Mr.-Alexandre-Marc-Chief-Specialist-Fragility-Conflict-and-Violence-World-Bank-Group.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>288</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_ongoing\_armed\_conflicts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>290</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_countries\_by\_intentional\_homicide\_rate#UNODC's\_global\_study

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>291</sup> https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>292</sup> https://www.unfpa.org/data/dashboard/adolescent-youth

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>293</sup> https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>294</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adultery#Adultery\_and\_the\_law

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>295</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honor\_killing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>296</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-22992365

Many countries in the world criminalise same-sex relationships.<sup>297 298</sup> Many have de-facto criminalisation.<sup>299</sup> In the Middle East, Israel is the stand-out nation in protecting gay rights.<sup>300</sup> Transgender individuals can serve openly in the IDF.<sup>301</sup> One of the leading lights of the Likud Party and current Minister for Justice is openly gay.<sup>302</sup> It is known that Palestinians who suffer abuse have fled to Israel.<sup>303</sup> It is not even known how many, because some shield their identity to reduce the chance of reprisals against family members.

#### Judiciary.

Many people across the globe exist in nations where the rule of law has crumbled or is nonexistent.<sup>304</sup> Thus giving the citizens little recourse to experience justice. In the World Justice Project, nations such as Liberia, Ethiopia, Myanmar, Uganda, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Bolivia, Cameroon, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan and Venezuela scored particularly badly.

Israel has the most lawyers per capita in the world.<sup>305</sup> The Israeli judicary is 'independent and regularly rules against the government. Over the years, the Supreme Court has played an increasingly central role in protecting minorities and overturning decisions by the government and the parliament when they threaten human rights'. <sup>306</sup>

#### Political prisoners.

'Political prisoner' is a subjective term and difficult to define.<sup>307</sup> There are currently 4929 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli custody.<sup>308</sup> Some organisations such as War on Want inflate the numbers and then define all Palestinians in Israeli prisons as 'political prisoners'.<sup>309</sup> Amnesty do not, partially differentiating between those that have not committed or advocated violence and those that have not.

There are approximately 50,000 prisoners in Turkey charged with or convicted of terrorism offences. This figure includes 'journalists, civil servants, teachers and politicians as well as police officers and military personnel'. <sup>310</sup> The Turkish prison population has risen by over 400% since 2005.<sup>311</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>297</sup> https://www.theweek.co.uk/96298/the-countries-where-homosexuality-is-still-illegal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>298</sup> https://queerlife.me/2018/03/global-trends-lgbt-rights/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>299</sup> https://ilga.org/maps-sexual-orientation-laws

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>300</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT\_in\_the\_Middle\_East

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>301</sup> https://time.com/4421400/transgender-u-s-military-israeli-army-idf/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>302</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/06/opinion/amir-ohana-israel-gay.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>303</sup> https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3610674,00.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>304</sup> http://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/files/introduction\_key\_findings.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>305</sup> https://abovethelaw.com/2018/02/the-most-lawyers-in-the-world/2/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>306</sup> https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2019/israel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>307</sup> https://www.rferl.org/a/explainer-political-prisoners/24881810.html

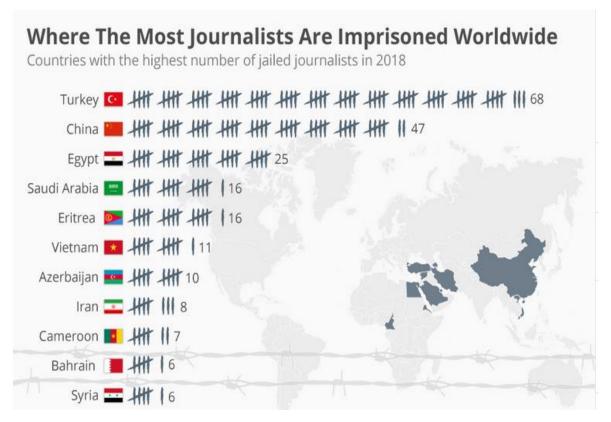
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>308</sup> https://www.btselem.org/statistics/detainees\_and\_prisoners

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>309</sup> https://waronwant.org/palestinian-political-prisoners

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>310</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/turkey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>311</sup> https://www.prison-insider.com/countryprofile/prisonsinturkey

Turkey also has the largest number of journalists imprisoned.<sup>312</sup>



Globally there were approximately 250 journalists imprisoned during 2018.<sup>313</sup>

Amnesty International has documented widespread human rights violations in China.<sup>314</sup> China even arrests and detains 'labour activists' who seek to investigate work conditions.<sup>315</sup> Amnesty also reports that activists and human rights lawyers are convicted of offences such as 'picking quarrels and provoking trouble'.

This is before mentioning the detention of up to one million Uighur Muslims in a 'reeducation drive'.  $^{\rm 316}$ 

In many nations such as Russia,<sup>317</sup> Iran<sup>318</sup> and Vietnam<sup>319</sup> lengthy prison sentences are handed out to those who peacefully oppose the ruling government. Russian journalists are prone to premature death.<sup>320</sup>

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>312</sup> https://www.statista.com/chart/3310/china-incarcerates-more-journalists-than-anywhere-else/
 <sup>313</sup>https://cpj.org/data/imprisoned/2018/?status=Imprisoned&start\_year=2018&end\_year=2018&group\_by=I
 ocation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>314</sup> https://www.amnestyusa.org/countries/china/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>315</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/china/report-china/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>316</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/09/china-up-to-one-million-detained/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>317</sup> https://www.france24.com/en/20190319-russia-titiyev-titiev-chechen-human-rights-activist-sentenced

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>318</sup> https://en.radiofarda.com/a/prominent-women-s-rights-activist-faces-34-years-in-prison/29806520.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>319</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/03/14/vietnam-6-activists-headed-prison

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>320</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_journalists\_killed\_in\_Russia

Some nations, such as Syria, do not imprison activists: they kill them.<sup>321</sup> Gaza, which is run by Hamas, has tortured and executed some of those that oppose Hamas rule.<sup>322</sup> Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo from Equatorial Guinea has been accused of 'skinning' his opposition alive. He is just one of 49 dictators who 'regularly kill and torture anyone who gets in their way'.<sup>323</sup>

The list is as long as it is depressing. Amnesty describe itself as working 'to protect people wherever justice, freedom, truth and dignity are denied'. An outline of the state of world freedom has been presented. It is time to check to see where Amnesty's focus lies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>321</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10338256

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>322</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2015/05/gaza-palestinians-tortured-summarily-killed-by-hamas-forces-during-2014-conflict/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>323</sup> https://www.news.com.au/finance/work/leaders/annual-list-ranks-the-worlds-most-brutal-and-notorious-regime-leaders/news-story/b5df3afc9723862463f3813d3196398f

# **AMNESTY FOCUS**

Amnesty have decades of history that is searchable online. The website has an archive stretching back over 20 years.<sup>324</sup> The live website hosts over 40,000 'research' articles. The main account on Twitter has made over 28000 tweets.<sup>325</sup>

Most of their key activists also operate Twitter accounts. There are also three major Facebook pages with a combined following of nearly 3 million Facebook accounts.<sup>326</sup>

Comparisons between Israel and Pakistan are drawn throughout this research. They are drawn not because the nations are comparable, but precisely because they aren't. There are three significant accusations levelled at Amnesty:

- Unnaturally hostile to Israel
- Obsessive about Israel
- Partially shaped by antisemitic forces

To test these, Pakistan becomes an obvious baseline. In almost all indicators, Pakistan is nastier, less tolerant, more abusive and less democratic than Israel – and all to a far larger number of people.<sup>327</sup>

If the leaders of Pakistan and Israel were both in a room and you wanted to berate them for the actions of the state, you would shout first and more loudly at the Pakistani leader.

This is important because it suggests that on a particular issue Amnesty is not acting a the even-handed 'human rights NGO' that it is supposed to be.

#### This does mean this is deliberate, nor part of official Amnesty strategy.

Amnesty are reliant on their network of staff and volunteers to find stories, witnesses, activity, actions and so on. They are also dependent on them to prioritise according to severity. Amnesty's output therefore will inarguably be shaped by any bias inherent in its network.

Unless Amnesty explicitly work against this through its recruitment strategy (see section on recruitment), Amnesty could find itself entirely ruined from within.

Which is exactly what this research argues has happened.

A simple search was conducted in the research section on the Amnesty website to compare mentions (research, campaigns) of both 'Israel' and 'Pakistan':<sup>328</sup>

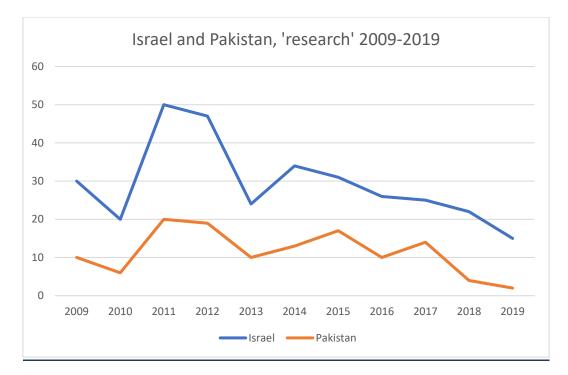
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>324</sup> https://web.archive.org/web/\*/https://www.amnesty.org.uk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>325</sup> https://twitter.com/amnestyuk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>326</sup> Some of the followers would clearly be duplicates. See <u>https://www.facebook.com/AmnestyUK/</u> and <u>https://www.facebook.com/amnestyglobal/</u> https://www.facebook.com/amnestyusa/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>327</sup> Refer to the Global Conflict section of this report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>328</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/search



Since 2009, Israel has received well over twice as much attention from Amnesty as Pakistan (259%), a nation where violence against women and girls – including rape, honour killings, acid attacks, domestic violence and forced marriage all remain serious problems.<sup>329</sup>

A state in which

- Journalists are murdered each year.<sup>330</sup>
- Thousands of women are murdered in domestic violence each year.<sup>331</sup>
- Over 3 million people are caught in the web of modern slavery.<sup>332</sup>
- Extra-judicial killings are common, often in contrived confrontations with the police.<sup>333 334</sup>
- The conflict in the North West alone has resulted in 10,000s of fatalities.<sup>335</sup>
- The media is 'not free'.<sup>336</sup>
- Citizens have no or little access to justice.<sup>337</sup>

And yet for every mention of Pakistan, Amnesty post between 2-3 pieces on Israel. Israel was also mentioned by Amnesty more than large-scale abusers of human rights such as China, Myanmar, North Korea, Russia and Turkey. Additionally, the recent visible decrease

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>329</sup> https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/wr2014\_web\_0.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>330</sup> https://cpj.org/data/killed/asia/pakistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>331</sup> https://jpma.org.pk/article-details/1372

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>332</sup> https://www.globalslaveryindex.org/2018/findings/regional-analysis/asia-and-the-pacific/

<sup>333</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-10667545

<sup>334</sup> https://www.dawn.com/news/1389719

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>335</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insurgency\_in\_Khyber\_Pakhtunkhwa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>336</sup> https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-press/2014/pakistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>337</sup> https://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/documents/Pakistan\_Report\_2017\_Final-

Online%20Version-Reduced.pdf

in activity on Pakistan is clearly troublesome. Why has Amnesty virtually ceased to report on the violations there?

Amnesty's key Twitter account had not tweeted anything about 'Pakistan' in 2019, until it suddenly sprang to life when India removed 'special status from Kashmir'.<sup>338</sup> Amnesty attacked the Indian decision with numerous tweets.<sup>339</sup> The Amnesty Facebook pages mirrored this activity. This is more than just 'double standards', this is indicative of an **institutionally ingrained political agenda**.

This is stranger than it may seem. If Amnesty have produced items on Pakistan on their own website during 2019, including independent research, why on the subject of Pakistan are Amnesty social media accounts not even promoting Amnesty's own work?

To highlight this forcefully we can use the output from Human Rights Watch (HRW) as a baseline.<sup>340</sup>

These are Amnesty's explicit mentions of Pakistan on the Amnesty UK Twitter account in the 12 months since September 2018. There is a clear focus on one specific event:<sup>341</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>338</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10537286

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>339</sup> See <u>https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1162352357512032262</u>

https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1161857676902637570

https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1161934605798248448

https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1162352845359919107 and

https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1158341743554760704

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>340</sup> HRW operate in a similar field to Amnesty but have major structural differences

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\_Rights\_Watch</u> importantly, HRW can be used because they also have a clear disproportionate anti-Israel agenda. https://www.ngo-monitor.org/in-the-

media/ngo\_monitor\_research\_featured\_in\_sunday\_times\_nazi\_scandal\_engulfs\_human\_rights\_watch\_/ <sup>341</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=pakistan (from%3AamnestyUK) since%3A2018-09-01

In the last twelve months there are no explicit mentions at all of Pakistan on the main Amnesty Twitter account.<sup>342</sup> These are just some of over 30 tweets explicitly mentioning Pakistan on the HRW account.

The Week in Numbers	Human Rights Watch 🤡 @hrw · Feb 17 Pakistan: The death of Arman Luni, a leader for Pashtun rights, demands a transparent investigation trib.al/awTuYfM #Balochistan
Human Rights Watch @ @hrw · Nov 13, 2018 Outrageous. Nearly 22.5 million kids in <b>Pakistan</b> are are girls. hrw.org/news/2018/11/1	$\smile$ out of school, most of them
	Human Rights Watch 🤣 @hrw · Feb 16 🛛 🗸 🗸
RIGHTS	Pakistan Should Address Pashtun Grievances
Human Rights Watch @ @hrw · Nov 13, 2018 #Pakistan is failing to educate its children, especially 32% of primary school age girls are out of school	y girls:
87% of girls are out of school by 9th grade hrw.org/news/2018/11/1	Human Rights Watch ②         @hrw · Jan 23         ~           "Workers are treated like cattle, because they are herded in early in the morning and expected to work nonstop."         ~
Human Rights Watch 🤣 @hrw · Oct 31, 2018 Pakistan's Aasia Bibi Finally Gets Justice	$\sim$ lawyer in <b>#Pakistan</b> , where millions face work place abuse 1/2
	Human Rights Watch @ @hrw - Nov 17, 2018 21% of girls in #Pakistan are married by age 18 impacting health, education, and risking domestic violence.
Human Rights Watch 🤣 @hrw · Nov 9, 2018 Time to End Child Marriage in Pakistan	~
	Human Rights Watch          @hrw · May 24           A 22-year-old woman in Pakistan's Punjab province reported to police that 4 m had abducted her at gunpoint and raped her.
Human Rights Watch 🤡 @hrw · Nov 29, 2018 Pakistan Should Remove People with Mental Dis.	abilities From Death Row

During the time Amnesty UK only managed four tweets explicitly mentioning Pakistan, it **put out 22 tweets on Israel/'Palestine**'.

More worrying than the obsessive numerical bias against Israel is the clear difference in the way in which the information is projected by Amnesty. Sometimes there is positive messaging.

Take this positive tweet about Pakistan as an example:<sup>343</sup>



 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>342</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=pakistan%20(from%3Aamnesty)%20since%3A2018-09-01
 <sup>343</sup> https://twitter.com/amnestypress/status/1057586783960158211

Since May 2018, the Amnesty Press Office Twitter Account has made 2600 tweets. Of these 1127 were original.<sup>344</sup> They used the term 'war crimes' in a tweet on just 7 occasions:

8	Yesterdays's o	utrageous dec		eli Supreme Court	to allow the army to
				uin community, no green light to forci	t only delivers a cruel ble transfer, a <b>war</b>
	Q 2	15	♡ 18	<u>↑</u>	
-	At least 44	1 people killed	nestypress • Jun in latest deadly ⁄ilians is a <b>war c</b>	attack on #Idlib.	~
Q	amnestypi	ress 🤣 @amn	estypress · Oct	1, 2018	~
<b>₽</b>	the #Khan/	AAhmar comm		to a <b>war crime</b> ", sa	The forcible transfer of iid Saleh Higazi, Deputy
ŧ	"Hauwa Lir affected by	nan was provid	the northeast o	-needed humanita	v rian services to people g is a <b>war crime</b> ", says
-	"Amnesty I attack clea	nternational co	ilians and, there		↓ disdain for life. This e a <b>war crime</b> " -
	Q 6	LJ 15	♡ <u>1</u> 6	٢	
ŧ	Libya: Hor				$\stackrel{\scriptstyle \bigvee}{}$ tention centre must be
-	Israel's pol territory is	icy of settling I a <b>war crime</b> . ost their econo	By promoting to	n stolen Palestinian	tlements TripAdvisor is

Of the 7 times that Amnesty used the term 'war crimes', 3 (43%) was reserved for Israel.

- 3 (43%) Israel
- 2 (29%) Boko Haram
- 1 (14%) Syria /Russia.<sup>345</sup>
- 1 (14%) Attack by unidentified group in Libya.<sup>346</sup>

Israel was directly accused of 'war crimes' in all three tweets. Only Boko Haram were treated in the same manner (and in only a single tweet) without any need for 'investigation'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>344</sup> 'original' means they were not retweets. https://twitter.com/amnestypress

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>345</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/06/syria-scores-of-civilian-casualties-in-suspected-russian-air-strike-on-idlib/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>346</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/04/libya-horrific-attack-targeting-refugees-and-migrantsat-detention-centre-must-be-investigated-as-a-war-crime

These are not isolated occurrences. There is another example using language. Amnesty have a habit of reporting 'good news' when it occurs:<sup>347</sup>



There are dozens of such 'good news' items on the main Amnesty Twitter account. Some of describe actions by western democracies, such as Finland, but most do not.<sup>348</sup>

This is an Amnesty 'good news' story from Egypt:



Amnesty International @ @amnesty · Oct 20, 2017 GOOD NEWS! After 4 years of unjust detention in #Egypt, Ibrahim Halawa is returning home to #Ireland #FridayFeeling amn.st/600787YTh

And Zimbabwe:



Dozens will be spared the hangman's noose in #Zimbabwe. Will President Mnangagwa build on this positive momentum and halt the use of the death penalty altogether?

Only once is the release of a Palestinian welcomed with Amnesty's 'good news'. In reference to Lebanon, not Israel and over a decade ago:<sup>349</sup>



<sup>347</sup> https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/964130808314388481

<sup>348</sup> See example on Finland <u>https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1037342600024543233</u> and Switzerland https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1066695104457527297

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>349</sup> https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/2737092465

Angola	Holland	North Korea	UAE
Argentina	India	Norway	Ukraine
Cambodia	Indonesia	Peru	US
Chad	Iran	Philippines	Uzbekistan
China	Lebanon	Qatar	Vietnam
Czech Republic	Malaysia	Romania	Zimbabwe
Egypt	Mauritania	Russia	
El Salvador	Mexico	South Africa	
Ethiopia	Mongolia	Spain	
EU	Morocco	Switzerland	
Finland	Myanmar	Syria	
Gambia	Nigeria	Tunisia	
Guatemala	Norway	Turkey	

Here is a list of the countries about which Amnesty has tweeted 'good news':<sup>350</sup>

Some nations were mentioned in 'good news' stories more than once. Mexico for example had 5 'good news' stories. Egypt also had 5. Myanmar and Nigeria 2 and Qatar 3. Even North Korea had one. Israel was never mentioned in this fashion.

This type of evidence is important. Discrimination can be easily hidden. The evidence above displays an underlying and obvious difference in the way that Israel is viewed and treated by Amnesty. An existence of real hostility towards the entity rather than the actions of any particular government.

This is an example of the way the release of Ahed Tamimi was reported by Amnesty – as an excuse to attack Israel further:<sup>351</sup>



With Mexico there is 'hope':<sup>352</sup>



Amnesty International 🤣 @amnesty · Dec 3, 2015 Good news! Mexico freed 2 torture victims in 24 hrs - raises hopes for others amn.st/6017BrNrB #StopTorture

And for Qatar, nothing else to think about:<sup>353</sup>



Amnesty International 🤣 @amnesty · Mar 16, 2016 Release of Qatari poet Mohamed al-'Ajami 'long overdue good news' amn.st /6011B5sjZ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>350</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q="good news" from:amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>351</sup> https://twitter.com/AmnestyUK/status/1023861127200079872

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>352</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/mexico

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>353</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human rights in Qatar

To show this is a pattern in their social media narrative, the Amnesty UK Twitter account also ran 'good news' stories. They provide different examples but displayed the same bias. Nations referenced in 'good news' stories that were tweeted out included:

China, El Salvador, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Russia, Egypt, Yemen, North Korea, Zimbabwe, Turkey, Pakistan, Uganda, Bahrain, Malaysia, Turkey, Iran, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Sudan, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Syria, Burkina Faso & Myanmar.

North Korea:



To drive home this point, there was only one story on Israel on the AmnestyUK account under 'good news'. It was a 'good news' shout-out to Airbnb for boycotting Israel and a call out for other companies to follow suit:<sup>354</sup>



Amnesty UK 🥑 @AmnestyUK · Nov 20, 2018

**Good news** that @Airbnb has finally taken down listings in Israel's illegal West Bank settlements. The company has profited from Palestinian suffering for too long - it has much work to do to repair the damage.

Now for other companies to follow suit.

This is not just a bias towards Amnesty's over-reporting and discriminatory practices against Israel. This is a qualitative difference. There is a clear and visible hostility that does not exist when Amnesty deals with human rights abuse within the borders of the world's biggest human rights abusers.

The evidence of a hostile anti-Israel bias is visible wherever you decide to put down the terms of the research. A simple glance over the recent output from the Amnesty International Facebook account provides another example.

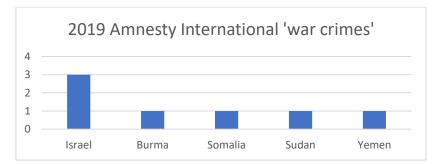
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>354</sup> Airbnb later reversed the decision https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/apr/10/airbnb-reverses-decision-to-remove-israeli-west-bank-homes-from-website

Since July 1 2019, Amnesty International's main Facebook Page has published 62 Facebook posts.<sup>355</sup> Many of them are self-promotional or general messages about the power of activism. There are also cause-related posts such as articles related to the issues of consent, abortion, climate change, LGBT rights or refugees/immigration.

<u> </u>	laua al
6	Israel
4	Hong Kong
4	USA
3	Kashmir
3	Saudi Arabia
2	Philippines
2	Libya
1	Russia
1	Ecuador
1	Morocco
1	Argentina
1	Lebanon
1	Switzerland
1	China
1	Iran
1	South Korea
1	Sudan
1	Syria

35 of the posts were country specific:

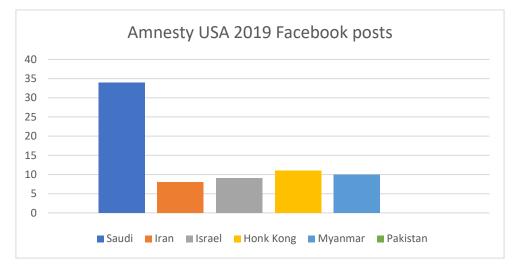
Even beyond the obvious bias that means Amnesty are focusing more on Israel than on the most pressing human rights abuses of the day, all of the references were attached to a current news item. Only with Israel, did Amnesty keep referencing older articles that were uploaded eight months ago.<sup>356</sup> In 2019, the account has only explicitly used the term 'war crimes' in seven posts. Three (almost half) of these were in accusations against Israel.



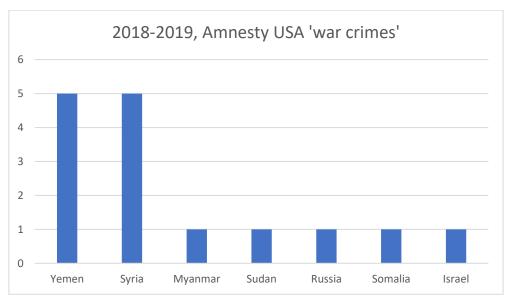
Importantly the level of social media bias differs within the Amnesty regions. Amnesty's second largest FB page, Amnesty USA does not obsess about Israel as much as Amnesty's

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>355</sup> This count was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2019. https://www.facebook.com/amnestyglobal/
 <sup>356</sup> See recent post <u>https://www.facebook.com/amnestyglobal/posts/2578232712189585</u>? And article archive from January https://web.archive.org/web/20190130232646/https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/take-action/tripadvisor-occupied-palestine-territories/

other outlets do.<sup>357</sup> Although it can be argued that Israel doesn't warrant the attention given at all, on the US page there is a clear local 'anti-Trump' agenda and most of the posts are on domestic issues. Yet even on international matters Israel is not in first place:



If we look at their use of the term 'war crimes', we can see an even more stark difference. Suddenly Israel is not the key offender:



This is important because it suggests an Amnesty 'consumer' in the USA would not necessarily be aware of the high levels of anti-Israel bias that is evident within the global organisation. It means that some members in the USA may be contributing to the Amnesty cause unaware they are funding a global campaign that is obsessed with anti-Israel activity.

This difference in bias has been subtly noted before. In June 2016, a pro-Israeli blog site analysed some of Amnesty International's Twitter following.<sup>358</sup> The article notes that when Amnesty do tweet about fatal terror attacks *against Israelis*, the tweet receives far less

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>357</sup> With 881,000 likes Amnesty USA is second only to the main Amnesty International page (2.2 million likes) https://www.facebook.com/amnestyusa/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>358</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elder\_of\_Ziyon

promotion (retweets, likes) from Amnesty followers than an average Amnesty tweet. Suggesting 'Amnesty's Twitter followers don't care about dead Jews'.<sup>359</sup> In the research however, Amnesty USA followers did not display a similar anti-Israel bias, as Amnesty USA retweets about dead Israelis received an average amount of likes and retweets.

This suggests Amnesty International may be passing their animosity towards Israel on to their followers – where the bias is not as blatant, Amnesty followers still respond to Israelis just as they would to other human beings. Another dynamic is also possible: anti-Israel activity attracts a 'certain type' of follower. Amnesty USA don't obsess 'as much' so have a different type of audience (Amnesty USA still obsess – everything here is relative.)

Returning to the Amnesty International website, there is a section for those who want to 'get involved'. Inside are a list of 'urgent actions.'<sup>360</sup> These are all the recent 'urgent actions' returned under a keyword search for 'Pakistan':

I am: just browsing I am looking for: all resource types	with keyword(s): pakistan Tip:Entering too many search tern FIND RESOURCES	is means you might not get any results
on this issue:	v	
You searched for <b>all resources</b> Sort by: Most recent	with keywords <b>pakistan</b>	Displaying 1 - 10 of 25 results
	Urgent Action outcome: Emirati authorities unlawfully deport Pakistani national	DOWNLOAD
	On 22 June 2019, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) forcibly returned Rashid Hussain Brohi to Pakistan. 1st Update on UA 22/19 Issued 11/07/2019	
£	Urgent Action good news: Asia Bibi leaves	DOWNLOAD
	Pakistan for Canada a free woman Asia Bibi has left Pakistan and safely arrived in Canada to be reunited with her family. 1st update on UA 192/18 issued 14/05/2019	
	Urgent Action: Pakistani Christian family at risk of deportation	DOWNLOAD
URGENT ACTION	A Pakistani Catholic family – ages ranging from 11 to 57 - har been arrested for overstaying their visas in Sri Lanka. UA 80/19 issued 04/06/2019	ve
g	Urgent Action: Baloch activist held	
	incommunicado On 26 December 2018, Emirati security forces detained	DOWNLOAD
URGENT ACTION	Pakistani national Rashid Hussain Brohi without an arrest warrant.	

Going back to December 2018, there are just four:

Two criticising the UAE, one praising Pakistan and one criticising Sri Lanka. Amnesty found no reason during 2019 to act 'urgently' against Pakistan's brutal oppression of human rights.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>359</sup> http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2016/06/amnestys-twitter-followers-dont-care.html
 <sup>360</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources?audience=1629

In May a 22-year-old woman in Pakistan's Punjab province reported to police that four men had abducted her at gunpoint and raped her. Three of the four were police officers.<sup>361</sup> In February Pashtun activist Arman Luni died during a sit in.<sup>362</sup> April brought reports of the sale of Pakistani women and girls to buyers in China.<sup>363</sup> In May a clash with the Pakistani army saw three activists killed in North Waziristan.<sup>364</sup>

What did move them in this time were eight 'call to action' notices against Israel, seven of them critical. **Whilst Israel faced seven critical calls to action**, these were the results of the search:

- Israel 7
- Myanmar 6
- Saudi 6
- Turkey 5
- Lebanon 1
- Jordan 1
- Morocco 0
- Qatar 0

This means Qatar received the same lack of attention as Pakistan even though 'Qatari laws continue to discriminate against migrants, women and the LGBT community.'<sup>365</sup> Qatar can apparently strip people of citizenship and render them stateless without Amnesty interference.<sup>366</sup>

Morocco, which 'occupies' 'disputed territory' and faces opposition from a 'national liberation movement' that seeks the right to self-determination also received no urgent call to action.<sup>367</sup>

On their campaign 'issues' page, there is a list of several general human rights issues such as 'women's rights', 'LGBT' and 'refugees'. There are only three 'nations' marked as 'priority campaigns.' The homeland of the UK, Syria and Israel.<sup>368</sup> Inside the page on Israel is just action after action against Israel. There is virtually nothing about the human rights abuses taking place inside PA areas.<sup>369</sup>

Amnesty provide their own evidence of this unnatural and unacceptable bias.

When Amnesty promote themselves and list examples of the importance of their work on armed conflict, they list Syria, Sudan, Nigeria and the Central African Republic. They choose to highlight the worst cases they deal with, as any self-publicising outlet would in such

<sup>368</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>361</sup> https://twitter.com/hrw/status/1131790009282039808

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>362</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/02/15/pakistan-should-address-pashtun-grievances

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>363</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/04/26/pakistan-should-heed-alarm-bells-over-bride-trafficking

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>364</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/30/pakistan-investigate-north-waziristan-deaths

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>365</sup> https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/qatar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>366</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/12/qatar-families-arbitrarily-stripped-citizenship

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>367</sup> Morocco has unilaterally annexed a large part of Western Sahara

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political\_status\_of\_Western\_Sahara

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>369</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories

circumstances.<sup>370</sup> When they list examples under the headings of indigenous peoples, detention, discrimination, freedom of expression and international justice, Israel doesn't get a mention either. The question can therefore be raised. If Amnesty themselves think there are lots of issues on the planet far worse than anything going on in Israel, then why are they always focusing on the Jewish state?

I openly challenge anyone to find a comparable headline relating to Israel on any Amnesty media outlet to this 2018 article on Pakistan:<sup>371</sup>

# Pakistan: Historic rights advances for tribal areas and transgender people

25 May 2018, 19:48 UTC

Because everywhere you look on the Amnesty website, the demonization of Israel is there. Amnesty displays an unnatural bias against Israel and a clear hostility that causes it to treat it differently than it does all other nations.

Israel is treated as illegitimate, not by action (what it does), but by design (that it exists at all). Nations can have bad leaders, governments, armies, actions, but there is always 'hope' and positive actions are met by Amnesty with a positive response. **ONLY Israel is different.** 

There are also major gaps in Amnesty's global coverage that cause it to focus far less-thanaverage attention on some key human rights offenders.

Beyond Amnesty's Israel 'obsession' it appears anti-western by reflex and dislikes Shi'ite Iran. It reacts to Saudi Arabia military activity in Yemen and with the Egyptian government when it cracks down on the Muslim Brotherhood.<sup>372</sup> It springs to life against India when it acts in Kashmir, acts against China with the Uighur and Burma with the Rohingya. These are key indicators of influence and focus.

This is visible everywhere you scratch the surface.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>370</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/armed-conflict/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>371</sup> <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/05/pakistan-historic-advances-for-rights-tribal-areas-transgender-people/</u> see also https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT\_rights\_in\_Pakistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>372</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim\_Brotherhood

## **CASE STUDY AN AMNESTY 'CAMPAIGN'**

In May, to coincide with World Press Day, Amnesty International announced the launch of a 'campaign' on Pakistan.<sup>373</sup>

# Pakistan: Without press freedom, the truth can often disappear

2 May 2019, 11:43 UTC

Spokespeople available for interview

To commemorate World Press Freedom Day on May 3, Amnesty International will be launching a campaign with Dawn.com, showcasing the consequences on the news if press freedom is curtailed in the country.

The campaign will be launched at 0900 (Pakistan Standard Time) on 3 May, 2019.

It seems to have been the brainchild of Rimmel Mohydin, a South Asia Campaigner at Amnesty International, in partnership with Jahanzeb Hussain, head of Dawn Media:

Rimmel Mohydin	•••
Disappearing stories, half-truths and single conclusions.	
Jahanzeb Hussain and I build a world without press freedom - our first Amnesty International/Dawn.com collaboration. #WorldPressFreedomDay #TheTruthDisappears	
D	

It was publicised on the Amnesty International South Asia Facebook Page where it was shared 8 times:<sup>374</sup>

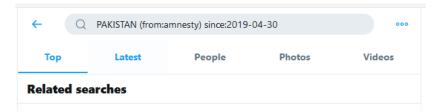


And that is pretty much it. Amnesty International didn't even advertise it as a campaign. There was no 'campaign' launched in May, just a single update on Asia Bibi:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>373</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2019/05/pakistan-without-press-freedom-the-truth-can-oftendisappear/

<sup>374</sup> https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=317409218896328

Nor did they Tweet about it:



Nor did they tweet about press freedom:

← Q	Press Freedom (f	rom:amnesty) since:2	019-04-30	000
Тор	Latest	People	Photos	Videos
		No results		
	Noth	ning came up for that	t search.	

Nor did the Amnesty UK Twitter Account.

Amnesty International did nothing. Even though:

- They had a partner,
- a video was created,
- one of their own campaigners had run with it
- it was 'Press Freedom Day'
- They themselves had announced a campaign

Nothing happened. For whatever reason, nobody pushed it to Amnesty's 7 million strong subscriber base. This oddity led to an additional example being considered.

Even though Pakistan 'actions' and 'campaigns' are few and far between, another 'campaign' was sought to check the support a Pakistan campaign received throughout Amnesty's global network.

It was necessary to go back over a year to find a suitable example. On 24 April 2018 launched a campaign about a missing human rights campaigner and journalist.<sup>375</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>375</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa33/8263/2018/en/

This was a far better test. Deedar Ali Shabrani had been missing for several months. It was believed he had been kidnapped or, in Amnesty terminology, 'forcibly disappeared'. Amnesty considered he may be 'at high risk of torture and death'.<sup>376</sup>

This time, the campaign suited Amnesty International perfectly. An example that addressed their natural purpose and all their core belief systems. Additionally, if letters and emails are important, then surely Amnesty would generate as many responses as possible.

The tweets of Amnesty International were searched for an entire week between April 21 and April 28 2018. No mention of Pakistan, this journalist or the campaign were found.<sup>377</sup> They did however manage to tweet this about weapons sales to Israel:<sup>378</sup>



While Ali Shabrani was neglected by the human rights organisation, the tweet above was retweeted 1300 times. In fact, Shabrani has never been explicitly named in an Amnesty tweet:

← C	) Shabrani from:ar	nnesty		000
Тор	Latest	People	Photos	Videos
		No results		
	Not	hing came up for tha	at search.	

The tweets of Amnesty UK were also searched for the same time period. Once again, no mention of Pakistan, this journalist or Amnesty's own campaign were found.<sup>379</sup>

Yet in the week 21-28 April 2018, as Shabrani was at 'high risk of torture and death', rather than campaign for him, Amnesty UK took the opportunity to make over 40 tweets. Five of these were about Israel, such as these examples:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>376</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA3382632018ENGLISH.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>377</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=(from%3Aamnesty)%20until%3A2018-04-28%20since%3A2018-04-21&src=typed\_query

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>378</sup> https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/989898090948767744

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>379</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=(from%3Aamnestyuk)%20until%3A2018-04-28%20since%3A2018-04-21



Amnesty UK have never tweeted about Shabrani explicitly.

← (	Q	shabrani from:amnestyuk					
Тор		Latest	People	Photos	Videos		

#### No results

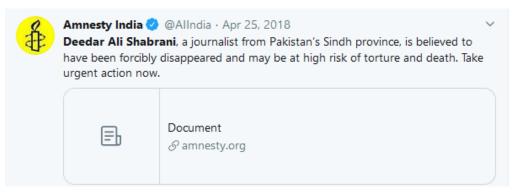
Nothing came up for that search.

A search on the Amnesty website highlights that the Shabrani 'campaign' consisted of one single post:

			WHO WE ARE	WHAT WE DO	COUNTRIES	GET INVOLVED	DONATE NOW	LATEST	SEARCH $ imes$	E
			QUICK SEARCH	ADVANCED SE	ARCH					
		Shabrani				SEARCH				
								Sort by		
result for 'Shabrani'								BY RELI	EVANGE	`
Refine your search		CAMPAIGNS	ASIA AND THE PACIFIC DISAPPEARANCE	s						
CONTENT TYPE	~	Pakistan: Di	sappeared human righ	its defender	at risk of	torture: Dee	edar Ali Sha	brani		
► TOPIC	~		ii, a journalist from Pakistan's Sindh is whereabouts are known since he						rture and death. No	)
• REGION / COUNTRY	~	Date: 24 April 201	8   Ref: ASA 33/8263/2018							
RESOURCE TYPE	~									

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

A search was conducted on Twitter for any mention of Shabrani from any Amnesty account. There were two. Amnesty Germany and, the first to tweet about it, Amnesty India:



Amnesty South Asia tweeted on the subject of press freedom and received 18 retweets. That's it. There was not even a press release published on the issue (although in that week there were two about Israel).<sup>380</sup>

Which once again highlights the key issue with the bias inherent in Amnesty action. Is it really a coincidence that one of only two Amnesty accounts to tweet about this Pakistan campaign was Amnesty India?

On Facebook, there was no mention of Pakistan or Shabrani in April 2018 on the Amnesty International account. They did however manage to make five posts about Israel.<sup>381</sup>

The Amnesty UK Facebook account also ignored the plight of this kidnapped journalist and freedom fighter, but you can rest assured they managed to find the time to make two posts about Israel. <sup>382</sup>

A wider search on Facebook was conducted using the keyword 'Shabrani' to see if any other Amnesty branches had helped to run the campaign. The only one that was found was Amnesty India:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>380</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/archive/2018/04?page=2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>381</sup> Use Facebooks search function https://www.facebook.com/amnestyglobal/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>382</sup> Place keyword 'Israel' into search function, you can then use the filter to see only results for https://www.facebook.com/AmnestyUK/, it is then possible to limit to a date range.

There were now two separate campaigns from South Asia, neither of which had been picked up globally, even though on one occasion it was a core Amnesty mission and the life of a journalist and human rights activist was at 'real risk'. This holds true even though global Amnesty outlets had time for self-promotion, to cover numerous other global interests and obsess over Israel.

India and Germany tweeting on the issue and India posting it on Facebook indicates the material was available to Amnesty outlets in South Asia and beyond. The main website had even posted an 'urgent' campaign directive. There is clearly a question of what happened internally at Amnesty that meant nobody cared enough about this particular human rights activist to post about him?

Although Amnesty has many hires, volunteer power is also important and this type of selective blindness has been seen in other research into 'Israel-hostile' groups. It has been argued that movements such as the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign (PSC) rely on a hatred of Jews to effectively function.<sup>383</sup> This does not mean every volunteer at the PSC is an antisemite. What it suggests is that 'hate' is a key motivator.

The obsession with Israel within these groups is therefore partially fuelled by antisemitism. It is a bottom-up, rather than top-down issue. It is difficult to believe that Amnesty International both launched a campaign AND explicitly directed individual outlets to ignore it. A much more likely scenario is that a certain amount of autonomy exists. There are two choices facing each outlet, one of what to post, the other of what to ignore.

The obsession with Israel is covered in 'what to post' and driven partially by sectarianism and hate. It is what leaves Amnesty India as the main outlet turning to its supporters to highlight the plight of a human rights activist in Pakistan. It is why everyone picks up tools to attack Israel. This in turn creates momentum and pressure as they feed into global antisemitic networks for likes, shares, retweets and signatures.

This is exactly the same 'hate' that an organisation such as the PSC relies on to gather numbers at a demonstration on a cold winter day.

It is why 'pro-Palestinian' campaigners never campaign for Palestinians suffering hardship in Syria, Jordan or Lebanon. They are only interested if the target is Israel. Deedar Ali Shabrani was the victim of a similar inertia. A victim of volunteers who didn't get out of bed for him.

An incident in Israel is actively sought out and faces no internal resistance before taking to action. Everyone agrees that Israel must be talked about. Some within the group are antisemitic and push the action forcefully. Hence Israel is always on the table.

An action in Pakistan is much more problematic. Each player inside Amnesty has a different reason for why some actions or campaigns are not supported. When all of the reasons

<sup>383</sup> See http://david-collier.com/wp-

content/uploads/2017/02/170222 palestine solidarity campaign report.pdf and https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/953855\_faecb29a6e7d4dc6b07d80da1a9bb812.pdf

gather around a table it creates a natural group dynamic.<sup>384</sup> Rather than seek confrontation and awkwardness, as a group they learn to navigate around potential discomfort and stick to areas of agreement.

Amnesty therefore happily plays to the audience of global networks that are themselves fuelled by exceptionalism, bigotry and antisemitism. Meanwhile the kidnap of human rights activists in Pakistan just gets ignored.

To end this part of the study an Israeli campaign was chosen for comparison. An accidental choice of a well-known campaign against Israel such as petitioning for the release of Ahed Tamimi or campaigning against Airbnb would both appear an unfair challenge and produce ridiculous comparative results.<sup>385</sup>

A campaign was sought from early 2018 to fit the same timeframe as the Ali Shabrani case and one that was not instantly recognisable to the researcher.

On March 28 2018, Amnesty launched a campaign to stop the 'forcing' of 'asylum seekers' to leave Israel. It is important to clarify this has nothing to do with the Israeli/Arab conflict nor 'occupied territories.'<sup>386</sup>



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA DETENTION

## ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: Asylum-seekers risk deportation or detention

28 March 2018, Index number: MDE 15/8126/2018

It carried an 'urgent action' notice, just as the Pakistani kidnapping case did.<sup>387</sup> Surprisingly Amnesty UK had already tweeted about the subject two days earlier.<sup>388</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>384</sup> There is a whole body of research that looks at group interactions, including explicitly within professional work or 'management' settings. The 'spiral of silence' is a good place to start.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiral\_of\_silence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>385</sup> Both of these campaigns were of global reach. See <u>https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/?q=ahed+tamimi</u> and https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/?q=Airbnb

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>386</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/8126/2018/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>387</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE1581262018ENGLISH.pdf

<sup>388</sup> https://twitter.com/AmnestyUK/status/978337539517046787

It is beyond the scope of the research to discuss the politics. The Amnesty tweet references a press release published two days before the 'campaign' was published.<sup>389</sup> Amnesty International also ran with it:



Amnesty USA did not, reflecting the same lower level of bias witnessed earlier. The official account 'News from Amnesty' did:<sup>390</sup>



And these accounts ran with the campaign for months:<sup>391</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>389</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israel-secret-deal-over-deporting-african-migrants-recklessand-illegal?

<sup>390</sup> https://twitter.com/NewsFromAmnesty/status/978281452860334080

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>391</sup> <u>https://twitter.com/NewsFromAmnesty/status/1008755062280261632</u> and

https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1008654808184774657



#### Amnesty International 🥑 @amnesty · Jun 18, 2018

**#Israel** should immediately halt deportations of Eritrean and Sudanese **asylum** seekers and assume their fair share of responsibility for the world's refugees. The international community should work together to protect people forced to flee their countries. amn.st/6011DYhVx

♀ 11 1 107 ♡ 150 🖒

Amnesty's network picks this up globally:<sup>392</sup>



Amnesty big hitters, such as the UK Campaign Manager Kristyan Benedict pushed it too.<sup>393</sup>



kristyan benedict 🤣 @KreaseChan · Jun 18, 2018 'Cruel & Illegal' - IsraeI's transfers of Eritrean and Sudanese asylum-seekers - new Amnesty report amnesty.org/en/latest/news...

The desire to attack Israel created a 45-page report on the issue for other organisations to reference and quote<sup>394</sup> – luxury never afforded kidnapped Pakistani journalists.

The bias that creates the noise around Israel, then becomes news:<sup>395</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>392</sup> https://twitter.com/AmnestyEARO/status/1008621591708753920

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>393</sup> https://twitter.com/KreaseChan/status/1008641334113132544

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>394</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE1584792018ENGLISH.PDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>395</sup> <u>https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/israel-deportation-african-asylum-seekers-cruel-and-unlawful-amnesty-international-a8403501.html</u> and https://www.thejc.com/news/world/stop-deporting-african-asylum-seekers-amnesty-international-tells-israel-in-new-report-1.465712

It began with a press release in March and was soon followed by a 'call to action'. It would be interesting to know when the decision was made to create the report, which was published by Amnesty in June <sup>396</sup> – and whether it was before or after the press release. Unfortunately, that information is held only by those that obsess over Israel within the Amnesty apparatus.

Unlike with other issues, when Amnesty attacks Israel it is 'all hands on deck' and wherever you look on social media, Amnesty staff are pushing it:



Of course, when you search such an 'eager beaver' account for the keyword 'Pakistan' there are no results:



#### Another Amnesty man who tweeted on the refugees:<sup>397</sup>



 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>396</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE1584792018ENGLISH.PDF
 <sup>397</sup> There is a case study on Dawson on p137

C
pakistan from:pdawson\_amnesty

Top
Latest

People
Photos

Videos

Related searches

#pakistan
hafiz saeed

Dawson is yet another Amnesty 'human rights activist' who has never tweeted on Pakistan:

There were plenty like this. These are just two examples.

It is always only Israel that matters. If you want Amnesty International to fight for your cause, it seems the best course of action you can take is to make sure Israel is your enemy.

# **ANTI-ISRAEL CAMPAIGNS**

Amnesty's campaigns against Israel are visible everywhere. When accessed during the research, the Amnesty Arabic website carried research on Israel as their headline:<sup>398</sup>



نناضل من أجل عالم يتمتع فيه الجميع بحقوق الإنسان به هدانه ده عله به كه به عنه به منه به عامه ها الاسا المال العم بالاستان مع

It is research by Amnesty that alleges discrimination against Arab Parliamentarians in the Israeli Knesset. It doesn't really get much more absurd than this. The Arabic website could focus on

- The devastation in Yemen
- Human rights abuse in Saudi Arabia
- The apartheid systems in Lebanon
- The catastrophic death count in Syria
- The abuse of migrant workers in Qatar
- The complete lack of freedoms in Bahrain
- The persecution of Christians in Egypt
- The restriction of rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association in Oman
- Forced disappearances in the UAE
- Arbitrary detentions, ill-treatment and torture of prisoners in Iraq
- The stateless Bedoon in Kuwait
- Human trafficking and forced labour in Jordan

Instead their headline is about the only truly free Arab politicians in the region.<sup>399</sup> The report published by Amnesty about Israeli Arab politicians even required a 22-page report.<sup>400</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>398</sup> Website accessed 10 September https://www.amnesty.org/ar/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>399</sup> The headline is a link to an Amnesty article published in September 2019

https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israel-palestinian-members-parliament-subjected-discrimination-new-report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>400</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/MDE1508822019ENGLISH.PDF

#### Once published it was shared by Amnesty on social media:



amnestypress 📀 @amnestypress · Sep 4

New @amnesty report out today reveals how deep-rooted discrimination against Palestinian members of the Israeli parliament (the Knesset) is undermining their ability to represent and defend the rights of the Palestinian minority population in Israel





Amnesty International 
@ @amnestyusa · Sep 5
"Despite being democratically elected like their Jewish Israeli counterparts,
Palestinian MKs are the target of deep-rooted discrimination and undue
restrictions that hamstring their ability to speak out in defence of the rights of the
Palestinian people."



The report has no purpose beyond its usefulness to anti-Israel boycotters. <sup>401</sup>

<sup>401</sup> Checking to see who shares news is a good indication of the audience it is intended for. See Middle East Eye <a href="https://twitter.com/MiddleEastEye/status/1169528138793197569">https://twitter.com/MiddleEastEye/status/1169528138793197569</a> Middle East Monitor <a href="https://twitter.com/MiddleEastMnt/status/1169494141874499584">https://twitter.com/MiddleEastEye/status/1169494141874499584</a> Mondoweiss <a href="https://twitter.com/MiddleEastMnt/status/1169494141874499584">https://twitter.com/MiddleEastMnt/status/1169494141874499584</a> Mondoweiss <a href="https://twitter.com/Mondoweiss/status/1170683303353040896">https://twitter.com/Mondoweiss/status/1170683303353040896</a> Ben White <a href="https://twitter.com/benabyad/status/1169207302668410881">https://twitter.com/benabyad/status/1169207302668410881</a> Adalah NY <a href="https://twitter.com/AdalahNY/status/1169248268003500033">https://twitter.com/AdalahNY/status/1169248268003500033</a>

It is one of just a long list of expensive, time-consuming, resource-eating initiatives attacking Israel that Amnesty has invested in. Is Amnesty really suggesting that in the Middle East the one cause it needed to waste resources on was an attack on the most democratic system in the region?

There is reason to this madness. But the is cause the anti-Israel boycott campaign, BDS.<sup>402</sup> As the report will show, over recent years Amnesty have been shifting further into boycott activity, chiefly driven by activists inside the organisation who are already full supporters of the boycott (this report will clearly prove this point).

BDS has three aims:<sup>403</sup>

- I. "Ending Israel's occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the West Bank barrier wall."
- 2. "Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality."
- 3. "Respecting, protecting, and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194."

One aim focuses on the settlements, one on the refugees and one on the Israeli Arabs. BDS is desperate for material, legitimacy and support from organisations such as Amnesty International. Amnesty international staff and volunteers who fully support BDS want to provide such support.

The end result is that Amnesty produce campaigns that do not carry the BDS label but are explicitly designed to promote one of its three aims. The 2019 Airbnb campaign is a good example.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>402</sup> The boycott movement has three aims. If all are applied the end result is that Israel will not exist, and Jewish people will lose their right to self-determination. Even anti-Zionists such as Norman Finkelstein have openly said this. <u>https://twitter.com/mishtal/status/1055369185835040768</u> BDS sounds as if it is all about human-rights – and if you only choose to endorse some of it – you can pretend that you are not working towards a far more sinister cause.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>403</sup> https://bdsmovement.net/what-is-bds

'Occupation Destination' was a slick Amnesty campaign launched in January 2019, that aims to support boycott activity in the 1967 lands. The campaign was supported with a 96-page report.<sup>404</sup> It followed another lengthy and highly promoted Amnesty 2018 boycott campaign to 'ban Israeli settlement goods'.<sup>405</sup>

Amnesty International UK Thank you for acting to help ban Israeli settlement goods



Many thanks to the tens of thousands of you who took action to ban Israeli settlement goods. We had an incredible response – over 50,000 actions were taken urging the UK government to ban trade with the illegal settlements.

This type of legitimacy is vital for BDS and the movement relentlessly shares Amnesty's campaigns:<sup>406</sup>



<sup>404</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/9490/2019/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>405</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/thank-you-acting-help-ban-israeli-settlement-goods

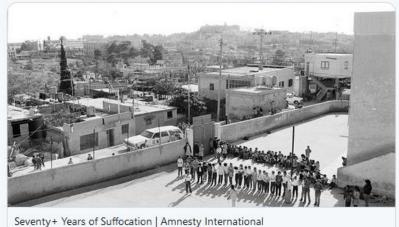
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>406</sup> In just 2019, there have been at least 20 explicit tweets from the BDS movement account referencing

Amnesty https://twitter.com/search?q=amnesty (from:BDSmovement) since:2019-01-01

In Dec 2018, Amnesty also published an entire microsite as part of their campaign.<sup>407</sup>



Samah Hadid سماح @samahhadid · Dec 11, 2018 Today we launch "70 years of suffocation", a photo project in collaboration with the talented @thabjouqa . Over 70 years on, it's time to #EndNakba :



Seventy+ Years of Suffocation | Amnesty International photography by Tanya Habjouqa & nakba.amnesty.org

The dedicated 'Nakba' portal looks explicitly at the Palestinian refugees:

Amnesty International's dedicated Nakba website 70+ Years of Suffocation showcases powerful images and testimonies that tell the heartbreaking stories of Palestinian refugees living in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT), Jordan and Lebanon. To mark Nakba Day, Amnesty International is asking people from around the world to show solidarity with Palestinian refugees and demand that Israel respect their right to return.

Like all Amnesty material, it is shared as much as Amnesty's network seek to share it around:



 Omar Waraich ♥ @OmarWaraich • Dec 17, 2018
 ✓

 Seventy years of suffocation: @amnesty's new website on the oppression of the Palestinians since the Nakba nakba.amnesty.org/en/ (via @Maenst3r and @samahhadid)

 Image: Compare the Nakba nakba.amnesty.org/en/ (via @Maenst3r and @samahhadid)

 Image: Compare the Nakba nakba.amnesty.org/en/ (via @Maenst3r and @samahhadid)

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 Image: Compare the Nakba nakba

<sup>407</sup> https://nakba.amnesty.org/en/

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

The boycott Israel movement picks up the baton from Amnesty and runs with it:408



Friends of Al Aqsa @FriendsofAlAqsa · Dec 12, 2018 Amnesty International (@amnesty) publishes a detailed documentation and analysis of the 1948 Nakba and Israel's ongoing suppression and abuse of Palestinians.



All this shines light on something extremely problematic. Amnesty's campaigns explicitly address BDS aims.

BDS need material to promote the cause of withdrawal and the Airbnb campaign provides material for it. BDS need material to promote discussion on refugees and Amnesty provide a 'Nakba' portal.

Which means that the recent research into Israeli Arab Parliamentarians does make sense if Amnesty are working to an agenda that supports full BDS. The 'madness' suddenly fits strategic logic.



Adalah-NY @AdalahNY · Sep 4

.@Amnesty: "Increasing restrictions faced by Palestinian [members of Israel's parliament] are part of a pattern of blatant discrimination by Israeli authorities against Palestinian citizens in Israel. Palestinians make up 20% of Israel's population." #BDS!



Palestinian members of the Knesset who dare to criticise Israeli policies are labe... Palestinian members of the Knesset who dare to criticise Israeli policies are labelled 'traitors' & amnesty.org.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>408</sup> Friends of Al Aqsa are an Islamist group in the UK and a primary sponsor of BDS events see https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/palestine-expo-2019s-promotion-of-bds-and-hatred/ and <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ismail\_Patel</u> and

For this to be a coincidence, Amnesty really have to believe that the issue of Israeli Arab parliamentarians is the worthiest use of resources for its Middle East and Africa team.

- BDS aim 1 Nakba microsite
- BDS aim 2 Discrimination against Israeli Arab parliamentarians
- BDS aim 3 Settlement goods petition and Airbnb campaign

This raises the question of whether the tail is wagging the dog? Officially Amnesty do not support BDS.<sup>409</sup>

Amnesty does not take a view on the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign and has never called for or endorsed specific boycotts. It is up to individuals and organisations to determine which peaceful strategies to use in furtherance of human rights. Advocating for boycotts, divestment and

Yet they are producing material that appears explicitly designed to support every facet of the Boycott movement. Are Amnesty's people using the resources of Amnesty International to push their own far-more-extremist agenda?

The report will show more than enough examples to support this conclusion. Here is Hadid, Amnesty's (former) Middle East Director of Campaigns putting out a call for a full boycott, with the additional use of a hashtag #globalintifada in 2011:



Whether Amnesty International are aware of it or not employees are deliberately using Amnesty resources to work on the BDS campaign – in effect providing material to support a full boycott of the Jewish State.

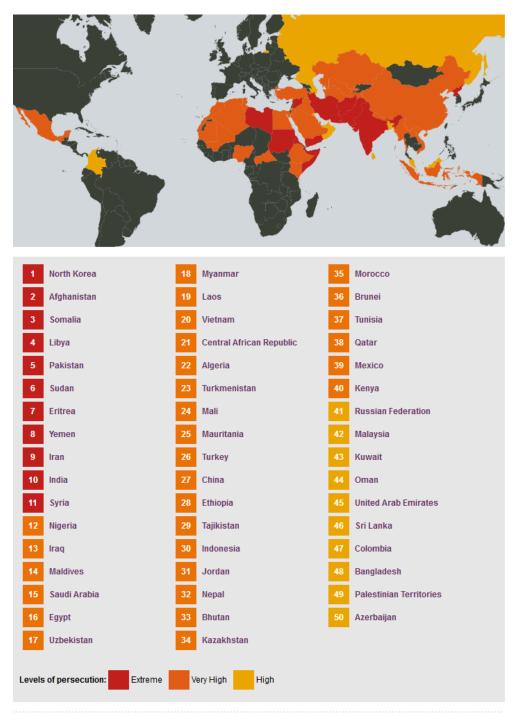
As BDS seeks to bring about the destruction of the state of Israel, it seems difficult to argue that Amnesty have not taken up that very same cause.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>409</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israel-amnesty-joins-legal-challenge-expulsion-human-rightswatch-director

# **CASE STUDY: AMNESTY AND THE CHRISTIANS**

According to a recent report commissioned by the UK government, the persecution of Christians in parts of the world has reached near 'genocide' levels.<sup>410</sup>

'Open Doors' produce an annual 'watch list' that ranks nations according to the persecution levels.<sup>411</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>410</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-48146305

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>411</sup> <u>https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/countries/</u> 'Open Doors is 'an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide'.

Most of the names are predictable. The vast majority are Muslim majority states. In 33 of the cases (66%), Open Doors list 'Islamic oppression' as the reason for the persecution. 13 of the worst 16 cases (81%) label this as the cause.

This is especially true in the countries in and around the Middle East. 100 years ago, Christianity made up 20% of the population of the Middle East.<sup>412</sup> Today it is less than 5% and that proportion is still falling.<sup>413</sup>

Of the countries in the Middle East only Israel and Lebanon are regarded by Open Doors as places where Christians are free to worship. Israel's Arab Christians are one of the most educated groups in the country.<sup>414</sup> The Palestinian territories – by contrast – are listed. Whereas the Christian population in Israel is growing, a once vibrant community in the PA areas has virtually disappeared. Although the conflict no doubt bears some responsibility, it cannot be blamed for direct persecution of Palestinian Christians by Islamist groups. Which is why Open Doors cites 'Islamic Oppression' for the decline of the Christian population in PA areas.

'Generally speaking, Christians are affected by Islamic oppression throughout the Palestinian Territories, although there is noticeably more pressure in Gaza than in the West Bank, because of the presence of active radical Islamic movements.'

Examples according to the Open Doors report:

- Afghanistan: 'official' expression of any faith other than Islam is simply not permitted to exist.
- Somalia: 99 percent of Somalis are Muslims and any minority religions are heavily persecuted.
- Libya: Libyan Christians with a Muslim background face extremely violent and intense pressure from their family and the wider community to renounce their faith.
- Pakistan: Christians are at risk of violence (suicide attack) and continue to live in daily fear that they will be accused of blasphemy, which can carry a penalty of death.
- Sudan: The government has arrested or intimidated many Christian leaders.
- Eritrea: Christians are being forced to join the armed forces and Protestants in particular face serious problems with accessing community resources, especially social services
- Yemen: They face persecution from the authorities (including detention and interrogation), their families and radical Islamic groups who threaten converts with death if they do not re-convert.
- Iran: Christians in Iran are forbidden from sharing their faith with non-Christians. Consequently, church services in Persian (Iran's national language) are not allowed.
- Syria: Even in more secure parts of Syria, Christians who have converted from Islam face pressure and discrimination from their communities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>412</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-11509256

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>413</sup> https://www.neweurope.eu/article/christianity-in-the-middle-east-threatened-with-extinction/
 <sup>414</sup> <u>https://www.makorrishon.co.il/nrg/online/1/ART2/319/566.html</u> (Hebrew)

Just taking the 50 World Watch List countries, '245 million Christians in the world experience high levels of persecution'.

In just 12 months, 4,136 Christians were killed for faith-related reasons in the 50 WWL countries. 2,625 Christians were detained without trial, arrested, sentenced and imprisoned. 1,266 churches or Christian buildings were attacked. Surely this is enough?

#### Not for the main Amnesty Twitter account:415

← Q	christian (from:am	nesty) since:2017-0	1-01	000
Тор	Latest	People	Photos	Videos
		No results		
	Not	ning came up for tha	t search.	

Amnesty UK made just two tweets with the word 'Christian' in them. Both negative. One was critical of Danish domestic policy, the other about a baker who refused to make a cake with a message supporting gay marriage.<sup>416</sup>

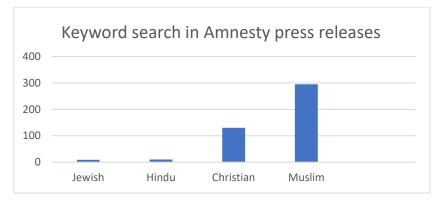
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(	Q 4	tl 27	12	<b>⊥</b>	
	Ashers bakery, by the <b>Christia</b>	, which has bran In Institute, is ta harriageequaliy	king its claim to t	Ireland and is financially he supreme court': amr	
(	$\mathcal{Q}$	173	0 4	Ť	

Amnesty USA, the less visibly biased of the outlets, made just a single tweet.

<mark>¢∰</mark>	Amnesty International  @amnestyusa · Jun 17  Malik* and his family fled Baghdad to Beirut, fearing for their lives because of their Christian faith. They even completed trainings to prepare for their new lives after his case was approved.					ir
		ir case has been む 5			are "security checks	s."

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>415</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=christian (from%3Aamnesty) since%3A2017-01-01
 <sup>416</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=christian (from%3Aamnestyuk) since%3A2017-01-01

Over 4000 deaths a year, thousands of people detained without trial and yet virtual silence from Amnesty's Twitter accounts? The Facebook accounts of Amnesty International, Amnesty UK and Amnesty USA produced similar results. On the Amnesty website, Amnesty press releases go back over a decade:<sup>417</sup>



There were 9 press releases that contained the word 'Jewish'. Seven were hostile towards Israel. One was a neutral reference. One was in a general article about the rise of intolerance in the Ukraine. There were no returns on either 'Antisemitism' nor 'anti-Semitism'.

130 press releases contained the word 'Christian.' The most recent 50 press releases containing the word 'Christian' were analysed, covering a period stretching back over four years to March 2015. Several were false positives. For example, the name of the country campaigner for the DRC is Christian Rumu and in some instances, in Amnesty open letters, one of the signatories was a Christian group.<sup>418</sup>

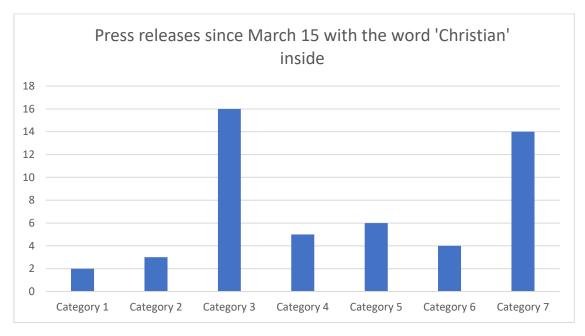
The press releases were split into categories

- Category 1: A clear condemnation of explicitly anti-Christian persecution.
- Category 2: Unclear, non-explicit condemnation that attacks human rights abuse relevant to Christians but either fails to state it is religious persecution or it also includes Muslim victims.
- Category 3: A reference to Christian persecution as an afterthought. For example, when mentioning the Rohingya or war zones, Christian sects were 'also' at risk.
- Category 4: Not relevant. Such as the Pope's visit to a Greek Island.
- Category 5: Attack on the rise of the 'far right' in the US or Europe.
- Category 6: Criticism of the response to an attack on Christians. Mainly directed at Egypt when they attacked or cracked down on terrorists following attacks on Coptic Christians.
- Category 7: False positive. The name Christian was used, or a Christian group signed a letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>417</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/search/?q=&sort=date&resourceType=pressrelease

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>418</sup> See DRC example https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/07/drc-release-of-six-youth-activistsmust-lead-to-freedom-for-all-prisoners-of-conscience/ and example of an open letter signed by a Christian group https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/myanmar-un-security-council-must-imposearms-embargo/

#### The breakdown is as follows:419



Of the fifty press releases since March 2015, nineteen were not relevant at all to the discussion. Most of these were simply the use of Christian as a name. Ten others worked in reverse, either referencing Christian abuse of Muslims, disregard of Muslim refugees or criticising the crackdown on radical Islamist groups following a terror attack on Christians.

The largest group (category 3) was about war-torn areas, refugees or sectarian fighting in which Christians were referenced as one of the groups at risk. Three dealt with issues of Christian persecution but failed to explicitly call it out. For the most part this is because blasphemy laws can often also affect Muslims – and more frequently than Christians.

**Only on two occasions, did Amnesty directly call out anti-Christian persecution**. On both occasions this was after a massive terror attack that created headlines across the globe and international condemnation.<sup>420</sup> **State driven persecution is never explicitly addressed exclusively. Just as noticeable is that only ten of the fifty nations ranked for the persecution levels of Christians even get a mention.** 

There was nothing that compared to a press release such as this (see below) where a government is told by Amnesty that it 'must protect' members of a minority religion and the word 'Christian' is used in a headline:<sup>421</sup>

PRESS RELEASE ASIA AND THE PACIFIC DETENTION

### Sri Lanka: Authorities must protect Muslims against violence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>419</sup> The complete list, with categories assigned is provided in appendix A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>420</sup> The attacks in Sri Lanka and Egypt. See appendix A for further details.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>421</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/05/sri-lanka-authorities-must-protect-muslims-against-violence/

And scanning just the press release headlines during the same time period for the word 'Muslim' it soon becomes clear that Amnesty treat anti-Muslim persecution very differently.<sup>422 423 424 425</sup>

PRESS RELEASE		
AMERICAS	REFUGEES	

## THE US WAR ON MUSLIM REFUGEES

PRESS RELEASE

INDIA DISCRIMINATION

# INDIA: HATE CRIMES AGAINST MUSLIMS AND RISING ISLAMOPHOBIA MUST BE CONDEMNED

#### PRESS RELEASE

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC ARMED GROUPS

# CAR: UNPROTECTED MUSLIMS FORCED TO ABANDON RELIGION

PRESS RELEASE

SRI LANKA DISCRIMINATION

#### SRI LANKA: END IMPUNITY FOR ATTACKS ON MUSLIM MINORITY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>422</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/01/the-us-war-on-muslim-refugees/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>423</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/06/india-hate-crimes-against-muslims-and-rising-islamophobia-must-be-condemned/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>424</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/07/car-unprotected-muslims-forced-to-abandon-religion-2/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>425</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/03/sri-lanka-end-impunity-for-attacks-on-muslimminority/

In a press release about Thailand there was an interesting story. An example of a man who is given the alias 'Joseph'.

His persecution is used by Amnesty to highlight how Thailand is not giving protection to refugees.<sup>426</sup> Joseph is from Pakistan. He is a Christian human rights activist. His family fled Pakistan after they *'were threatened because of their faith and Joseph's work'*. Joseph was joined in Thailand by his sister-in-law, who escaped *'after being kidnapped, forced to convert to Islam and forcibly married to a Muslim man'*.

Because of Thailand's hard stance on refugees his family could not make a living in Thailand, so they returned to Pakistan. After returning to his home country, 'Joseph's home was burned down, killing his father. His sister-in-law was again abducted and returned to the household of the man she had previously been forced to marry.'

He is clearly mentioned in the press release in order to apply pressure on Thailand by showing the dangers that exist in the native country of the asylum seeker.

Unlike Rachel Corrie, nobody will ever even know his name. Nor the names of his father and sister-in-law. For Amnesty International, these victims of Pakistan's persecution of Christians were only ever good enough to attack Thailand with.

NOTE ON ASIA BIBI

Amnesty might respond by pointing to their support on campaigns such as the Asia Bibi case. This would be a disingenuous move. As with the condemnations following globally reported terrorist attacks against Christian targets, it is acknowledged that Amnesty 'tick the box' generally, virtue signal and make lots of noise when it can no longer be avoided.

In the 1970s Amnesty were the ones telling the world about the prisoners. They don't seem to have broken the story on Asia Bibi. In fact, it appears the story was already major international news before Amnesty became involved.<sup>427</sup> This raises the argument that they had no choice but to assume 'ownership' when the Asia Bibi case had clearly become a global diplomatic incident.<sup>428</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>426</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/thailand-hard-line-on-refugees-leaves-thousands-vulnerable-and-at-risk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>427</sup> See examples Telegraph 9 Nov 2010 <u>https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8120142/Christian-woman-sentenced-to-death-in-Pakistan-for-blasphemy.html</u> and Guardian 13 Nov

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2010/nov/13/pakistan-blasphemy-law-asia-bibi - neither report mentions Amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>428</sup> <u>https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\_fbid=176245899053558&id=154908417886823</u> Amnesty published their press release on 18 Nov

https://web.archive.org/web/20101124192858/https://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/ASA33/011/2010/ en/6907ef41-7350-414a-a45e-488df34654c0/asa330112010en.html



🖌 Like Page 📑

Amnesty International has joined the cause for Asia Bibi! Keep passing on this link to those you know that care about basic human

In any event, this is hardly about the fate of one already-widely-publicised Christian. Amnesty's role was always to inform the world about such incidents. As we have seen, according to other human rights organisations there is genocide taking place and Amnesty International are remarkably quiet about it all.

#### PARTNERS IN CRIME

It can be argued that this single tweet from Amnesty International in 2018 highlights everything that is wrong with this once-proud organisation.<sup>429</sup>

<b>A</b>	Amnesty International 🤣 @amnesty · Jun 19, 2018 Ten good reasons for the #US to leave the UN Human Rights Council.	~
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	5.	
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	
	9.	
	10.	
	(there are none)	

The tweet is a cheap political attack by the organisation against the politics of Donald Trump. Nikki Haley, the US envoy to the UN, announced the US departure, saying the UNHRC was a 'hypocritical' body that *makes a mockery of human rights*'.<sup>430</sup> The Amnesty list is empty. There are no good reasons for the US to leave the UNHRC.

The official role of the UNHRC is to 'promote and protect human rights around the world'.<sup>431</sup>

The US has always opposed the UNHRC. It criticised the very creation of the organisation in 2006.<sup>432</sup> The UN Human Rights Council was set up to replace the UN Commission on Human Rights after it was disbanded following *'heavy criticism for having countries with poor human rights records as members'*.

The US did not feel the reforms went far enough and wanted membership of the new council to be restricted to those nations with good human rights records.

The list of condemnations by the UNHRC since 2006 is often referenced by UN Watch.<sup>433</sup> This was the tally between 2006 and 2015:

Israel 62	Belarus 6
Syria 20	Eritrea 5
Myanmar 11	Sudan 3
N Korea 9	Sri Lanka 3
Iran 6	

At the time the US quit, nations such as Turkey, Qatar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe had never faced a single condemnation from the UNHRC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>429</sup> https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1009181961133461506

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>430</sup> https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/44537372

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>431</sup> https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/AboutCouncil.aspx

<sup>432</sup> http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4810538.stm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>433</sup> See examples <u>https://twitter.com/UNWatch/status/628234048687583232</u> and

https://twitter.com/UNWatch/status/1063542863986941952

These are the nations that made up the UNHRC in June 2018, when the US quit.<sup>434</sup> The table below lists the 2018 council alongside their ranking in the EIU Democracy Index (DI) and the Freedom House Index (FH).<sup>435</sup>

NATION	DI	FH	NATION	DI	FH
Angola	3.62	31	Japan	7.99	96
Burundi	2.33	14	Kyrgyzstan	5.11	38
Ivory Coast	4.15	51	Mongolia	6.50	85
DR Congo	1.49	15	Nepal	5.18	54
Egypt	3.36	22	Pakistan	4.17	39
Ethiopia	3.35	19	Philippines	6.71	61
Kenya	5.11	48	Qatar	3.19	25
Nigeria	4.44	49	Rep of Korea	8.00	83
Rwanda	3.35	23	South Africa	7.24	79
Senegal	6.15	72	UAE	2.76	17
South Africa	7.24	79	Australia	9.09	98
Тодо	3.10	43	Belgium	7.78	96
Tunisia	6.41	69	Germany	8.68	94
Brazil	6.97	75	Spain	8.08	94
Chile	7.97	94	Switzerland	9.03	96
Cuba	3.00	14	UK	8.53	93
Ecuador	6.27	63	USA	7.96	86
Mexico	6.19	63	Croatia	6.57	85
Panama	7.05	84	Georgia	5.50	63
Peru	6.60	73	Hungary	6.63	70
Venezuela	3.16	19	Slovakia	7.10	88
Afghanistan	2.97	27	Slovenia	7.50	94
China	3.32	11	Ukraine	5.69	60
Iraq	4.06	32			

Angola, Burundi, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Togo, Cuba, Venezuela, Afghanistan, China, Qatar and the UAE are all listed in the index as 'Authoritarian' regimes. Nine others including those such as Pakistan and Iraq are listed as 'Hybrids'.

The average score is 5.67, which would classify it as a 'hybrid regime'. Israel scores 7.79. Only 9 of the 47 states score more highly than Israel, none of which have to face or deal with the same type of threats as Israel, nor are any of them in a state of near-permanent conflict.

In the Freedom House Index, Israel scores 78. Which means only 17 of the 47 states score more highly than Israel. The average score is 59, which Freedom House ranks as 'partly free'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>434</sup> https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Group2018.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>435</sup> <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democracy\_Index</u> and https://freedomhouse.org/report/countries-world-freedom-2019

The UNHRC has just one permanent agenda item that attacks a single state. Agenda item number 7 on Israel. Which means they obsess about Israel every time they meet. <sup>436 437</sup>

All this and Amnesty International, an organisation dedicated to addressing human rights abuse, saw not a single 'good reason' for the US to quit the council.

It should also be recognised that this obsessive hypocrisy and exceptionalism issue exists throughout UN activity, not just in the UNHRC. In July 2019, The UN Economic and Social Council explicitly singled out Israel for violating women's rights. Those voting against Israel's treatment of women included Iran, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Pakistan.<sup>438</sup>

This should not be underestimated. When the UK Parliament discusses its own strategy inside the United Nations, it questions organisations such as Amnesty International, which in turn staunchly defend the UN.<sup>439</sup>

The UNHCR, like the Commission before it **enables** human rights violations. It is difficult to imagine the Amnesty of the 1970s standing alongside the world's nastiest regimes hand in hand to attack liberal democracies but this is what is occurring. Amnesty International have 'played a leading role in promoting the discrimination and double standards. They have eagerly used Agenda Item 7 to maintain a disproportionate focus on Israel'. <sup>440</sup>

NGOs can and do criticise the UN bodies. In 2003 Reporters Without Borders published a long report attacking the UN Commission on Human Rights.<sup>441</sup>



UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS LOSES ALL CREDIBILITY

Instead of attacking the UN body that protects violators of human rights, Amnesty International use them to further their attack on Israel <sup>442</sup> – and frequently give evidence to them.<sup>443</sup> Amnesty even calls on them to attack Israel and pressures them to do more:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>436</sup> https://www.haaretz.com/1.4944826

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>437</sup> https://www.jpost.com/lsrael-News/Politics-And-Diplomacy/Western-nations-boycott-UNHRCs-Agenda-Item-7-debate-in-which-countries-discuss-Israel-457907

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>438</sup> https://unwatch.org/no-joke-un-singles-out-israel-a-worlds-only-violator-of-womens-rights-iran-saudiarabia-yemen-among-the-voters/

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>439</sup> https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200405/cmselect/cmfaff/109/10905.htm#note29
 <sup>440</sup> https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/us-human-rights-council-pullout-the-ngos-only-have-themselves-to-blame

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>441</sup> https://rsf.org/sites/default/files/Report\_ONU\_gb.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>442</sup> "Amnesty regrets that Israel did not comment on the vast majority of the 133 recommendations made by other states at Israel's UPR in December 2008 and adopted by the Human Rights Council in March 2009' https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/24000/mde150572012en.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>443</sup> <u>https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=23107&LangID=E</u> and See example https://www.un.org/unispal/document/auto-insert-202807/



Amnesty UK 🤣 @AmnestyUK · Jan 23, 2018 Replying to @FrankFactfinder

We believe it's the responsibility of governments to identify companies involved & ensure they're not violating international laws & not fuelling rights violations. The **UNHRC** is expected to produce a database of companies operating in settlements, which will shed further light.

When the UNHRC are attacked, Amnesty defends them.444

At this point it becomes clear how the bias within these organisations, both at the UN and the NGOs feed off from each other. The UNHRC is twisted against Israel and so are the likes of Amnesty, turning their meetings into hate-fests whose outcome is written before the first word has been spoken.

There is no other way of looking at this. The once mighty Amnesty International is cuddling up to the very racists, despots and human rights abusers it used to expose.

This NGO alliance with the UNHRC is all part of a global anti-Israel alliance.<sup>445</sup> Anti-Israel activists point to groups like Al Haq and Amnesty as the best source of information and Amnesty in turn provide anti-Israel activists with material for their cause.



The current strategic alliance has Amnesty petitioning the UNHRC to release the database of companies that operate beyond the 1949 armistice lines.<sup>446</sup> They are working together on this. It is all part of Amnesty's inexorable slide towards openly calling Israel an apartheid state and supporting full BDS. Those inside the organisation are already there, trying to drag Amnesty further into the abyss.

The Amnesty timeline should be full of criticism of the UNHRC. Instead they align with it, holding hands with nations such as Pakistan and Qatar to plot the downfall of the only democracy in the Middle East. Amnesty is now a political player in a political environment, with a toxic political agenda playing with toxic despots. They push propaganda that is obsessively and unnaturally hostile to Israel.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>444</sup> "Our organizations are deeply concerned that proceeding with a draft resolution being circulated by the United States ... may weaken rather than strengthen the Human Rights Council."

https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/05/30/u-s-thwarted-in-bid-to-change-u-n-rights-councils-approach-to-israel/ <sup>445</sup> https://twitter.com/search?q=amnesty%20from%3Ailhanmn&src=typed\_query <sup>446</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/ior40/9998/2019/en/

This is why it tries to score cheap political points attacking Trump. If Amnesty could fill the list of ten reasons the US left by themselves, they would be a far healthier organisation.

The political leanings and bias that is clearly visibly throughout this report stretch throughout key areas of the organisation. In 2015, the Times newspaper ran an exclusive that accused Amnesty's then Director of Faith and Human Rights of having links with 'a secretive network of Global Islamists'. <sup>447</sup>

Yasmin Hussein also hid links 'to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood'.<sup>448</sup> Is it any surprise to read that Hussein 'played an active role in the charity's advocacy at the United Nations'?

Whilst Hussein was linked to Qatari funding in Bradford, within a year Amnesty were employing Osama Saeed Bhutta as their 'Communications Director'. Bhutta came to Amnesty from Qatari propaganda outfit Al-Jazeera.<sup>449</sup>

These ties clearly run deep. In 2011, Gita Saghal had criticised Amnesty's 'association with groups that support the Taliban', within hours she was suspended from her post.<sup>450</sup>

Abd Al-Rahman al-Nuaimi has been described as one of the world's most prolific terrorist financiers. He was accused of funding al-Qaeda jihadists in Iraq and was placed on a list of British terrorist suspects so sanctions could be applied against him.<sup>451</sup> He is part of the Qatari elite and served as President of the Qatari FA.<sup>452</sup> Amnesty were caught working with him.<sup>453</sup>

These are signs that Amnesty was on the wrong path but rather than hold itself to account it appears to have simply discarded those who criticised it.

By 2017, Amnesty were openly calling people like Salah Hammouri 'human rights defenders.'<sup>454</sup> Hamouri was indicted in 2005 for belonging to the PFLP and attempting to kill an Israeli politician. He was released as part of the Gilad Shalit exchange.<sup>455</sup>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anwar\_al-Awlaki for Al Qaradawi see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yusuf\_al-Qaradawi

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>447</sup> https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/amnesty-directors-links-to-global-network-of-islamists-m0wggtnzcgc
 <sup>448</sup> https://legalinsurrection.com/2015/08/report-high-ranking-amnesty-international-employee-linked-to-hamas-terrorism/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>449</sup> For Qatari funding links see <u>https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/a-shadowy-web-traced-back-to-bradford-bzxshhbrz9z</u> for the Amnesty hire see <u>https://www.holmesreport.com/latest/article/amnesty-international-names-osama-saeed-bhutta-to-senior-comms-role</u> for Stephen Pollard tweet see <u>https://twitter.com/stephenpollard/status/743818913771720704</u> for Al Awlaki see

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>450</sup> <u>http://www.womensgrid.org.uk/archive/2010/02/07/statement-by-gita-sahgal-head-of-amnesty-internationals-gender-unit/</u> and <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gita\_Sahgal</u> and https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/apr/25/gita-sahgal-amnesty-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>451</sup> https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11172244/Terrorist-paymaster-targeted-by-Britain.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>452</sup> https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/qatar/11110928/Former-head-of-human-rights-charity-accused-of-leading-double-life-as-terrorist-fundraiser.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>453</sup> <u>https://www.thenational.ae/world/amnesty-admits-links-to-activist-accused-of-funding-al-qaeda-1.287957</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>454</sup> https://www.amnesty.fr/liberte-d-expression/actualites/israel-un-defenseur-des-droits-humains-francaisen-detention

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>455</sup> https://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/French-Palestinian-prisoner-released-in-Gilad-Schalit-exchange-rearrested-503449

#### RECRUITMENT

The argument that Amnesty is merely a collection of its own parts suggests this is a bottomup, rather than top-down problem. If Amnesty's direction is driven by the bias of its employees and volunteers, then those at the top can simply 'shrug' and say this is not an institutional problem.

Further, they can point at some unaffected pockets of activity, where Amnesty are still doing important work and ask 'where is the problem'?

Amnesty openly state that they are driven by its volunteers.<sup>456</sup>

#### Our core values

Amnesty International forms a global community of human rights defenders based on the principles of international solidarity, effective action for the individual victim, global coverage, the universality and indivisibility of human rights, impartiality and independence, and democracy and mutual respect.

#### **Our organization**

Amnesty International is a people's movement based on global voluntary membership; the global membership is represented by Amnesty International's membership entities (sections and structures) and its international members.

This research has shown in detail that far too many Amnesty employees in effect anti-Israel activists. The question that must therefore be asked is did Amnesty deliberately employ them as such?

It is one thing for Amnesty to argue that after their employees began to work they saw a 'truth' that 'skewed' people who had previously been 'unbiased human rights activists'.

It is an entirely different matter if Amnesty are employing people who are already heavily biased. If this is the case, then Amnesty is entirely culpable. They cannot claim to be attempting impartiality if the material they choose to employ can never have been described as impartial in the first place. **In such a situation, such bias becomes deliberate Amnesty strategy.** 

It would also highlight the insidious nature of Amnesty's protestations and denials. When Amnesty are confronted over the unacceptable posts that some of its employees make, Amnesty respond that the comments are made in a personal rather than professional capacity.<sup>457</sup>

This argument does not hold if Amnesty are deliberately employing people with these attitudes in the first place.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>456</sup> https://www.amnesty.org/en/about-us/how-were-run/amnesty-internationals-statute/
 <sup>457</sup> See JC article on Kristyen Benedict JSIL tweets https://www.thejc.com/news/world/amnesty-managercompares-israel-to-islamic-state-1.60401

As this section is a stand-alone piece, some references may be made to activists already included in other parts of this research. The only intent in referencing people here is to analyse whether Amnesty employed impartial actors or biased anti-Israel activists:

For example, there is a special 'Nakba' portal on the Amnesty Website.<sup>458</sup> It is a propaganda portal. There is no comparative portal for any other conflict on the Amnesty website.

The portal was created by Maen Hammad:



He has been at Amnesty since July 2017:459



Research, Campaigns, and Communication Assistant Amnesty International Jul 2017 – Present · 2 yrs 3 mos Jerusalem

Clearly Maen spent much of his first year at Amnesty helping to produce a 'Nakba' portal. Maen is a Palestinian American. This is Amnesty, paying a Palestinian to direct Amnesty resources towards the creating of a propaganda tool for anti-Israel activists to use.

A key part of Amnesty policy has always been their neutrality. In the days when it was a true humanitarian organisation, Amnesty clearly understood the obvious problem of members' bias and created the 'WOOC' or 'work on your own country' rule:

'AI policy established that members would not work on their own country's research or on behalf of prisoners in their own country. Nor would members be responsible in any way for any of AI's work in their own country.'<sup>460</sup>

'Once you joined Amnesty, you stopped being able to work on local issues. If you were a member of staff, you were unable to work on your own country.'<sup>461</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>458</sup> https://nakba.amnesty.org/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>459</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/maen-hammad-940aa480?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>460</sup> https://www.encyclopedia.com/social-sciences-and-law/political-science-and-government/international-organizations/amnesty-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>461</sup> Keepers of the Flame: Understanding Amnesty International, pp

In Amnesty's early days it had been 'strictly applied'. <sup>462</sup> Amnesty abolished the blanket coverage in 2002.<sup>463</sup>

To be of any validity whatsoever any research has to be fair, including this research. Just as it was accepted that some bias was acceptable and Amnesty did not have to display absolute impartiality, so too it is accepted that there were valid and proper reasons for Amnesty to lower its guard (albeit carefully) on the issue of 'WOOC'.

It gave them access to additional expertise and provided the ability to develop into regions previously uncovered BUT even Amnesty understood they needed to put something in its place to guard against 'conflict of interest'.<sup>464</sup>

So how is a Palestinian able to use Amnesty resources to develop propaganda tools for use in the Palestinian PR war against Israel? Was Maen seriously considered an impartial researcher when he was hired?

How about **Hind Khoudary** the Amnesty International research consultant in Gaza.<sup>465</sup> What made Amnesty think she would be a reliable source of information? How much information from Hind was used as it considered the events of the 'Great March of Return?'<sup>466</sup>



Hind Khoudary هند،الخضري @Hind\_Gaza · Oct 19, 2018 @amnestyusa article on 6 Months of the Great **March** of **Return**! amnesty.org /en/latest/camp...

Evidence was earlier provided that Hind openly speaks about wanting Israel 'gone'. She retweets adoration for terrorists and spreads the word that 'self-censorship' is important to protect the 'national interest.' What type of 'impartial' source is she?

Hind was pumping Middle East Eye full of her 'self-censorship' material, long before Amnesty appear to have picked her up.<sup>467</sup> What was it on her CV that suggested she would be a reliable source? Both these people are clearly biased activists

**Saleh Hijazi** as a 'Deputy Regional Director' is no less outrageous. He claims his father was arrested by the Israelis and he used to work for the Palestinian Authority.<sup>468</sup> He has been at Amnesty for 8 years.<sup>469</sup>

He was recently promoted within Amnesty to 'Deputy Regional Director'. What did he do to warrant this? As was shown elsewhere in the research, Hijazi's Facebook content is 100%

<sup>462</sup> https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1364298042000240861

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>463</sup> http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKEAT/2009/0447\_08\_1308.html also https://www.ngo-

monitor.org/reports/breaking\_its\_own\_rules\_amnesty\_s\_gov\_t\_funding\_and\_researcher\_bias/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>464</sup> Ibid. This was discussed in the Tribunal papers from 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>465</sup> During the course of this research Hind deactivated her Facebook account. It is unclear why.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>466</sup> https://twitter.com/Hind\_Gaza/status/1053211774781132800

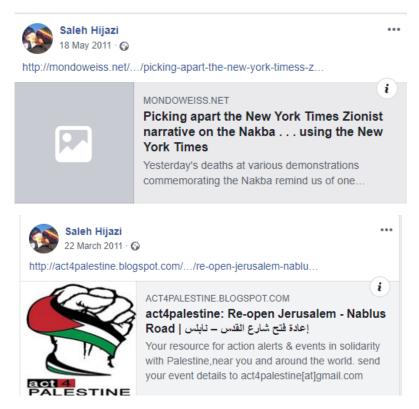
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>467</sup> https://www.middleeasteye.net/users/hind-khoudary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>468</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/amnesty\_international/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>469</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/hijazisaleh/

anti-Israel and hundreds of thousands are slaughtered elsewhere in the region without Hijazi even referencing it.

Before he began with Amnesty in August 2011, he was posting this type of material on his Facebook page, from Anti-Israel activist blog 'Mondoweiss':<sup>470</sup>



Both these outlets are heavy supporters of BDS. When Hijazi was employed by Amnesty, he was an anti-Israel activist.

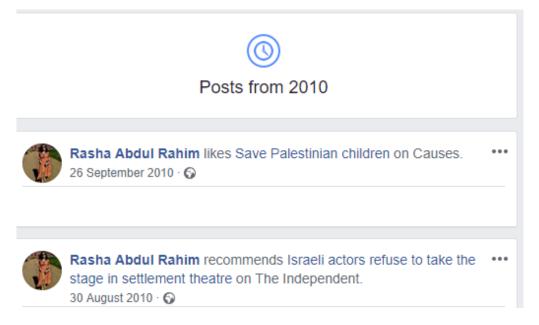
**Rasha Abdul-Rahim** started working for Amnesty in January 2011.<sup>471</sup> She is Deputy Director of Amnesty Tech.

Rahim retweeted the 'JSIL' hashtag:



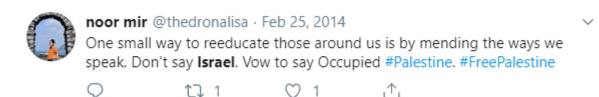
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>470</sup> Mondoweiss is a US based anti-Israel propaganda website. It has engaged heavily in the <sup>471</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/rasha-abdul-rahim-70115a174/

The only public Facebook posts she has prior to the start of her Amnesty employment in 2011 are these posts from 2010.<sup>472</sup>



**Noor Mir** is no longer at Amnesty. She worked there from August 2014 until May 2017.<sup>473</sup> She arrived from Codepink which is an openly anti-Israel movement.<sup>474</sup>

Perhaps it was also tweets such as this that convinced Amnesty she was right for the role:



It is beyond comprehension that Amnesty International viewed those tweets, which were both posted just a few months before he began working there and thought 'human rights activist'.

Once inside, he can tweet Ben Whites Apartheid smears with all the authority that Amnesty branding gives him:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>472</sup> https://www.facebook.com/rasha.rahim

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>473</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/noor-mir-23b4b442

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>474</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/codepink/



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noor mir @thedronalisa · Nov 9, 2014 There are 50 laws that discriminate against Palestinians in Israel-- from housing to land to family policy- @benabyad #Palestine

tr3 ♡ ⊥

**Laith Abu Zayed** is an Amnesty employee who would never have been allowed to work on Israel if Amnesty still followed the 'work on your own country rule'. He is a Palestinian.

He previously worked for Addameer which is an 'affiliate' of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.<sup>475 476</sup> The PFLP are recognised as a terrorist group in the EU and North America. He was still there in 2017 and appeared in a video with conspiracy theorist Abby Martin that is full of horrendous distortion and outright lies. Laith is pushing nothing but unfiltered anti-Israel propaganda.<sup>477</sup>

It is unclear when exactly Laith Abu Zayed joined Amnesty International.

His Twitter account was opened in 2012, but his oldest remaining tweet is from 2018, when he was working for Amnesty.<sup>478</sup> Either the account was completely dormant for 6 years or he cleansed his account when he began working for Amnesty.

This is a Palestinian who was an activist, but what about non-Palestinian activists?

**Edith Garwood** is a 'Country Specialist' on Israel for Amnesty.<sup>479</sup> Garwood was with the International Solidary Movement in 2002 and was a director of Palestine Media Watch:<sup>480</sup>

Edith Garwood is director of Palestine Media Watch-Charlotte and a member of Coalition for Peace and Justice. She traveled to Palestine as part of the International Solidarity Movement in July 2002. She can be reached through the Web site of Palestine Media Watch, www.pmwatch.org.

NGO Monitor have also highlighted Garwood's previous activism, providing another link to an anti-Israel article from 2008.<sup>481</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>475</sup> https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2017/04/palestinian-prisoners-share-stories-170416132359955.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>476</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/addameer/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>477</sup> <u>https://videos.telesurtv.net/video/657816/the-empire-files-657816</u> for more on Abby Martin see <u>http://elderofziyon.blogspot.com/2016/09/abby-martin-just-another-conspiracy.html</u> and <u>https://www.algemeiner.com/tag/abby-martin-israel/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>478</sup> Oldest remaining tweet <u>https://twitter.com/amnesty/status/1006455470498906112</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>479</sup> Country Specialist on Israel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>480</sup> http://www.miftah.org/display.cfm?DocId=1148&CategoryId=5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>481</sup> https://israelsbirthday.wordpress.com/2008/05/05/israel-60-let-the-refugees-return/

Garwood is also a member of the Palestine Live Facebook Group:



Her FB friends list reads like a list of hard-core Israel haters and many prominent antisemites are included in the list.<sup>482</sup> There is little doubt that this hire was an explicit anti-Israel activist from the outset.

On to another Amnesty employee who used to associate with the antisemites in Palestine Live. **Ali Jarrar** was a hard-core anti-Israel activist prior to working with Amnesty. She is now a Country Campaigner. This is Jarrar in 2012 calling for a boycott of Sodastream and Ahava:



Perhaps it was her telling Netanyahu to 'go home' in 2015, that got her the Amnesty job?



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>482</sup> Dozens of her friends, people like Tony Gratrex and Elleanne Green have been covered in previous research into antisemitism within anti-Zionist activity. See <u>http://david-collier.com/reports/</u> especially the reports in the PSC, SPSC, Palestine Live and the Americans in Palestine Live

#### Either way, by 2017 Amnesty had hired her:



Hola from Peru where I am for my first week of work, training with Amnesty International!

Jarrar, whose maiden name was McCracken is also on the Board of Directors of another NGO called 'Tree of Life'.<sup>483</sup> The NGO is 'highly active' in the boycott movement.<sup>484</sup> For those in doubt the landing image on their homepage is of Roger Waters, the key celebrity figure of the BDS movement.<sup>485</sup>

The first name on the list of advisors is Illan Pappe, the central revisionist historian, whose conspiracy theories surrounding 1948 are the pillars of the modern Nakba narrative.<sup>486</sup>

The other half of the Amnesty Jarrar team is **Raed Jarrar**. Raed is Amnesty-USA's Middle East and North Africa Advocacy Director.<sup>487</sup>

Jarrar was born in Iraq and claims 'half-Palestinian' heritage.<sup>488</sup> He also joined Amnesty in 2017



I'm so happy to announce that I'll be joining Amnesty International USA next week as the Middle East and North Africa Advocacy Director. Good bye to

As was shown in his case study earlier, Jarrar was an anti-Israel activist when he was employed by Amnesty. Here he is calling for a full boycott in 2014:



<sup>487</sup> <u>https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/amnesty\_international/</u> and

https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/10/israel-denies-entry-to-amnesty-international-staff-member/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>483</sup> https://tolef.org/what-we-do/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>484</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/amnesty\_international/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>485</sup> https://tolef.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>486</sup> Pappe's book 'ethnic cleansing' of Palestine is probably the most cited source of the Nakba 'ethnic cleansing' narrative. Benny Morris considers Pappe either a liar, or one of the world's sloppiest historians https://newrepublic.com/article/85344/ilan-pappe-sloppy-dishonest-historian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>488</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raed\_Jarrar

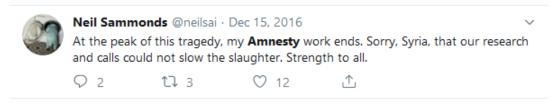
Following the attack in Egypt on the Israeli embassy in 2011 Jarrar retweeted this image of a Latuff cartoon:<sup>489 490</sup> A celebration of an infringement of international law. It is difficult to see this as the action of a 'peace activist'. Some Latuff cartoons have been described as antisemitic and he came second in Iran's 2006 Holocaust cartoon competition.<sup>491</sup>



All these people are hard-core obsessive anti-Israel activists and were employed by Amnesty long after this side of their activism was well known.

**Neil Sammonds** has recently left Amnesty to go to work as part of the senior team at 'Medical Aid for Palestinians'.<sup>492</sup> He is their new 'Director of Advocacy and Campaigns'.<sup>493</sup>

He left Amnesty in December 2016:



He was at Amnesty for 13 years. His role was 'Human Rights Researcher for Syria, Lebanon and Jordan'.

Immediately prior to this, his role was Editor of Palestine News and an Executive Committee Member of the Palestine Solidarity Campaign.<sup>494</sup>

<sup>492</sup> More on MAP from NGO Monitor <u>https://www.ngo-</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>489</sup> https://twitter.com/raedjarrar/status/112379279198789633

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>490</sup> <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011\_attack\_on\_the\_Israeli\_Embassy\_in\_Egypt</u> and more on Latuff https://www.israellycool.com/2019/08/19/cartoonist-carlos-latuff-is-being-sketchy-when-he-denies-being-anantisemite/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>491</sup> https://www.timesofisrael.com/nadler-slams-tlaib-omar-for-sharing-drawing-by-holocaust-cartoon-contestant/

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>monitor.org/ngos/medical aid for palestinians map /</u> despite the name about medical aid, NGO Monitor state that they present 'political analysis, legal declarations, and speculations regarding Israel's military operations and weaponry, far beyond the scope of any medical expertise it might possess.'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>493</sup> https://www.map.org.uk/about-map/our-team

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>494</sup> http://www.inminds.com/boycott-calendar-mar02.html

DATE :	Tuesday, 12 March 2002, 7:30 p.m			
VENUE :	House of Commons, Grand Committee Room, London			
DETAILS:				
<u>Palestinian Blood on British Hands</u>				

Speakers: George Galloway MP, Neil Sammonds (PSC), and

Amnesty explicitly employed another anti-Israel activist. Not just this, but they decided that the best present they could give the oppressed people of Syria, Lebanon and Jordan, was an activist apparently obsessed with somewhere else.

#### Deborah Hyams joined Amnesty in 2010.495

She had been an activist for years. Hyams signed a Guardian letter in 2008 along with familiar names such as Wimborne-Idrissi and Tony Greenstein.<sup>496</sup> The letter contains the usual smears and distortions about 'ethnic cleansing'. It suggests Israel is a state 'founded on terrorism' and is entirely removed from context concerning violence from the other side.

Deborah's activism goes back much further. At the height of the Second 'Intifada' Hyams turned herself into a 'human shield' to protect Beit Jala from Israeli attack. Just two weeks before this mortar fire had been fired from the village onto a nearby Jewish town.<sup>497</sup> Her protest came in the week that both Yuri Gushchin (18) and Ronen Landau (17) were killed by Palestinian terrorists.<sup>498</sup>

In 2002, she said that while she does not condone suicide bombings, she personally believes they 'are in response to the occupation'. Hyams also said that she believes that some of Israel's actions, all the way back to 1948, could be called 'ethnic cleansing'. <sup>499</sup>

Which part of all this on her CV made Amnesty sign the employment contract? Yet another in the long list of anti-Israel activists employed by Amnesty.

**Ashira Ramadan** was a presenter for the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation in 2010.<sup>500</sup> Another person that the 'work on own country' rule would have rightfully excluded.

In 2017 Ashira was employed as an Amnesty 'Regional Researcher'.<sup>501</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>495</sup> https://www.ngo-monitor.org/ngos/amnesty\_international/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>496</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/apr/30/israelandthepalestinians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>497</sup> https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/israel/1335737/Israel-protests-as-Britishwomen-join-human-shield.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>498</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civilian\_casualties\_in\_the\_Second\_Intifada

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>499</sup> https://www.jta.org/2002/05/02/lifestyle/group-backs-israel-blasts-polices

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>500</sup> https://www.jpost.com/Israel/4-Palestinian-women-escape-into-reality

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>501</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashira-ramadan-06351539/

In September 2017, she was in London, alongside other activists, for a joint Palestine Solidarity Campaign/Amnesty International event.<sup>502</sup> The event was titled '50 years of occupation, 50 years of repression of peaceful protest'.

Within a year, Amnesty had released a full campaign titled '50 years of occupation, 50 years of human rights violations.'<sup>503</sup> You can almost draw a line between these activists, their motivations and the end product of Amnesty campaigns.

What did Amnesty International expect? They employ hard-core activists who have no interest in balance whatsoever and they allow their resources and their brand to be shaped as pure anti-Israel weaponry. They rely on the input of propagandists. The slide into boycott territory is an inevitable conclusion of such a lopsided and anti-peace strategy.

Ramadan shares content from groups like 'Days of Palestine'.



# ABOUT DAYS OF PALESTINE

They have a strap line that reads 'Palestine is only for Palestinians'.<sup>504</sup>

Palestine is only for Palestinians

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>502</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/leading-palestinian-activists-defy-israeli-military-charges-speaking-event-london

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>503</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2018-09/3.%20Campaign%20Briefing%201%20-

<sup>%20</sup>Israel%20Palestine%2050%20years%20of%20occupation.pdf?5wqeX6EBe\_M50pnGGMDOt1UJj3FPvx6q= <sup>504</sup> https://www.facebook.com/pg/DaysofPalestine/about

These people are NOT human rights activists. This is Rachana recently 'liking' a post that hoped God would 'break their barbaric hands'.<sup>505</sup>



Ashira also publicly called on Arab Israelis not to vote in the elections.



This is raw Palestinian, anti-Israel activism. We can argue whether it has any place around the table at all but there is clearly something perverse about Amnesty turning itself into a sewer of rancid, extremist activism. It leads to headlines such as this, referring to Israel's refusal of entry to an Amnesty staff member:



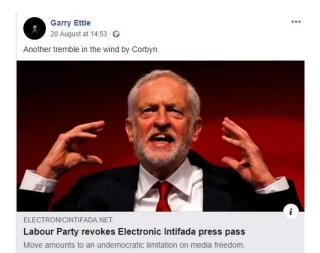
It becomes clear how Amnesty (and other NGOs with a similar strategy) set Israel up. They employ hard-core activists, provide them with Amnesty branding and when Israel reacts, Amnesty paint Israel as unreasonable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>505</sup> In a response to a message on this Facebook post https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=2162875640476107&set=a.476309615799393&type=3&theater

This is dangerous territory. Real human rights activists are in the field across the globe. As Amnesty make a mockery of the title, it is little different from pretending to be a medic. This flagrant abuse by Amnesty places lives in danger.

This is another example. Recently Israel set about deporting Omar Shakir, Human Rights Watch 'Israel and Palestine Country Director'.<sup>506</sup> It is difficult to find a single media outlet that reported this as anything other than Israel silencing the innocent voice of a 'human rights defender'.<sup>507</sup>

**Garry Ettle** is a 'Country Coordinator' for Israel at Amnesty.<sup>508</sup> He supports those like Asa Winstanley and shares Electronic Intifada articles. This one turns the antisemitism crisis inside the Labour Party into one conspiratorial smear. Is this how Amnesty International treat anti-Jewish racism?<sup>509</sup>



It isn't just posts ridiculing antisemitism allegations that he shares. This is a post from six years ago advertising 'Israeli Apartheid Week'.



director-omar-shakir-fighting-deportation-israel and

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2019/04/18/israel-wants-deport-me-my-human-rights-work/ <sup>508</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/contact-country-coordinators

<sup>509</sup> https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/ali-abunimah/labour-party-revokes-electronic-intifada-press-pass

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>506</sup> <u>https://www.timesofisrael.com/court-upholds-deportation-of-human-rights-watch-director-under-bds-rule/</u> see also https://www.ngo-monitor.org/reports/the-bds-life-and-times-of-omar-shakir/
 <sup>507</sup> See examples <u>https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-expulsion-of-human-rights-watch-director-</u>would-be-big-show-of-israeli-hypocrisy-1.7567563 and https://www.france24.com/en/video/20190703-hrw-

And Ettle supports a full boycott:



This seems to be from Ettle's pre-Amnesty days, but there seems no way to confirm this – a visit to, or a trip with, the International Solidarity Movement.



The two media sources Ettle shares more than any other on his Facebook page are Electronic Intifada and Al Jazeera. This raises another issue that was recognised during the research. Many Amnesty activists happily rely on output from outlets such as AJ, RT Today and Press TV – all state-financed/run propaganda outlets.<sup>510</sup>

What a tragic inversion of Amnesty's core principles, if the type of outlets they would once have considered as hostile have now become the pillar of support for the ideology that drives their activity.

Ettle is also listed as a country coordinator for Lebanon.<sup>511</sup>

#### Middle East & Gulf

- Syria: Richard Kotter, richard.kotter@amnesty.org.uk
- Israel, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Lebanon: Garry Ettle, garry.ettle@amnesty.org.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>510</sup> See <u>https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/al-jazeera/</u> and <u>https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/rt-news/</u> and https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/press-tv/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>511</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/contact-country-coordinators

But whilst he has made over 50 posts on Israel in 2019 alone, his Facebook page features only five posts on Lebanon in the whole ten years the account has been active. In 2010 Gary posted over 50 posts on Israel as well, so the ratio is pretty consistent. About 450 to 5.

And when you look at the five posts that reference Lebanon you realise they are not about Lebanon at all.

- 6/6/2014 Palestinians at Yarmouk
- 30/11/2015 Medical Aid for Palestinians
- 19/4/2016 Medical Aid for Palestinians
- 15/8/2018 Arik Sharon, Lebanon war

Which leaves just one. It must be hoped that Amnesty have an additional country coordinator in place for Lebanon who actually has an interest in Lebanon.

And on the subject of Medical Aid for Palestinians: in July 2018 **Wijy Gunapala** joined Amnesty International as a Project Fundraising Coordinator.<sup>512</sup>



Just two months earlier, her birthday fundraiser was for Medical Aid for Palestinians.



 Wijy Gunapala donated to her birthday fundraiser for Medical Aid
 ••

 for Palestinians.
 17 May 2018 • Facebook Fundraisers • 🔊

Amnesty relies on the same deniability strategy as antisemitic activist organisations such as the Palestine Solidarity Campaign. It puts these people into the field, provides them with resources and then when unacceptable incidents happen, it distances itself.

For example, earlier in 2019 German Amnesty spokesperson **Petra Schöning** was accused of antisemitism following an event in Germany.<sup>513</sup> Schöning appears to have lied about the nature and actions of the Jewish state, demonised it and blamed it for current world troubles. She also allegedly indicated support for BDS and the destruction of Israel. A typical anti-Israel activist.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>512</sup> https://www.facebook.com/wgunapala?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>513</sup> https://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/Antisemitism/German-official-Israelis-execute-peaceful-Palestinian-protesters-594444

In response Amnesty used an excuse suggesting that Schöning does not represent it all of the time as she has another job and when she made the unacceptable remarks she was wearing a different hat:

'Schöning does not represent the organization when presenting in Aachen'.

Between June 2017 and June 2019, Ghias Aljundi was a Refugee Campaigner for Amnesty International.<sup>514</sup> He came to the UK 19 years ago from Syria.

Perhaps it was this type of tweet that got him the job:515



مرة اخرى وليست اخيرة: اسرائيل هي حامية بشار السفاح

See Translation

00 20

They were all publicly visible for any potential employer to see.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>514</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/ghias-aljundi-85211b25/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>515</sup> https://twitter.com/Galjundi/status/269954952007413760

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>516</sup> https://twitter.com/Galjundi/status/373132796660686848

This is not an exhaustive list, but rather those found during research into Amnesty activity. There are many left unfound. There were also others who do not have a public Facebook profile.<sup>517</sup> Some had no Twitter account. There were some without any visible presence on social media at all. One or two had deactivated accounts when this research was carried out.<sup>518</sup> Then there were language barriers and, just as importantly, time constraints.

This is a job spec of a 'Regional Researcher':<sup>519</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>517</sup> See Sauro Scarpell, Deputy Director of Campaigns at Amnesty International as an example. His Facebook page is almost completely private https://www.facebook.com/sauro.scarpelli.9 and with only 11 tweets this year, his Twitter feed doesn't have enough activity to analyse see https://twitter.com/sscarpel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>518</sup> Joshua Franco Amnesty's head of technology and human rights had been picked up because he was quoted in an article regarding and anti-Israel campaign, seehttps://www.jewishpress.com/news/science-andtech/amnesty-international-blames-israeli-software-for-spying-on-its-employee/2018/08/01/ however during the course of the research, he deactivated his FB account see here

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>https://www.facebook.com/joshua.franco.75685</u> (at time of writing, it is still deactivated, of course this may be a temporary situation). His Twitter account only goes back a couple of months https://twitter.com/joshyrama

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>519</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/regional-researcher-at-amnesty-international-851111908

The position 'shapes' and 'develops' Amnesty's research. The researcher will 'take the lead' in initiating research, action and campaigns. Amnesty will also present the researcher as an 'authoritative' voice to the media.

These extracts are taken from a job spec for a 'Researcher – Team Leader' role, based in Jerusalem:<sup>520</sup>

## JOB DESCRIPTION Amnesty international international se

JOB TITLE Resear

Researcher – Team Leader

**PROGRAMME** Middle East North Africa Regional Office

#### MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

To lead on the development and implementation of overarching research and campaigning strategies to deliver impact...

To monitor, research, investigate and analyse human rights-related developments in order **to provide timely, accurate, independent and impartial assessments and expert advice on** the human rights situation in the relevant countries or other geographical or thematic areas;

To organize, take part in **and lead**, where agreed, field research and other missions, leading specifically on **information-gathering**, **fact-finding**, **analysis and assessment** of human rights concerns

To represent Amnesty International to external stakeholders, including in governmental, inter-governmental and various public forums, as well as to all forms of news media...

This role reports to the Deputy Regional Director, who in this case would be Saleh Hijazi, the Palestinian who has used images of terrorists as his profile picture.

These activists are not being shaped by Amnesty. They are shaping Amnesty and have been doing so for decades now.

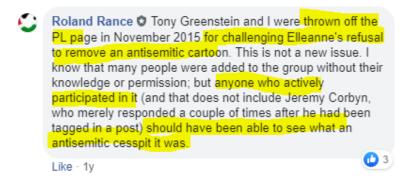
They 'lead' and 'develop' and 'investigate' and 'fact-find'. They pass their findings upstream, all presented as an 'independent, impartial' assessment, corrupting every corner of Amnesty's operation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>520</sup> https://careers.amnesty.org/vacancy/regional-researcher---east-jerusalem-regional-office-1589/1615/description/ajaxaction/downloadfile/?id=106739&pagestamp=c59afef7-4d73-49b2-80cb-463422620ba4

#### **HANGING OUT WITH ANTISEMITES**

The report on Palestine Live highlighted the high concentration levels of antisemitism within anti-Israel activism.<sup>521</sup>

This isn't just wild opinion. The research quantified the participation in the group of those who share antisemitic posts and found that the levels were all above 60%.<sup>522</sup> The group, although secret, was known amongst key activists as being as sewer of antisemitism. This from anti-Zionist, anti-Israel activist Roland Rance:



# "...anyone who actively participated in it... should have been able to see what an antisemitic cesspit it was..."

The key problem was that the founder was a prolific sharer of antisemitic material herself and the group acted as a magnet for like-minded people. The only other active admin was a hard-core antisemitic conspiracy theorist. The high concentration levels created a bubble and the group radicalised even further. As with Roland Rance, if you opposed the antisemitism, you were evicted.

The argument that this is just an exercise in 'guilt by association' doesn't hold. Amnesty campaigners claim they are anti-racists. It is clear that if this was the case, they would not feel comfortable swimming in a group overflowing with neo-Nazis, white supremacists and other obsessive anti-Jewish racists.

As the research has established that many of the Amnesty employees who obsess over Israel are no different from activists themselves, it becomes important to show how comfortable they can be, mixing with hard-core antisemites.

If they see it, they accommodate antisemites, if they don't, then how are they fit to even judge the concerns of Israel?

<u>content/uploads/2018/03/180305</u> livereport part1 FINAL.pdf and http://david-collier.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/180305\_livereport\_part2\_FINAL.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>521</sup> For news article see <u>https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/mar/08/labour-suspends-party-members-</u> in-antisemitic-facebook-group for report see <u>http://david-collier.com/wp-</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>522</sup> For the purpose of the study, the research only considered Holocaust denial, Rothschild conspiracy or 'Israel as global Jew' as antisemitism. It completely bypassed the conflict to avoid being discarded as 'Zionist' propaganda.

Alli Jarrar (maiden name McCracken) is Amnesty's 'North America Campaigner'.

McCracken-Jarrar was a member of Palestine Live at the time I published the report in March 2018, while already wearing her 'Amnesty' hat. She left the group soon afterwards.



Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty Canada, was a member at the time and also left the group in 2018 are the publication of the report.



This next post is evidence that the anti-Israel activists hired by Amnesty are driving Amnesty activity. It is a post from Jarrar inside Palestine Live in 2016 telling people to campaign against Airbnb. By 2017 Jarrar was working for Amnesty. In early 2019 Amnesty launched a massive campaign against Airbnb themselves.<sup>523</sup>



As Alli McCracken, Jarrar posted in Palestine Live for a period of three years, every time she did, those that responded are people who share antisemitic material. This doesn't mean Jarrar shared it herself, but if these people really cared about anti-Jewish racism, then how can they exist in such a group, for such a long time? She is still Facebook friends with Elleanne Green, the founder of the group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>523</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/israelopt-online-tourism-giants-profiting-illegal-settlementsnew-report

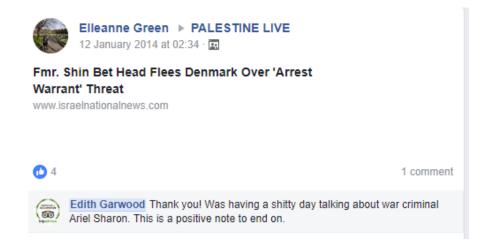
A question could be raised to Alli, why did she leave the group? If she left the group because of its public association with neo-Nazis, then how is she still friends with the founder?

Whilst there is no evidence that Jarrar or Neve ever posted as Amnesty employees. The same cannot be said for Edith Garwood:<sup>524</sup> Garwood has been the 'Country Specialist' for Amnesty for over 30 years. She also manages an Amnesty Facebook Page.<sup>525</sup>

Garwood was invited into Palestine Live on 7 January 2014, as news broke that the Rolling Stones were planning to play that summer in Israel:



Within a few days she was active in the group:



Much of Amnesty's core Statute, references the notion of impartiality.<sup>526</sup> Yet we have several employees that are all clearly anti-Israel activists engaged with a deeply antisemitic Facebook group. How is it that Edith Garwood, a 'Country Specialist', is inside a group like this? For how long? Five years and counting:



Edith Garwood Added by Elleanne Green on 7 January 2014

<sup>524</sup> https://www.linkedin.com/in/edith-garwood-9a187b2b

<sup>525</sup> https://www.facebook.com/AmnestyUSAMENA/

<sup>526</sup> See <u>https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/POL2072982017ENGLISH.PDF</u> and https://www.amnesty.org.uk/frequently-asked-questions

Like everyone else in Palestine Live, Edith hangs out with those who share vile racist material:



Samuel Short is another member of Palestine Live who shares material from openly neo-Nazi websites:<sup>527</sup>

Samuel Thadeus Short shared a link. 29 February 2016 · San Francisco, CA, United States http://renegadetribune.com/talmudic-jews-non-jews-are-beas/	Samuel Thadeus Short shared a link.
RENEGADETRIBUNE.COM Talmudic Jews: 'Non Jews Are Beasts to Serve Us as Slaves'   Renegade Tribune	RENEGADETRIBUNE.COM <b>This Is What Treason Looks Like</b> Watch American politicians from both parties swear their undying allegianc

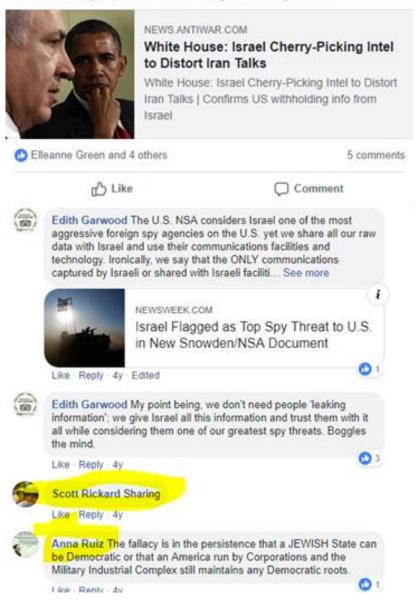
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>527</sup> See <u>http://www.renegadetribune.com/talmudic-jews-non-jews-are-beasts-to-serve-us-as-slaves/</u> and <u>http://www.renegadetribune.com/this-is-what-treason-looks-like</u> for information about the website see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renegade\_Tribune

#### An example thread with Edith Garwood activity:



If White House is serious it better take steps to stop sharing NSA surveillance with Israel...

"White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest says that Israel has been deliberately "cherry-picking specific pieces of information and using them out of context" to try to put the US in a bad light in the negotiations."



Here is a thread, in which the 'impartial' Edith Garwood responds to a post by Alexander J Ajay. Contributing to the thread are Ajay, Scott Rickard and Anna Ruiz. Garwood is complaining that the US shares too much information with Israel, which she considers as 'one of our greatest spy threats'. Let us see how Amnesty International's employee is spending her time?

#### Alexander Ajay:528



Alexander J Ajay 8 December 2013 -

"What the book does say is that: When New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison charged businessman Clay Shaw with participation in the JFK assassination conspiracy Garrison stumbled upon the Israeli Mossad connection to the murder of President Kennedy. Shaw served on the board of a shadowy corporation known as Permindex. A primary shareholder in Permindex was the Banque De Credit International of Geneva, founded by Tibor Rosenbaum, an arms procurer and financier for the Mossad.

What's more, the Mossad-sponsored Swiss bank was the chief "money laundry" for Meyer Lansky, the head of the international crime syndicate and an Israeli loyalist whose operations meshed closely on many fronts with the American CIA.

#### RENSE.COM

The Missing Link In The JFK Assassination Conspiracy



....

Alexander J Ajay 14 July 2015 · 👪

In 2003 this powerful Russian oligarch was arrested, and he passed his shares in giant Russian oil company to Lord Rothschild



#### FPP.CO.UK

## Real History and the Jewish Oligarchs in Russia

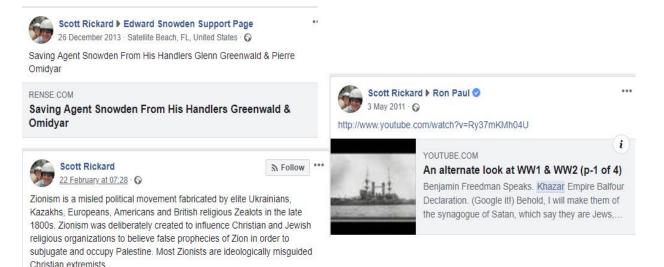
Arrested oil tycoon passed shares to banker Lord Rothschild

03

6 comments

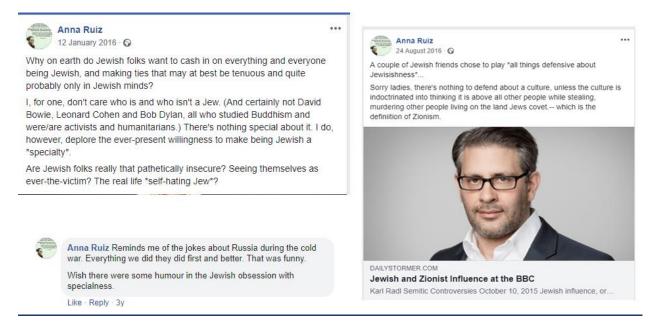
...

#### Next in the thread was Scott Rickard:529



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>528</sup> Both Rense.com and David Irving's website (FPP) are shared by Ajay. The FPP article is here <u>http://www.fpp.co.uk/online/03/11/Oligarchs071103.html</u> the JFK conspiracy, Rense article is here <u>https://rense.com/general42/enemies.htm</u>? For rense see <u>https://rationalwiki.org/wiki/Jeff Rense</u> for Holocaust Denier Irving see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David\_Irving#Movement\_towards\_Holocaust\_denial <sup>529</sup> A persistent trend, sharing websites such as Rense.com. More on rense here <u>https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2015/04/26/jeff-rense-his-own-words</u> the article is here <u>https://rense.com/general96/saving.html</u>? The YouTube video is to the vile antisemitic speech by Benjamin Freedman, another favourite of this crowd. See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ry37mKMh04U

#### The last name in the thread was Anna Ruiz:530



What we see here is Amnesty USA's 'Country Specialist' on Israel spending her time attacking the Jewish state in a secret Facebook group alongside people who share the Daily Stormer, Renegade Tribune, Rense and other vile antisemitic websites and ideologies.

Of course, while Garwood shares space with those who share neo-Nazi material, Garwood also pushes the JVP line, denying that antisemitism is a serious problem.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>530</sup> The article on Jewish (and Zionist) influence at the BBC is from the Daily Stormer. The article is here <u>https://www.dailystormer.com/jewish-and-zionist-influence-at-the-bbc/</u> The Daily Stormer is a white supremacist, neo-Nazi website. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Daily\_Stormer

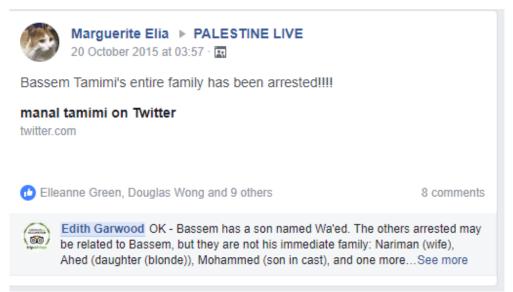
#### Here is another comment, this time under a post of Lara Dale:



#### Here is Lara Dale sharing Rense.com:531



#### Another Garwood comment, this time under an article posted by Marguerite Elia:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>531</sup> The article is from David Icke, the website is Rense.com. A highly toxic combination.

#### Some other posts by Marguerite Elia:532



who has the documents, about the falsified holocaust numbers?

C Ahmed Migdad, Suzanna Montgomery and 24 others 45 comments 2 shares





...

the Zionists used their money, power and connections to push the USA into WWI on the side of Britain and Russia. Money talks as the saying goes. In this case money was whispering in the ears of American leaders at the time and the Zionists won. USA entered the war.

The Zionists scored another very important victory. They extracted from Britain a big prize for their conniving and treachery. The prize was PALESTINE as a homeland for the Jews. This infamous document was in a form of a letter written by Lord Balfour, an English Christian Zionist lord to another English Jewish Zionist lord, Lord Rothschild. The rest is history HERE IS the complete version of Mr Benjamin H. Freedman's speech for your consideration. Please make sure it's protected and shared far and wide.

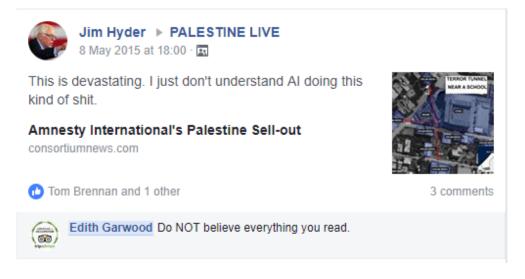


YOUTUBE.COM

Benjamin Freedman's 1961 Speech at the Willard Hotel (Complete)

Benjamin H. Freedman's excellent speech on how World War One and Two really started and why the ...

There is little point in dragging this out.<sup>533</sup> Garwood commented under a post by Palestine Live member, Jim Hyder:



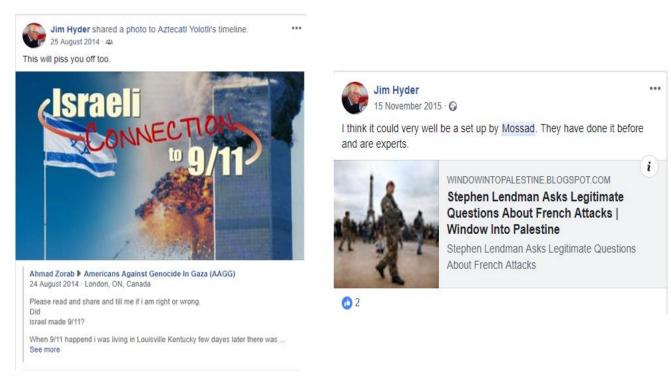
<sup>532</sup> The Benjamin Freedman video <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhFRGDyX48c&feature=share</u> The 9/11 video is no longer available, but the webpage is still accessible https://www.liveleak.com/view?i=6bd 1319669582

<sup>533</sup> Screenshots of all these posts have been taken and can be provided if necessary.

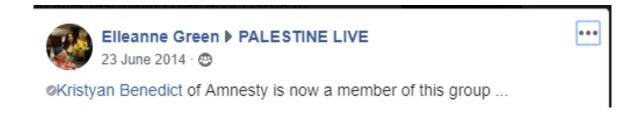
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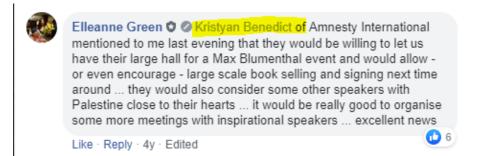
#### These are some examples of the type of conspiracy theories Hyder shares: 534



Kristyan Benedict was also apparently a member of the group.



Although we cannot know how long he was in the group, he met with Elleanne Green in real life and discussed arranging an event with her at the Amnesty venue in London.

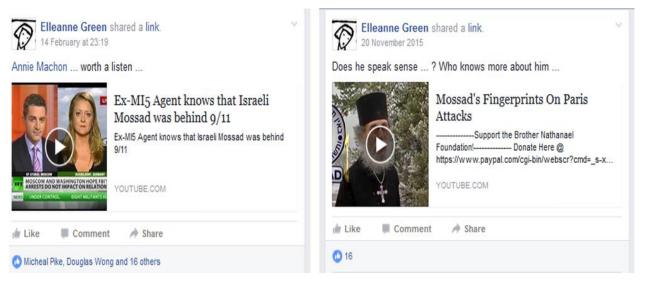


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>534</sup> There is no suggestion Garwood commented under one of these posts. Israel did 9/11 post see https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10152694064701162 Israel could be behind Paris Nov 2015 attacks see https://windowintopalestine.blogspot.com/2015/11/stephen-lendman-asks-legitimate.html?

Green is the antisemitic founder of the group. She has shared 100s of antisemitic posts. Some examples:

	Carol Foster O When I said I am glad I meant meeting Eleanne
	The Jewish lobby The Jewish lobby it's plain to see Is full of people unlike me They're bigoted and full of bile Their talk is cheap and rather vile From what they say it's really clear They are everything that they most fear So it's really clear now is the hour To rob these demons of their power
	2y · Like
	Elleanne Green I Nice bit of doggerel I really like that well said
	2y · Like

And these.535



It is not the intention and is beyond the scope of this research to have a deep look at the Facebook activity of every Amnesty employee presented.<sup>536</sup> These few examples were provided to show how comfortably these Amnesty activists sit alongside those who share highly antisemitic, white supremacist and neo-Nazi material.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>535</sup> The post on the left is a 'Mossad did 9/11' post. The video on the right is of Brother Nathanael, a wellknown antisemite.See <u>https://rationalwiki.org/wiki/Nathanael\_Kapner</u> for video see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ull3NutctgM

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>536</sup> Since Facebook removed the graph search, it has become far more time-consuming to search Facebook activity. See https://techcrunch.com/2019/06/10/changes-to-facebook-graph-search-leaves-online-investigators-in-a-lurch/

### **EVENTS**

The section on events hosted or held by Amnesty International begins with a comment by Kristyan Benedict that he made in 2010. Benedict was asked if Amnesty would hold an event on Gilad Shalit, the Israeli who had been held captive by Hamas in Gaza, Benedict replied:

'Could do, why not? We will also talk about the thousands of Palestinian prisoners as well. We will have to do that **if we want to be consistent**.'<sup>537</sup>

There are two real possibilities here. Either Benedict is serious in that Amnesty consistently give both sides to a story or he is spitefully toying with the person who asked the question.

The question was about a captive who was incarcerated by a terrorist group at an unknown location and that the Red Cross was not permitted to visit. By 2010, people like Benedict had turned Amnesty into an organisation that could joke about such people.

The alternative to this horrific scenario is that Amnesty provide balance.

We can therefore begin this section at the end. With an event that was scheduled for January 2019. It was to take place at Amnesty in London. The event was about Israel and the United Nations Human Rights Council. <sup>538</sup>



Jewish Leadership Council @ @JLC\_uk · Jan 9, 2018 Join us for an event at Amnesty UK on the evening of 24 January: The UN Human Rights Council and Israel How it works, what's not working, and how it might be repaired with @HillelNeuer @UNAUK's Fred Carver, Danny Friedman QC and others. RSVP at thejlc.org/un\_event

## The UN Human Rights Council and Israel

How it works, what's not working, and how it might be repaired.

Hillel Neuer of UN Watch in conversation with Fred Carver of the UN Association. Chaired by Danny Friedman QC.





Jewish News and 5 others

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>537</sup> For Benedict comment <u>https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/amnesty-steps-up-action-against-israel-</u> 1.15483 for Shalit see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilad Shalit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>538</sup> https://twitter.com/JLC uk/status/950688098056376320

All such discussion about Israel's treatment at the UN come under the question 'is the judicial system that places nations like Israel on trial actually fair?' Are the processes transparent, are the judges unbiased and so on. Are the judges fit to judge? Questions that EVERY real organisation dealing with human rights should be asking about any room where decision are being made on issues of justice.

The panel event had been organised by the Jewish Leadership Council. UN Watch were participating, there was the Head of Policy from the United Nations Association and a Board member from the 'peace group' Yachad.

Amnesty had also been due to be on the panel but soon pulled out. This left the JLC, UN Watch, UNA and Yachad as the only elements in the mix.

- The Jewish Leadership Council is an umbrella that 'brings together the major British Jewish organisations to work for the good of the Jewish community. Members include the CST, the Union of Jewish Students and many charities involved in providing social care. They take no position on Israeli policy issues such as settlements. Right wing Zionist groups openly criticise the JLC.<sup>539</sup>
- UN Watch sit as the United Nations. It was set up to hold the UN to its own rule book. It often gives voice to those abused in regimes such as China, Cuba, Russia and other places denied a platform because of UN political power games. It exposes UN hypocrisy.<sup>540</sup>
- UNA is a charity 'in the UK devoted to building support for the UN amongst policymakers, opinion-formers and the public'. <sup>541</sup>
- Yachad are a left-leaning Zionist organisation explicitly set up to advocate as a 'peace group' and they that are visibly hostile towards settlement building.<sup>542</sup>

Four days before the event was due to be held. Amnesty withdrew their venue. The JLC called the cancellation 'disgraceful'. <sup>543</sup> In the end it was held in Parliament.

The Amnesty statement on the cancellation makes no sense:

Amnesty are 'currently campaigning for all governments around the world to ban the import of goods produced in the illegal Israeli settlements. We do not, therefore, think it appropriate for Amnesty International to host an event by those actively supporting such settlements'.

As none of these groups actively supports settlements, it applies a logic that denies entry to almost every Jewish person in the world: If creates a criterion of 'association.' Or in other words if you have contact with anyone who has not explicitly rejected settlements, you are not welcome, regardless of what your own opinion is, or what you want to discuss.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>539</sup> <u>https://www.thejlc.org/</u> and <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish\_Leadership\_Council</u> for members see
 <u>https://www.thejlc.org/members</u> for example of criticism https://campaign4truthblog.wordpress.com/tag/jlc/
 <sup>540</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UN\_Watch

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>541</sup> https://www.una.org.uk/who-we-are/about-us

<sup>542</sup> Yachad http://yachad.org.uk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>543</sup> https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/amnesty-accused-of-disgraceful-cancellation-of-jlc-event-1.457063

As the JLC were not even on the panel, the politics of UN Watch, the UNA and Yachad have become too extreme for Amnesty International to even allow in their halls.

Consistent? Due to the sheer number of events directed towards demonising Israel that Amnesty have held or hosted, only a few examples have been detailed. It was considered beyond the scope of the research to investigate all of the events, so the ones listed are not presented as the most serious of the various red lines that Amnesty continue to cross.

Amnesty have held numerous events with Ben White. As long ago as 2006 White was running Iranian apologist articles on his website.<sup>544</sup> He excused Ahmadinejad's comments that Israel 'must be wiped off the map' and engaged in an acrobatic exercise to suggest that when Ahmadinejad used the word 'myth' with the Holocaust, he didn't actually mean 'myth'. Is there no problem of association there?

Before this in 2002 he was writing that he understands why some people are antisemites.<sup>545</sup>

'I was somewhat startled by this, **since I do not consider myself an anti-Semite, yet I can also understand why some are**. There are, in fact, a number of reasons. One is the state of Israel, its ideology of racial supremacy and its subsequent crimes committed against the Palestinians. It is because Zionists have always sought to equate their colonial project with Judaism that some misguidedly respond to what they see on their televisions with attacks on Jews or Jewish property. Secondly, and related to the first point, is the widespread bias and subservience to the Israeli cause in the Western media.'

There is little as offensive as blaming the victims of racism for the racism against them. The 'understanding' of the antisemite and 'subservience' of western media are just the icing.

White is an empty propagandist who throws around 'apartheid' and 'ethnic cleansing' smears but has easy access to Amnesty.<sup>546</sup> In 2010 he was speaking at an Amnesty event titled 'Capital Murder: Inside the Israeli authorities' regime of discrimination and control in Occupied East Jerusalem'. <sup>547</sup>

In 2011, Benedict, the same Amnesty employee who justifies denying the Jewish organisations entry into Amnesty's HQ, eagerly arranged Ben White's book launch in the building.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>544</sup> https://benwhite.org.uk/2006/01/10/history-myths-and-all-the-news-thats-fit-to-print/

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>545</sup> https://www.counterpunch.org/2002/06/18/is-it-possible-to-understand-the-rise-in-anti-semitism/
 <sup>546</sup> UKMedia watch compiled a list of White's earliest comments https://ukmediawatch.org/in-their-own-words/ben-white/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>547</sup> https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/amnesty-steps-up-action-against-israel-1.15483

And there is this Elleanne Green post as well, referring to Benedict offering Green access to Amnesty's facilities for a Blumenthal event.

Elleanne Green O Kristyan Benedict of Amnesty International mentioned to me last evening that they would be willing to let us have their large hall for a Max Blumenthal event and would allow or even encourage - large scale book selling and signing next time around ... they would also consider some other speakers with Palestine close to their hearts ... it would be really good to organise some more meetings with inspirational speakers ... excellent news Like · Reply · 4y · Edited

Does this mean Amnesty do not have a problem with Green's rabid antisemitism? By 2010 Amnesty were already policing their anti-Israel events. Known British Zionists were turned away at the door by none other than Kristyan Benedict.<sup>548</sup> That particular event contained professional anti-Israel activists such as Ghada Karmi and Ken Loach.<sup>549</sup>

Benedict seemed to be running a factory of anti-Israel events at the time. There is evidence of another in 2010.<sup>550</sup> And another in 2011 that again saw a Jewish blogger turned away at the door.<sup>551</sup> And another.<sup>552</sup> And this is not to forget the 2011 event that saw Kristyan Benedict suggest to Richard Millett that he would 'smack him on his little bald head'.<sup>553</sup>

In 2011, Amnesty were criticised for an 'anti-Israel' event that was 'jointly organised by the antisemitic Palestine Solidarity Campaign and the pro-Hamas Middle East Monitor Online.<sup>554</sup>

Journalist Abdel Bari Atwan was due to speak at the PSC / MEMO event. He had been investigated by police following a university lecture at which he referred to a 'Jewish lobby' controlling America.<sup>555</sup> The Palestine Solidarity campaign have also been shown to be neck deep in conspiracy theorists and antisemites.<sup>556</sup>

In the end, Amnesty decided to let the event go ahead.<sup>557</sup> It seems antisemites and Hamas supporters do fit Amnesty's criteria. Only British Jewish umbrella organisations do not.

<sup>554</sup> The BBC have characterised MEMO as pro-Hamas https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle\_East\_Monitor <sup>555</sup> https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/amnesty-in-spotlight-over-hosting-anti-israel-event-1.23010

<sup>556</sup> <u>http://david-collier.com/psc-riddled-antisemitism/</u> and <u>https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/new-report-</u> alleges-antisemitism-among-palestine-solidarity-campaign-activists-1.433125 and

557 https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/students-shun-amnesty-over-anti-israel-event-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>548</sup> https://www.thejc.com/blogs/censored-censored-censored-1.43892

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>549</sup> See Richard Millett report from the event https://ukmediawatch.org/2010/11/10/russell-tribunal-on-palestine-presents-ken-loach-at-amnesty/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>550</sup> https://richardmillett.wordpress.com/2010/06/13/a-first-time-at-an-anti-israel-event/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>551</sup> https://www.thejc.com/blogs/amnesty-international-now-censoring-free-speech-and-bloggers-1.48570

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>552</sup> https://www.thejc.com/blogs/amnesty-hosts-yet-another-anti-israel-headbanger-1.50517

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>553</sup> https://richardmillett.wordpress.com/2011/04/13/amnesty-event-israel-soldier-used-broken-glass-to-cut-magen-david-into-palestinian-boys-forearm/

https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/swathe-of-antisemitic-abuse-is-uncovered-at-group-backed-by-jeremy-corbyn-a4136681.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>1.23165?highlight=amnesty</u> and https://www.thejc.com/comment/analysis/amnesty-can-t-get-off-this-hook-1.23346?

Jumping forward to 2014 (ignoring events in the middle), Ben White was back at Amnesty to push the Apartheid smear again.<sup>558</sup> This is Amnesty stepping all over the vicious racism nonwhites in South Africa faced to score a few points against Israel. What occurs in Israel is not Apartheid, so why call it that? Why allow people to belittle and demean real suffering?

In 2017, Amnesty held a panel event that included Nada Kiswanson van Hoydonk from Al Haq.<sup>559</sup> The head of Al Haq, Shawan Jabarin, is openly supported by Amnesty. Israel won't let him travel because he was a member of the PFLP, a terror group.<sup>560</sup> Jordan will not allow him on their territory either, which suggests there is indeed more to this man than 'human rights defender'.<sup>561</sup> Ties to the PFLP don't seem to bother Amnesty either.

Jumping forward again to 2018, Amnesty again gave room to Ben White yet again. Pluto Press and Amnesty International joined together to launch Ben White's latest book.<sup>562</sup> Pluto press also publish books such as 'overcoming Zionism'.<sup>563</sup> It seems that this type of narrative has Amnesty's approval as well.

Because Amnesty do not let Zionists into their events, there is no comprehensive account of what has been happening there. Jews do not go to these events because they know they will not get inside:564



(((Jonathan Hoffman))) Racist @jhoffman1

# .@KreaseChan Lovely of u to lock .@RichMillett out of your . @amnesty Israel hate meeting tonight. Just what were u ashamed of? .@mishtal

It seems somewhat strange that Amnesty have no problem teaming up with the PSC, even though the Co-op bank have closed their bank accounts.<sup>565</sup> Nor do they have a problem with continually platforming Ben White even though no mainstream newspaper outlet will touch him anymore. They don't mind platforming those with PFLP links either, nor antisemites or apologists for Iran.

<sup>561</sup> See page 11 https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/il395a.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>558</sup> https://richardmillett.wordpress.com/2014/03/25/what-does-david-hearst-mean-by-the-folk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>559</sup> https://www.map.org.uk/news/archive/post/632-join-map-for-a-panel-discussion-with-palestinian-andisraeli-human-rights-defenders-in-pursuit-of-accountability

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>560</sup> https://www.terrorism-info.org.il/en/shawan-jabarin-former-pflp-operative-current-head-palestinianhuman-rights-ngo-recently-submitted-report-prosecutor-icc-accusing-israel-war-crimes-expe/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>562</sup> https://www.plutobooks.com/events/ben-white-london-uk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>563</sup> https://www.plutobooks.com/9781783715930/overcoming-zionism/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>564</sup> Tweet from Jonathan Hoffman account is directed towards Benedict

https://twitter.com/jhoffman1/status/874738265894551552 there is footage of the refusal to let Millett enter https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z0y1bt6erxk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>565</sup> https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/anti-israel-group-claims-discrimination-after-co-op-bank-closes-itsaccount-1.63030

It is only the mainstream Jewish groups, all of whom are fully embedded in the paradigm of a peaceful two-state solution, that are somehow too extreme for Amnesty to allow inside their rooms.

One final example. In 2010, Gita Saghal, the head of Amnesty International's Gender Unit was fired after she criticized Amnesty's close links with Cageprisoners.<sup>566</sup>

She accused Amnesty of 'ideological bankruptcy' and said an 'atmosphere of terror' prevails inside Amnesty International, where staff cannot question leaders' ideological views.



This is a picture of Cageprisoners' Moazzam Begg speaking at an Amnesty event.<sup>567</sup>

Cageprisoners (now CAGE) are a British Muslim extremist group.<sup>568</sup> Moazzam Begg spent time with Al Qaeda.<sup>569</sup> Further association with 'Islamist pressure groups' is clearly acceptable to Amnesty because Begg sits proudly in an Amnesty chair.

This is a luxury denied to British Zionist Jews.

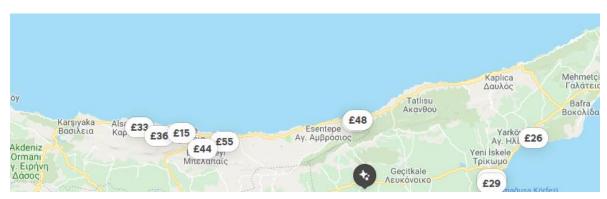
<sup>569</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moazzam\_Begg

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>566</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/apr/25/gita-sahgal-amnesty-international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>567</sup> https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/andrew-motion-condemns-shocking-situation-guantanamo
<sup>568</sup> <u>https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/terrorism-in-the-uk/11442602/Cage-the-extremists-peddling-lies-to-British-Muslims-to-turn-them-into-supporters-of-terror.html and
<u>https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/confronting-extremism-together</u></u>

### WHICH OCCUPATION?

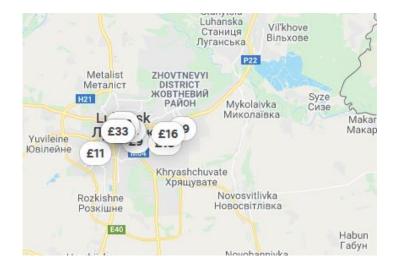
Northern Cyprus is military occupied territory.<sup>570</sup> This is an Airbnb map.<sup>571</sup>



Western Sahara is mostly military occupied territory.<sup>572</sup> This is an Airbnb map.



Parts of the Ukraine are now military occupied territory.<sup>573</sup> This is an Airbnb map.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>570</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern\_Cyprus

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>571</sup> All these searches were done via https://www.airbnb.co.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>572</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western\_Sahara

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>573</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\_military\_intervention\_in\_Ukraine\_(2014%E2%80%93present)

Mecca is an apartheid city that completely blocks entry to anyone who is not a Muslim.<sup>574</sup> This is an Airbnb map.



Parts of Moldova are now military occupied territory.<sup>575</sup> This is an Airbnb map.



It is possible to continue but there is little point. What sets Israel apart is not the length of the conflict. Nor is it the number of casualties. It isn't the condition of Gaza or Ramallah, nor the exchange of populations. It isn't the civil conflict or the regional war since.

What sets Israel apart is only the vehemence and hate of those that stand against it. Everything with Israel is blown out of proportion. It is why a small scale localized spat that should have ended in 1949 is a topic that tops the list of causes in 2019.

It is why Amnesty are being driven by obsessives and why the Airbnb campaign only cares about one specific 'occupation'. Amnesty want Israel to remain the number one cause too.

It is entirely legitimate to question the motives of those that obsessively seek to keep it there.

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>574</sup> https://wikitravel.org/en/Mecca

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>575</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiraspol

### **SCHOOLS AND MORE**

The research has shown that an obsessive and unnatural fixation on Israel exists inside Amnesty International. It has highlighted there are forces at work that skew Amnesty's output.



Hard-core activists are engaged in promoting Amnesty activity and are driving its vision and activity. We have seen evidence that people who support terrorists are relied on by Amnesty to provide information that is then used to affect Amnesty's decision making.

There is also evidence that sectarian religious and racist factors direct some of where Amnesty do or do not place their focus.

And we have logically surmised that because Amnesty's activity is not driven by a 'worst case' strategy but rather by the unnatural and in some cases racist obsessions of their staff and volunteers, there are desperate people across the globe who are being left to suffer without any politically pressure being brought.

Yet Amnesty's reputation, built on years of historically

outstanding work is used to mask the current state of the organisation. It permits Amnesty to enter discussions rooms that should be free of toxic ideologies and blatant bias – in schools for example.

The image on this page is a typical poster placed on a notice board at a school. Who would not want to help an organisation with such wonderful goals? It is a honey trap.

In this insidious manner, Amnesty International are allowed to spread their hate everywhere, including spreading lies and hate to children inside British schools.

## <u>SCHOOLS – CASE STUDY – LITTLEOVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL</u>

Important note: As this section references activity inside a school, and school children are involved in the activity – all identifying elements have been removed or blurred. Only the name of the school remains. Even in situations where a parent has commented, the name has been blacked out to protect the identity of the child.

\_\_\_\_\_

At a Jackie Walker event in November 2016 in Norwich, a schoolteacher from Dereham Neatherd High School read out poems his 13-year-old students had written. The poems were about what it must be like to be a child in Gaza. The teacher is a prominent anti-Israel activist in the area.<sup>576</sup>

Teachers who are also politically active have many opportunities to introduce their 'cause' to young children. The Education Act of 1996 addresses this type of teacher-student influence but is almost impossible to police.<sup>577</sup> Further, it is designed with local political struggles in mind. A teacher who wants pupils to turn against Israel can have many opportunities to introduce the subject to the school. The Education Authority may have some say in the actual material used, but not in the decision-making process that introduced the subject to the child. Why Gaza? Why not somewhere else?

An example: At Birkbeck whilst I was studying Law, the lecturer chose a case related to anti-Israel protest to discuss an element of constitutional and administrative law. To study, students needed to read the case. The lecturer is an anti-Israel activist. There may have been more relevant or suitable cases to cover the topic, but the lecturer chooses the material. The subject is therefore introduced inside an 'Israel-hostile' environment for further discussion. This type of subtle influence is a recruitment tool for the Palestinian cause that is difficult to oppose.

Littleover Community School is a mainstream 11-18 comprehensive school in the south west of the City of Derby.<sup>578</sup> It is in the Derby North constituency, which means Chris Williamson is the sitting MP.<sup>579</sup>

On 12 July 2019, students at Littleover Community School in Derby organised a petition.<sup>580</sup> It was run by the 'Amnesty International group' at the school. It was calling for Airbnb to 'remove all properties that are within Occupied Palestinian Territory'. They clearly mean only the Jewish owned properties in line with Amnesty's earlier campaign but do not state this.<sup>581</sup>

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>576</sup> http://david-collier.com/norwich-psc-jackie-walker-fundraising-hatefest/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>577</sup> https://schoolsweek.co.uk/dfe-warns-school-staff-over-expression-of-political-views/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>578</sup> https://www.littleover.derby.sch.uk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>579</sup> https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/constituency/derby-north

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>580</sup> The School published this information on their Facebook page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>581</sup> Amnesty launched the campaign in January 2019. See

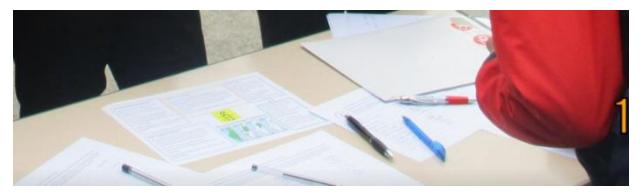
https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2019/01/destination-occupation-digital-tourism-israel-illegal-

The petition table was situated directly in front of what seems to be one of the key entrances to the school. From other images in the set, it seems to be the entrance near parking and bicycle holding facilities.<sup>582</sup>



According to the Facebook statement by the school the petition received almost 500 signatures. There are approximately 1500 pupils at the school.<sup>583</sup>

It is impossible to know what was said to the pupils or exactly what disinformation was spread. However, one of the images catches a glimpse of the main material on the table:



Stickers, petition and pens aside, there is a one-page information sheet visible. Whilst the writing cannot be seen, it contains both the amnesty logo and the 'disappearing Palestine'

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/airbnb-israel-west-bank-palestine-remove-listingsa8642216.html but then reversed the decision see <a href="https://press.airbnb.com/update-listings-disputed-regions/">https://press.airbnb.com/update-listings-disputed-regions/</a> Amnesty have recently turned their attention to TripAdvisor see <a href="https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/tripadvisor-staff-urged-speak-out-over-israel-settlements-open-letter">https://www.amnesty.org.uk/pressreleases/tripadvisor-staff-urged-speak-out-over-israel-settlements-open-letter</a> Because of the failure of the Airbnb campaign, this time Amnesty have launched a bullying campaign that targets individuals who work at

TripAdvisor rather than the organisation itself.

settlements/ Airbnb did originally agree to remove the listings see

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>582</sup> The School published on their Facebook page

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>583</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Littleover\_Community\_School

maps. These maps are not just inaccurate or distorted but carry highly racist messaging. Putting aside political distortion, in the maps prior to 1948, all Jewish families, regardless of how long they have lived in the region are excluded from being part of the state.<sup>584</sup> Imagine a map of the UK split into 'black people's land' and 'white people's land', in which black people were only allotted the land they privately owned and denied any share of ownership in all the public land. It is pure Nazi messaging.

Situations such as these normally occur when a teacher is politically active and either suggests topics or steers education in a particular way. It can also come through one of the students, although it is highly doubtful such an effort would have passed without official support from those who work within the school governance structure.

Given the transgressions here are not about what specific disinformation was spread but rather the fact it was spread at all only other examples of distortion will be presented. The petition began<sup>585</sup>:

To Airbnb, remove all properties that are within Occupied Palestinian Territory We believe... That Israeli occupation of Palestinian land is unlawful under United Nations law, specifically the 1949 Armistice Agreement.

#### 'We believe...That Israeli occupation of Palestinian land is unlawful under United Nations law, specifically the 1949 Armistice Agreement.'

Except it isn't illegal. The United Nations explicitly relies on a land for peace formula in all resolutions.<sup>586</sup> At no point has the United Nations referred to Israeli presence in these territories as 'illegal'. The opening phrase negates Israel's legitimacy entirely. From the point Israel is presented as illegally inside the land, all action it takes, even defending itself from attack, appears illegitimate.

This is cheap pro-Palestinian activism at work, brainwashing schoolchildren in a school, presenting fictions as facts and demonising both Jews and Israel.

How many propaganda exercises are going on unrecorded in our schools?

This research has highlighted more than enough problems with Amnesty International to suggest they have no place inside a school. Their motives are suspect and their methods have long since forgotten what a moral compass looks like.

There are racists and obsessives inside the organisation. They push a toxic and extremely biased agenda onto schoolchildren.

This is taking place in schools throughout the country.

<sup>585</sup> From school Facebook page

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>584</sup> For more information about the racist messages in these maps, see <u>http://david-collier.com/nazi-arguments-anti-israel/</u> For general information about the distortion contained in the maps see http://www.thetower.org/article/the-mendacious-maps-of-palestinian-loss/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>586</sup> See especially https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\_Nations\_Security\_Council\_Resolution\_242

All this is forbidden by the Education Act of 1996.

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From section 407 of the Education Act 1996:<sup>587</sup> *Duty to secure balanced treatment of political issues.* 

(1) The local authority, governing body and head teacher shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils while they are:
(a) in attendance at a maintained school, or
(b) taking part in extra-curricular activities which are provided or organised for registered pupils at the school by or on behalf of the school,

they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views.

\_\_\_\_\_

The Amnesty petition took place two weeks before the school year ends. UK Lawyers for Israel and the school were contacted for comment:<sup>588 589</sup>

'The claims in the letter are completely erroneous. Israel's occupation of the West Bank is lawful in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the Oslo Accords pending the settlement of its status by negotiations. There are rival claims to the land which must be resolved by negotiation, so it is wrong to suggest that the land belongs to Palestinians. The 1949 Armistice Agreement between Israel and Jordan is irrelevant, especially as Jordan has disclaimed any entitlement to the West Bank and Israel acquired the territory following Jordan's flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement in 1967. Properties owned by both Arabs and Jews in the West Bank are listed by Airbnb, so the removal of all West Bank listings requested by the letter would harm Arabs as well as Jews.'

The school now has a legal and moral obligation to rectify this misinformation and indoctrination by a balanced explanation of the position in accordance with section 407 of the Education Act 1996.

UKLFI

Amnesty enter schools with talk about 'being like Ghandi' but once part of their network, schoolchildren become immersed in wider Amnesty activity. They are drawn into it with a honey trap and before you know it, they are spreading hate around to everyone else in the school.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>587</sup> https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/section/407

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>588</sup> Received by email 13 July 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>589</sup> The school did not initially respond to an email requesting further information. Eventually they responded but said they would only deal with it when school returned from the summer holidays. Even though they have now returned from the summer holidays, they have not yet made any further comment.

**SECTION THREE** 

**CONCLUDING COMMENTS** 

David Collier, December 2019 report - Amnesty

#### **CONCLUSION**

Given the findings it is fair to conclude that Amnesty International have declared open 'war' on Israel. It has turned its entire arsenal onto the Jewish state.

The obsession is clearly driven by an unnatural bias, deep hostility and antisemitism – an unacceptable dynamic that was developed and has been fostered through Amnesty's own mismanagement and shortcomings.

Amnesty's problem is the inevitable result of failing to confront bias. The cumulative effect is catastrophic – all the more so in a modern world that is driven and dominated by social media.

Parts of Amnesty have not been tainted. Some employees and volunteers remain oblivious to the corrupted obsessions driving other parts of the organisation. They even retweet and share the rantings of obsessives, unwittingly becoming part of the problem themselves.

The primary reason for the collapse of Amnesty's high standards is its reaction to the changing geo-political environment. This left the organisation craving power and expansion, which they achieved at the expense of the loss of core principles of impartiality and even-handedness.

Amnesty also became vulnerable to forces who see western concern with human rights as a weakness that can be exploited and manipulated. It reacted to criticism in a way that further reinforces the radicalisation process, by silencing opposition and removing dissenters.

Amnesty lost sight of the meaning of 'human rights defenders.' Amnesty began to rely on 'one-cause' activists who saw the entire world through the lens of a single conflict and believed in 'human rights' only within the context of how it affected them.

All this meant that Amnesty employed people and used volunteers that didn't believe in Amnesty's core value system. For an organisation that is no more than the sum of its parts, it means Amnesty didn't change them – they changed Amnesty.

'One-cause' activists shaped their own networks. They used extremist sources and attracted new waves of consultants and researchers that should never have been employed.

These researchers are relied on to 'fact-find' and 'lead' Amnesty's research.

The result was a network of people 'pulling' at Amnesty to be harsher, more demanding and far less objective. By driving 'their truth' upstream they sold Amnesty a propaganda version of certain conflicts. Within Amnesty's own DNA, some nation states became demonised.

Fed by a one-sided, distorted and manipulated version of events, the loss of perspective spreads like cancer. As Amnesty's organisational knowledge is provided upstream, the demonisation process infects every aspect of Amnesty's world vision.

Amnesty International is driven by the motivations and energies of its staff and volunteers. Amnesty's people bring their own bias to the table. If many of the key activists, campaigners, those running Twitter feeds, Facebook groups or organising events are all only interested in 'pushing' the causes that they identify with, then the entire Amnesty machinery becomes little more than a conduit for institutional hatred.

Amnesty need to address the clear hostility and bias that is present in its attitude towards Israel. There is no reason that a Palestinian in jail for violence should receive a thousand times more attention from Amnesty than an innocent Christian man in Pakistan whose father was burned alive in an arson attack.

Amnesty must assess the reach and impact of the levels of unacceptable bias highlighted in this report, Amnesty should conduct an external independent audit of its activity, processes, allocation of resources and recruitment policy.

It is clear that some of Amnesty's information on Israel is tainted. It has come from sources that publicly support terrorist groups and those who openly suggest that they withhold information if it is damaging to the cause. It is reasonable to conclude that Amnesty should roll back their campaigns until they have separated what is true from elements based on lies and propaganda.

The term 'human rights activist' in this scenario becomes perverse. Yes, they care about some human rights, but only in a narrow, ideologically driven sense. Their bias, politics and hates are all visible and their human rights activism has been bolted on top. In some cases, the hatred was so extreme that 'human rights activism' merely became a means through which they feed their hatred.

How did an organisation that seeks to be 'impartial' possibly think that employing long term anti-Israel activists to report on Israeli activity was advisable?

How did Amnesty employ Palestinians, put them in charge of sources of news coming in about 'Israel', rely on the information they were given and then create campaigns to punish Israel based on the evidence these Palestinians provided?

How did Amnesty do all this without considering that they may be stepping over the line?

It is because their own head office has become similarly tainted. How does Kristyan Benedict get away with making physical threats, posting antisemitic tweets and associating with extremists? It is almost eight years since Benedict was known to be unsuitable to be a judge, how much damage has been done since then?

Too many of Amnesty's own staff carry a bias. This in turn affects everything from how resources are allocated to the kind of people who are recruited. This dynamic creates self-confirming, self-justifying, self-righteous obsessions that, when placed under a microscope, simply look absurd. Amnesty was ruined from within.

Simply addressing the 'Work On Own Country' rule cannot fully address the problem. In a globalised and diverse community, bias is not just about your nation state. It is about your identity, ethnicity, religion and culture as well. It is not easy to take these off the table –

some might conclude it is not even possible. In a politicised organisation, everyone brings a bias that goes way beyond borders.

The problem is not simply quantitative. If you consider an organisation that is inherently – or institutionally – biased, then simply counting 'press releases' only highlights the tip of the iceberg. The manner in which nations are discussed is also important. When this is analysed there is a clear difference in the way Amnesty staff talk about different nations.

This qualitative bias was visible everywhere. Pakistan is a sectarian nation that was forged in a bloody war, partition and population transfer that dwarfed events in 1948 Israel. Pakistan is a serial offender in almost every aspect of human rights abuse and yet is treated with respect. Pakistani flag-wavers are accepted at Amnesty in a way an Israeli flag-waver never would be.

Amnesty is openly hostile to Israel, A hostility that is not directed towards any other nation.

The difference in the way anti-Muslim persecution is treated also gives weight to the argument there is religious discrimination driving Amnesty's bias. Which means the bias isn't just about Israeli actions but the very nature of the Israeli state.

Anti-Christian attitudes are discussed but never to the extent that their oppression deserves. Christianity is spoken of more often as a driver behind American 'fascism' than a persecuted religious group in Islamic lands, just as Judaism is discussed in terms of the 'racist' policies of Zionism rather than as a vulnerable minority group that needs protection. Evidence was found of Amnesty staff actually ridiculing and belittling accusations of anti-Jewish racism.

The Jews are a quintessential minority group. They will always be a minority voice and those that hate them will always be more numerous and vocal. It can clearly be argued that the fact Israel is a Jewish state gives rise to some of Amnesty's unacceptable bias towards it. Or in clearer terms, that Amnesty has been infected with antisemitism.

This bias places lives at risk. Firstly, Amnesty is placing politically biased operatives into sectarian conflicts dressed in the uniform of human rights activists. In turn that nation's attitude towards human rights defenders becomes more hostile. It is not unlike dressing up as a medic. When Amnesty employs someone who openly sympathises with terror groups, it places real human rights defenders at risk.

To have any reason to exist at all, Amnesty has to have an impact and save lives. If it doesn't, then what is the point? If this holds true, then when Amnesty diverts its attention away from the most urgent cases, all in order to feed obsessions, it is logical to conclude that this costs lives. How many people must die, how much global abuse must be ignored in order to feed Amnesty's anti-Israel obsession?

The anti-Israel bias that infects Amnesty's DNA drives activity. There is a clear trend towards more hostile and far-reaching action. The slide into boycott activity is clearly an example of this and the activists' use of Amnesty campaigns shaped to conform to the demands of the

wider boycott movement is so subtle, that the Amnesty hierarchy may not even be aware that the organisation has been hijacked in this fashion.

These activists know what they want Amnesty to do. They know what the real target of their obsession is. Officially labelling Israel an 'Apartheid' state is clearly on their agenda. Slowly but surely Amnesty's goals and their own are becoming more closely aligned. **We could even give it the title: Destination – the destruction of Israel.** 

SECTION FOUR APPENDIX

#### **APPENDIX A**

Amnesty website press release search for keyword 'Christian' most recent results

1 Lebanon. Christian pressure group denying the rights of others. July 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/07/lebanon-decision-to-cancel-mashrou-leilaconcert-an-alarming-indicator-of-the-state-of-freedom-of-expression/

2 Madagascar. False positive. Name of President of Madagascar is 'Christian Ntsay'. July 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/07/madagascar-prime-ministers-denouncing-ofovercrowded-prisons-must-be-followed-by-action/

3 Lebanon. Christian pressure group denying the rights of others. July 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/07/lebanon-authorities-must-ensure-mashrouleila-concert-goes-ahead/

4 Myanmar. Rohingya. General human rights abuse against mainly Muslim targets. May 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/05/myanmar-military-commits-war-crimeslatest-operation-rakhine-state/

5 Libya. General human rights abuse with a Christian example listed. May 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/05/libya-evidence-of-possible-war-crimesunderscores-need-for-international-investigation/

6 Pakistan. Blasphemy Laws. In response to the release of Asia Bibi in a 10-year-old case. May 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/05/pakistan-government-of-pakistan-mustrepeal-its-blasphemy-laws/

7 Cuba. Politically motivated arrest of the leader of the Christian Liberation Movement. May 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/05/cuba-eduardo-cardet-sigue-siendoprisionero-de-consciencia/

8 Sri Lanka. Explicit. Following attack on Christian community. April 2019.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2019/04/sri-lanka-solidarity-with-the-victims-unityagainst-the-forces-of-hatred/

9 Pakistan. Blasphemy Laws. In response to the release of Asia Bibi in a 10-year-old case. October 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/10/pakistan-aasia-bibi-verdict-is-a-landmark-victory-for-religious-tolerance/

10 Egypt. Criticism of government for death sentence on those who carried out terror attacks against Christians. October 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/10/egypt-mass-death-sentence-will-not-deliver-justice-for-victims-of-church-bombings/

11 Cuba. Reference to leader of political group with Christian in title. August 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/08/cuba-leader-of-opposition-group-held-incommunicado/

12 Hungary. Anti-NGO law. Reference to protecting Christian culture in background. June 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/06/hungary-draconian-anti-ngo-law-will-be-resisted-every-step-of-the-way/

13 Indonesia. Criticism of new law that restricts freedoms. Law brought in after attack on Christian churches. May 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/05/indonesia-newly-amended-anti-terror-lawthreatens-to-undermine-human-rights/

14 Pakistan. Celebration of life of human rights lawyer. He had Christian clients. Feb 2018.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2018/02/asma-jahangir-leaves-a-brave-human-rightslegacy/

15 Philippines. Dual criticism. Attack on Christians by ISIS militants also criticises government response. Government not persecuting Christians. Nov 2017.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/11/philippines-battle-of-marawi-leaves-trail-ofdeath-and-destruction/

16 Thailand. Sep 2017. Rohingya. Christian mention incidental.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/thailand-hard-line-on-refugees-leaves-thousands-vulnerable-and-at-risk/

17 Myanmar. False positive. Rohingya open letter to UN. Christian group signature. Sep 2017.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/myanmar-un-security-council-must-imposearms-embargo/

18 Central African Republic. Christians and Muslims killing each other. Sep 2017.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/09/central-african-republic-civilians-facingatrocities-in-basse-kotto-as-un-protection-proves-ineffective/

19 Egypt. Human rights abuse in custody. Christian identity treated as incidental. July 2017.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/07/egypt-investigate-apparent-torture-anddeath-in-custody-of-coptic-man/

20 Indonesia. Press release about LGBT rights. Christian identity treated as incidental. May 2017

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/05/indonesia-revoke-the-caning-sentence-of-gay-men-in-aceh/

21 Egypt. Call on government to ease emergency measures put in place after terror attack on Copts. April 2017

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/04/egypt-authorities-must-address-sectarianviolence-not-abuse-emergency-powers/ 22 Cuba March 2017: Imprisonment of political opposition from Christian group. March 2017.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/03/cuba-activist-sentenced-to-three-years-in-jail-after-criticising-fidel-castro/

23 US. Attack on Trump for war on Muslim refugees. Christian reference incidental. Jan 2017

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2017/01/the-us-war-on-muslim-refugees/

24 Pakistan. Report on Pakistan's Blasphemy Laws. Numerous examples inside. Dec 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/12/pakistan-how-the-blasphemy-laws-enableabuse/

25 Egypt. Explicit. Call to bring terrorists to justice. Following attack on Church. Dec 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/12/egypt-bring-to-justice-those-behinddeadliest-church-attack-in-years/

26 Indonesia. Blasphemy case. References to law that targets 'in particular' Muslims. Nov 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/11/indonesia-drop-case-against-jakarta-governor/

27 DRC. False positive. Name of Amnesty campaigner is Christian Rumu. Sept 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/09/drc-authorities-must-not-fan-flames-ofunrest-with-violence/

28 Israel. False positive. Not relevant. Attack on Israel. August 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/08/israel-opt-secret-trial-of-gaza-aid-worker-will-not-deliver-justice/

29 Myanmar. Rohingya. Christian reference is about 'additional' communities affected. August 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/08/kofi-annan-to-head-commission-on-rakhine-state/

30 DRC. False positive. Name of Amnesty campaigner is Christian Rumu. July 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/07/drc-release-of-six-youth-activists-must-leadto-freedom-for-all-prisoners-of-conscience/

31 Syria July 2016. ISIS, Syria. General abuse. Christian victim also referenced. July 2016

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/07/syria-abductions-torture-and-summarykillings-at-the-hands-of-armed-groups/

32 Kenya. July 2016. Extra-judicial execution. Christian identity of a victim treated as incidental.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/07/kenya-investigate-killings-of-lawyer-twomen/

33 Libya. Refugees and migrants. Christian identity referenced incidental. July 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/07/refugees-and-migrants-fleeing-sexual-violence-abuse-and-exploitation-in-libya/

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34 EU. Refugee policy risks fueling abuse in Libya. Christian reference incidental. Probably used to gain European support for Amnesty cause. June 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/06/eu-risks-fuelling-horrific-abuse-of-refugeesand-migrants-in-libya/

35 Mauritania. False positive. Christian group letter. June 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/06/mauritanie-une-nouvelle-loi-comprometlexercice-du-droit-a-la-liberte-dassociation/

36 Guinea. False positive. Quote from worker at Christian Action. May 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/05/guinea-new-law-could-abolish-death-penalty-but-repressive-provisions-remain/

37 Greece. Refugees. Pope visit to Island of Lesvos. April 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/04/pope-visit-to-lesvos-must-shed-light-onabuses-under-eu-turkey-deal/

38 Republic of Congo. False positive quote from Christian Mounzeo, President of RPDH. March 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/03/republic-of-congo-end-wave-of-oppositionarrests-following-the-presidential-elections/

39 Pakistan. Call for Pakistan to abolish the death penalty. Christian reference incidental. Feb 2016.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2016/02/pakistan-execution-no-way-to-deliver-justicefor-salman-taseer-murder/

40 Central African Republic. Christian groups amongst those profiteering from blood diamonds. Sep 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/09/companies-must-not-profit-from-blooddiamonds/

41 Venezuela. False positive. Person on trial was called Christian Holdack. Sep 2015..

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/09/venezuela-sentence-against-opposition-leader-shows-utter-lack-of-judicial-independence/

42 South Korea. Conscientious objectors to conscription. May 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/05/south-korea-authorities-wrecking-lives-by-jailing-conscientious-objectors/

43 Libya. Refugees and migrants. Also references vulnerability of Christian refugees. May 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/05/libya-horrific-abuse-driving-migrants-to-risklives-in-mediterranean-crossings/

44 Americas. False positive. References Hans Christian Andersen. May 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/05/three-top-artists-from-across-the-americasto-join-amnesty-international-as-first-honorary-consuls-1/ 45 Nigeria. Boko Haram attacks. Christians referenced alongside Muslims as victims. April 2014.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/04/nigeria-abducted-women-and-girls-forced-to-join-boko-haram-attacks/

46 DRC. False positive. References Amnesty campaigner Christian Rumu. March 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/03/drc-release-human-rights-activistsunlawfully-held-in-kinshasa/

47 Venezuela. False positive. References Christian Holdack . March 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/03/venezuela-lack-of-justice-for-protest-abuses-gives-green-light-to-more-violence/

48 DRC. False positive. References Amnesty campaigner Christian Rumu. March 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/03/drc-free-human-rights-activists/

49 Syria. False positive. Christian Aid signed a letter. March 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/03/83-of-syrias-lights-extinguished-after-fouryears-of-crisis/

50 Libya. Criticism of Libya for deteriorating situation and against Egypt for launching retaliatory strikes for the terror attack on Christian Copts. Feb 2015.

https://www.amnesty.org/en/press-releases/2015/02/libya-mounting-evidence-of-war-crimes-inthe-wake-of-egypts-airstrikes/

